



City of Atlantic Beach

Agenda

Safety, Traffic and Parking Committee Meeting

Wednesday, August 16, 2023 - 6:00 p.m.

City Hall, Commission Chamber

800 Seminole Road, Atlantic Beach, FL 32233

Page(s)

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1.A. Approve minutes of the July 20, 2023 Safety, Traffic and Parking Committee meeting. 3 - 11

[7-20-23 Safety, Traffic and Parking Committee Draft Minutes](#)

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

3. PRIORITY-SETTING EXERCISE (FULL COMMITTEE; LED BY LINDA LANIER)

4. COMMITTEE RESOURCE LIBRARY UPDATE (KEVIN HOGENCAMP, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER)

5. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

6. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting will be live-streamed and videotaped. The video recording will be posted within four business days on the City's website. To access live or recorded videos, visit www.coab.us/live.

Any person wishing to speak to the Safety, Traffic and Parking (STOP) Committee at this meeting should submit a request prior to public comment. For your convenience, forms for this purpose are available at the entrance to the Commission Chamber.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at (904) 247-5821 at least three business days prior to the meeting.



MINUTES
Safety, Traffic and Parking Committee Meeting
Thursday, July 20, 2023 - 6:00 PM
Commission Chamber

Present: Ken Caudle, Chair
Richard Arthur, Member
Brinkley Harrell, Member
James Johnson, Member
Frederick Jones, Member
Grace Neville, Member
John Reich, Member
Michael Tari, Member

Absent: Kelly Fanning, Member

Also Present: Kevin Hogencamp, Deputy City Manager (DCM)

- 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
- 2. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
Approved minutes of the July 5, 2023 Safety, Traffic and Parking Committee Meeting.
- 3. COURTESY OF THE FLOOR TO VISITORS**
Donald Campbell advocated for due diligence to be performed to determine the feasibility of a roundabout at the five-way stop at Plaza, Sherry Drive and East Coast Drive.
- 4. DISCUSSION ABOUT REGULAR MEETING TIME/DAY**
A consensus was reached to have meetings on the third Thursday of each month until or unless a new meeting date and time are established.
- 5. REPORT ON THE CITY'S AWARD OF A FEDERAL SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL GRANT TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE SAFETY ACTION PLAN (DEPUTY CITY MANAGER)**
Kevin Hogencamp acknowledged the material provided in the agenda packet for items 5A and 5B.
 - A. Safe Streets for All Action Plan Grant Application**
 - B. Safe Streets for All Action Plan Grant Overview**
- 6. BRAINSTORMING SESSION ON SAFETY, TRAFFIC AND PARKING (FULL COMMITTEE)**
One by one, committee members shared their thoughts and suggestions on the committee's upcoming work. Committee Members Reich and Harrell distributed documents (which are

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attached hereto and made part of this Official Record as **Attachments A and B**) pertaining to the brainstorming session.

[Attachment A - John Reich Documents](#)

[Attachment B - Brinkley Harrell Documents](#)

7. PRIORITY-SETTING EXERCISE (FULL COMMITTEE)

- Collecting data associated with traffic, safety and parking was identified as the committee's priority. Deputy City Manager Hogencamp made the following notes (which is attached hereto and made part of this Official Record as **Attachment C**) on a whiteboard from the committee discussion: little/no cost; traffic accidents; parking spaces and utilization; capital improvement plan/work program; traffic/safety studies; policies/codes/statutes; what's budgeted; accident/citations data.
- Chair Caudle requested information related to the Main Street traffic-calming project. Deputy City Manager Hogencamp said he expects to publish a draft of a committee resource library by Aug. 7.

[Attachment C - Priority Setting Exercise Notes](#)

8. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Committee resource library update
- Beach management funding assistance program
- Comprehensive safety action plan
- Connectivity plan

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Attest:

Kevin Hogencamp, Deputy CM

Ken Caudle, Chair

Date Approved: _____

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John Reich 7/20/23

Attachment A

SAFETY

Topic: Police Community Engagement for a safer Atlantic Beach

Discussion: One of the key components for a safe environment in Atlantic Beach is a police force that proactively and reactively works with the citizens. This interaction today is of a haphazard nature since there is not a formal framework for citizens to provide feedback to the AB police on processes that, from a citizen perspective, support enhanced community safety. Some possible initiatives that would enhance police and community engagement include:

- Police on bikes: This initiative makes the police more accessible to the public and allows for increased interaction and police intelligence on issues facing the public.
- Police on foot: An AB officer on foot in a high traffic high volume area (Town Center on a Thursday, Friday, Saturday night, Farmers market Sunday, before and after school at ABE, etc.) allows for increased interaction in the same fashion as policeman on bike but with the added bonus of the police officer being a more stationary target for interaction.
- Increased patrols during higher threat time frames: Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights are the times when AB experiences the greatest amount of late night traffic and possible impaired motor vehicle operation. Increased police presence during those periods in high traffic areas should encourage safer conduct of the late night partyers.
- Ordinance Enforcement(see email from Ms Whittington): The enforcement of small things makes a big difference in the community. If the enforcement of ordinances such as littering, drinking, parking, and noise are "spotty at best" then the safety, health, and welfare of the community is impacted.
- Community Police Ride-Alongs: Ride-Alongs with the AB police give people a first-hand perspective on the hard job our police are doing every day. Ride-Alongs with city leaders and concerned citizens is a great venue for all parties to experience a shared and better perspective of the challenges faced by our police force.
- Data Publishing: The police gather a large amount of data that could provide citizens with information allowing them to form better perspectives on police performance and how that contributes to their safety. Collated and synthesized data on traffic tickets, parking violations, jay walking, other misdemeanors, security camera utilization, etc., can provide the public with important information on where safety issues are persistent in AB.
- The STOP Committee becomes an ongoing venue for working on AB police and citizen engagement enhancements.

Committee Action Steps:

1. The STOP committee works closely with the City Manager and Police Chief to receive a current CONOPS and data collection briefing.
2. Members of the STOP Committee schedule Ride-Alongs with the AB police.
3. Research is conducted and citizen participation is encouraged to determine best practices for enhanced safety and community engagement with the police.
4. Provide a list of recommendations and motions to the AB Commission based on research, citizen input, and AB police input that will create greater police engagement and community safety.

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PARKING

Topic: Improvement of multi-vehicle parking lots in the residential areas of Atlantic Beach to enhance citizen Safety, Security, and Quality of Life.

Discussion: Mass parking areas in the middle of residential areas in Atlantic Beach provides parking close to beach accesses for many people both in and out of Atlantic Beach. But, the mass parking and attendant traffic also creates safety, security, and QOL issues for residents. Additionally, current parking is inadequate for the increased use of golf carts by citizens. The paid parking program on 18th and 19th Streets also needs to be evaluated on whether it has provided a calming effect on the parking in those lots and whether it can be improved. Topics that need investigation and discussion concerning parking in residential areas include:

- Beach Renourishment: A full understanding of how parking impacts beach renourishment, comparisons with other beach communities, how the money flows, and recent history.
- Paid Parking: What is the impact in terms of access, money generated, and quality of life, and whether/how the program needs to change and/or be expanded?
- Low-Speed Vehicle parking: How and should AB address parking for LSVs?
- Data Collection: Collecting data on both the paid and unpaid parking areas of AB to provide additional insights on how parking is being used, where it can be improved, or if paid parking should be expanded to other areas.

Committee Action Steps

1. Brief the STOP Committee on Beach Renourishment and Parking by Dep City Manager.
2. Collect Data: Get data from the AB Police on parking tickets/infractions, calls by residents related to parking lots in residential areas, paid parking data amount of cash collected, parking tickets issued, plus citizen input and/or surveys on parking both paid and unpaid.
3. Identification: Specifically identify parking areas that are candidates for improvement.
4. Input Prioritization: Based on input from steps 1 and 2 above, the STOP committee prioritizes data and creates a list that reflect the most important elements of data, i.e. Safety, QOL, access, income, congestion, ease of use, traffic pattern, cost, etc., cannot all be weighted equally. To create viable Course of Action each COA will have some good and not so good, but does that COA support the priorities elected by the STOP Committee.
5. The STOP Committee creates multiple COAs for improving parking areas in residential areas.
6. The STOP Committee presents COAs as motions on parking area improvements to the Commission.

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TRAFFIC

Topic: Electric Bike Ordinance

Discussion: Over the last few years e-bikes have become more prevalent on the streets and beaches of the city and the number of e-bikes is only going to continue to climb in Atlantic Beach. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), estimated emergency department visits due to micromobility products (e-bikes, e-scooters and hoverboards) more than doubled from 2017 to 2021. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), meanwhile, counted 53 deaths. Generally, e-bikes are heavier weighing between 50-80 pounds and with increased speed these vehicles pose a hazard to pedestrians and other bikers.

Committee Action Steps:

- Conduct investigations on current Florida e-bike ordinances and determine applicability and ability to enforce those in AB
- Survey other like size Florida cities to determine what ordinances they are using to regulate e-bike use.
- Recommend to the Commission ordinances for regulating e-bikes.

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Hogencamp, Kevin

From: Nancy Whittington <nvn202@juno.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2023 3:35 PM
To: Hogencamp, Kevin
Cc: Gerrity, Joseph
Subject: Input for the STOP Committee regarding safety enforcement concerns

Dear Kevin,

Since the City website does not have a specific link to provide input for the STOP Committee on Parking, I am sending this email to you to please distribute to the STOP members prior to their next meeting. I looked at both <http://www.coab.us/38/Boards-and-Committees> and the www.coab.us/STOPCommittee pages for input.

Dear STOP Committee members,

First, let me thank you for serving on such an important Committee that impacts every single resident in this City. As a former member of the parking committee set up by Commissioner John Stinson, I understand your challenges ahead.

