



Town of Hilton Head Island TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP Tuesday, April 9, 2024, 1:00 PM Minutes

Call to Order

Mayor Perry called the workshop to order at 1:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Alan Perry, Mayor, David Ames, Ward 3, Mayor Pro-Tempore; Patsy Brison, Ward 2; Alex Brown, Ward 1; Tammy Becker, Ward 4; Steve Alfred, Ward 5; Glenn Stanford, Ward 6.

Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Ames moved to approve. Mr. Stanford seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

Workshop Discussion

Major Thoroughfares Corridor Plan

William Hilton Parkway Segment 3 - Beach City Road to Dillon Road

William Hilton Parkway Segment 2 - Wilborn Road to Beach City Road, and Main Street

Brian McIlwee introduced Brian Kinzelman, Principal, MKSK, a Planning, Urban Design and Landscape Architecture Firm; Jonathan Guy, Vice-President, Kimley-Horn Associates, a premier engineering, planning and design consultant, and Addie Weber, Office Director, Toole Design, which is a transportation company with the mission to support innovative streets and dynamic communities where people of all ages and abilities can walk, bike and have access to transit. He explained they will present a high-level overview of the overall plan and then dive into two priority segments described above and receive feedback from Council so they can advance into final design.

Mr. McIlwee continued with a presentation regarding the following:

OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

- Focus on analyzing and understanding current conditions
- Target safety of roadways and pedestrian/bicycle movements
- Direct improvements to critical areas and corridors
- Design standards for infrastructure, materials, & aesthetics

Mr. Orlando noted that it is important to establish a position regarding the plan and work towards it with the South Carolina Department of Transportation. He explained the need for an encroachment permit submittal to the SCDOT in making these changes/improvements and stated rather than bring them one piece at a time it is important to develop a plan for the entire network to be implemented over time.

Mr. Colin added that there is a need to have a plan in place in order to seek funding from other agencies and partners to provide confidence in what the funding will be used for.

Mr. McIlwee reviewed the segments listed below and asked Mr. Kinzelman to continue with the presentation.

WILLIAM HILTON PARKWAY SEGMENTS

WHP - 1: Spanish Wells Road / Wild Horse Road to Wilborn Road / Jarvis Park Road

WHP - 2: Wilborn Road / Jarvis Park Road to Beach City Road / Gardner Drive and Main Street

WHP - 3: Beach City Road / Gardner Drive to Dillon Road

WHP - 4: Dillon Road to Mathews Drive /Cross Island Parkway Folly Field Road Fraser Bridge and approaches

WHP - 5: Mathews Drive / Folly Field Road to Shelter Cove Lane

WHP - 6: Shelter Cove Lane to Queens Folly Road / King Neptune Drive

WHP - 7: Queens Folly Road / King Neptune Drive to Wexford Drive /Shipyard Drive

WHP - 8: Wexford Drive / Shipyard Drive to Sea Pines Circle and New Orleans Road

Segments Prioritizations

Safety

- Improvements located in high crash areas
- New controlled or reconfigured intersections
- Improve access management
- Turn lane improvements
- Improvements to unsignalized crossings
- Reduction in conflict points
- Reduction of speed
- Complete streets
- Traffic calming

Connectivity

- Connects neighborhoods separated by roadways
- Fills gaps in pathway network
- Creates new neighborhood connections
- Reduces pathway conflict points

Placemaking

- Improvements support Island character
- Signature corridor or street within network
- Aesthetic and character improvements
- Median recommendations to enhance aesthetics

The consultants reviewed the framework in detail explaining “Systems” are those essential elements that contribute to a corridor’s character and functionality; “Segments” identifies specific areas for systems improvements within each corridor and “Implementation” includes aspirational and attainable actions to help achieve the Plan’s vision. They reviewed the systems challenges and opportunities; system landscape and aesthetics; systems wayfinding, signage, branding and art; systems roadways; systems intersections; systems pathways; systems transit.

Members of Council had questions, comments and discussion regarding: speed limit study results and needs; the importance of looking at volume and speed on the roadways; crosswalk safety; the need for a balance; the need to reduce speed limits and how to do so and the need for enforcements; the need for landscape medians; confirmation a separate report will need to be done and submitted to SCDOT regarding reducing speed limits on each segment; concern over the timeframe in obtaining approval for all improvements; confirmation these are interim improvements; confirmation that additional funds will be needed for the entire scope of the project; consensus of Council to move the item forward on a future agenda; clarification of the design for all-stops for pedestrian crossings; then need for a balance regarding circle placement; the need for circles to slow traffic; confirmation William Hilton Parkway has a large right-of-way which would fit the options with the exception of a few small areas on side streets which rights-of-way would be needed; the need to consider stakeholder input; confirmation the medians on main street would be removed but enhancements would be done regarding landscaping on the pathways; confirmation bike paths would be the same on both segments of Main Street; confirmation control of lighting features would be the Town’s decision for Main Street because of ownership; consensus of Council that Option 3 for North Main street is the preferred plan; the need to take caution with lighting choices; concern for pedestrians crossing at Museum Street to Pembroke Drive; the importance of signage within the plan with consideration of not overdoing; and confirmation segments can be done at intermittent times.

NEXT STEPS

- Town Council feedback and direction on interim improvements for WHP-3
- Town Council feedback and direction for WHP-3, WHP-2, and Main Street
- Town Council to review full Major Thoroughfares Corridor Plan (MTCP) over next 60 days
- Town Council Adoption of MTCP no later than August 1st, 2024
- Workshops on additional Segments - TBD

Appearance by Citizens

A gentleman that did not identify himself addressed Council regarding the difficulty in crossing WHP from Indigo Run to Hilton Head Plantation on a bike. He spoke in support of the proposed plans.

Melinda Tunner addressed Council regarding her opposition of a bike lane on Main Street due to driver distractions and the volume of traffic. She voiced concern regarding any tree removal on Main Street.

Frank Babel addressed Council in support of the plans stating they would assist in the Town becoming a Platinum level Bicycle Friendly Community.

Charlie Quigg addressed Council regarding the William Hilton Parkway intersection with Gardner Drive and Beach City Road. He referenced a letter to the editor his wife wrote to the Island packet regarding the danger in crossing from the library to Gardner Drive.

Louise Miller Cohen addressed Council stating her support of the proposed plans.

After further discussion, it was the consensus of the entire Council to move ahead with interim improvements and to move forward with the preliminary work, study, and encroachment permit submission and define the segments with the input provided.

Emphasis was made regarding the need for community input regarding all segments within the plan and the need to focus on funding sources and timelines.

Adjournment

The workshop adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

Approved: May 7, 2024



Kimberly Gammon, Town Clerk

Alan R. Perry, Mayor

The recording of this Meeting can be found on the Town's website at www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov