



CITY OF CORCORAN
City Council Work Session Minutes
March 9, 2023 – 5:30 pm

The Corcoran City Council met on March 9, 2023, in Corcoran, Minnesota. The City Council work session meeting was held in person and the public was present in person and remotely through electronic means using the audio and video conferencing platform Zoom.

Mayor McKee, Councilor Bottema, Councilor Nichols, Councilor Schultz, and Councilor Vehrenkamp were present.

City Administrator Beise, City Clerk Friedrich, Public Works Director Mattson, and Project Engineer Steve Heglund were present.

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

Mayor McKee called the work session to order at 5:30 pm.

2. Pedestrian Crosswalk Policy

Project Engineer Steve Heglund of Stantec highlighted the pedestrian crosswalk areas of interest located within Ravinia Wildflower Park, Ravinia amenity center, and Bellwether Crossing on Stieg Road. Project Engineer Heglund noted the City's current approaches regarding pedestrian crosswalks, discussed background and issues, and reviewed what options may be available. Project Engineer Heglund noted a crosswalk policy provides framework for pedestrian crosswalks, reinforces the current system, and requires time and resources to develop. Project Engineer Heglund noted current crossing areas include event-based needs at Lions Park and City Park, pedestrian traffic with neighborhood parks, crossing areas within situation facilities such as schools or senior centers, the existing neighborhood crossings, and other jurisdictions such as County Roads and Three Rivers regional corridor. Project Engineer Heglund noted policy options include an interactive program incorporating stakeholders and community groups; a technical merit-based program utilizing engineering warrants only, or a guidance-based program utilizing data informed options. Project Engineer Heglund reviewed management of programs, resource possibilities, and cost considerations. Project Engineer Heglund reviewed types of pedestrian crosswalks include curb extensions, pedestrian refuge islands, rectangular rapid-flashing beacons, and pedestrian hybrid beacons, and reviewed the reduction in pedestrian crashes with each type of crosswalk option. Council and staff discussed policy criteria, development of streets with pedestrian crosswalks, and pedestrian crosswalk warrants and thresholds. Council discussed implementing a pedestrian crosswalk policy to establish requirements for future PUDs. Council and staff noted long and short-term impacts regarding a pedestrian policy. Council and staff discussed how to utilize the road infrastructure, landscaping, and road and curb design to make pedestrian crosswalks and bike lanes safe. Council and staff reviewed different ways to help control traffic speed through narrowing of perceived lane, curved bump out curbs, painting, and discussed the danger of pedestrian's false sense of security within crosswalks, and to recognize the issue when designing solutions to pedestrian crosswalk safety elements.

Mayor McKee noted a resident wishing to speak and asked him to move to the podium and state his name and address.

Gerald Pearson, 10325 Elm Lane, opined on danger of crossing as pedestrian on Stieg Road within the Bellwether neighborhood, noting drivers rarely follow the speed limit.

Council provided staff direction regarding a draft pedestrian crosswalk policy. Council noted discussion on the Three Rivers Cooperative Agreement regarding crossing locations and costs within the community.

3. Unscheduled Items

No unscheduled business was heard.

4. Adjournment

MOTION: made by Nichols, seconded by Schultz to adjourn.

Voting Aye: McKee, Bottema, Nichols, Schultz, and Vehrenkamp
(Motion carried 5:0)

Meeting adjourned at 6:39 pm.

Michelle Friedrich – City Clerk