Secondly, I am asking you to consider the enforcement side of your task ahead. The City has a robust array of Ordinances that deal with the related nuisances such as littering, noise, drunkenness on the beach, as well as parking. The enforcement of these ordinances seems spotty at best. It would be helpful to understand how do we enforce what we have now before expanding to other areas?

When you consider that Public Safety is 45.7% of the City \$57 Million dollar budget, understanding how much is focused on enforcement could offer some insights on one of the root causes of the problems faced regarding this issue?

Data is from page 40 of 2023 budget on city website: Budgeted Expenditures by Function

Public Safety (45.7%)
General Government (28.4%)
Transportation (13.4%)
Culture and Recreation (11.4%)
Human Services (0.6%)
Other Uses (0.6%)

From:
Nancy Whittington
1861 Beachside Ct
AB 32233

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Attachment B

Brinkley Herald - 7/20/23

Location	Restricted Times Posted	Dune Cross-Over	Marked Parking Spots	Handicap ADA Parking	2014 Olsen LSV Parking Report (Golfcart)	Bike Racks
Ahern Street	No Sign	under construction w/new station	being revised	2		
First Street	9pm - 6am	Sand path only, no dune crossover	5			3
Second Street (btwn Beach Ave/Ocean Blvd)	No Sign	Sand path only, no dune crossover	0 (condo)			(create 2)
Third Street	No Signs	N.side of Second btwn Beach/Ocean	2-3 w/no signs		3	
Third Street (btwn Beach Ave/Ocean Blvd)	No Sign	wood ADA Ramp	1+1 OR+ADA	1 (convert +1)		1
Fourth Street	No Signs	S.side of Third btwn Beach/Ocean	2 w/wrong signs			
Fourth Street	11pm - 6am	Sand path only, no dune crossover	2		2	1
Fifth Street	No Sign	Sand path only, no dune crossover	2+1 OR+ADA	1 (convert -1)	4	(create 2)
Fifth Street (btwn Beach Ave/Ocean Blvd)	No Signs	N.side of Fifth btwn Beach/Ocean	3-4 w/no signs			
Sixth Street	11pm - 6am	wood ADA Ramp	3+ADA+1 wrong	1 (create +1)	8	1
Sixth Street (btwn Beach Ave/Ocean Blvd)	No Sign	N.side of Sixth btwn Beach/Ocean	3-4 w/no signs			
Seventh Street	No Sign	concrete vehicle ramp	0			1
(btwn Beach Ave/Ocean Blvd)	No Signs	S.side of Seventh btwn Beach/Ocean	6 w/no signs			
(Beach Ave along LeChateau)	No Signs	W.side of Beach Ave btwn 7th/8th	4-5 w/no signs			
Grage Center	11pm - 6am	no access, uses Seventh/Eighth St	12	2	17	
(btwn Ocean/East Coast Dr)	No Signs	N.side of Seventh btwn Ocean/East Coast Dr	6-7 w/no signs			
Eighth Street	No Sign	Sand path only, no dune crossover	unmarked			
(btwn Beach Ave/Ocean Blvd)	No Signs	N.side of Eighth btwn Beach/Ocean	4-5 w/no signs			
Club Drive	No Sign	N.side of Club Dr btwn Beach/Ocean	5-6 w/no signs			
Tenth Street	11pm - 6am	newly rebuilt composite ADA Ramp	7 + 2 ADA	2	10	2
(btwn Beach Ave/Ocean Blvd)	No Signs	N.side of Tenth btwn Beach/Ocean	3			
Eleventh Street	No Sign	wood ADA Ramp	4+1 OR+ 2 ADA	2	6	1
Twelfth Street	11pm - 6am	newly rebuilt composite ADA Ramp	2	0 (create +2)	2	1
Thirteenth Street	11pm - 6am	wood ADA Ramp	1 ADA	1 (create +1)	2	2
Fourteenth Street	No Sign	Sand path only, no dune crossover	2		2	2
Fifteenth Street	9pm - 6am	concrete vehicle ramp	6+1 OR		6	1
(btwn Beach Ave/Ocean Blvd)	No Signs	S.side of Fifteenth btwn Beach/Ocean	6			
Sixteenth St. (Waters Park)	11pm - 6am	wood w/stairs, non-ADA	20	2		1

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Deweese Avenue (btwn Beach Ave/Ocean Blvd)	no endzone	wood w/stairs, non-ADA	0 (+1 OR)	
18th Street (Access 1)	No Sign No Signs 9pm - 6am	4 to 6 wood w/stairs, non-ADA	40 +2 OR +2 ADA	6
19th Street (Access 2)	9pm - 6am	Sand path only, no dune crossover	13 +1 OR+ 1 ADA	0 (+create 2)
20th Street	No Sign	remove "scooter" sign newly rebuilt composite, non-ADA (steps)	3	2
				1

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