



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Public Hearing/First Reading for the City Council Meeting September 24, 2019
Second Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting October 1, 2019

DATE: August 28, 2019
TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager
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Urban Transportation Plan Amendment for CCISD –
Carroll Lane between Wickersham Drive and Kostoryz Road
South of the Kostoryz/Carroll Drainage Ditch

CAPTION:

Ordinance amending the Urban Transportation Plan map of MobilityCC, a transportation element of the City's Comprehensive Plan, to remove the extension of Carroll Lane from Wickersham Drive to Kostoryz Road on the south/east side of the Kostoryz/Carroll Drainage Ditch as requested by Corpus Christi Independent School District and related to the development of a new high school campus.

SUMMARY:

Corpus Christi Independent School District (CCISD) requests an amendment to the City's Urban Transportation Plan to eliminate the requirement to construct the extension of Carroll Lane along the north side of the proposed new Mary Carroll High School campus to be located at the northeast corner of Kostoryz Road and Saratoga Boulevard. CCISD provided a Traffic Impact Analysis to support their request to remove the proposed extension of Carroll Lane from the City's Urban Transportation Plan and staff recommends approval of this ordinance because the amendment will maintain an adequate transportation network for the area.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

Corpus Christi Independent School District (CCISD) is proposing a new high school at the northeast corner of Saratoga Boulevard and Kostoryz Road. Site work is anticipated to begin in October 2019. According to City code, CCISD (the developer) is required to construct any streets proposed on the City's Urban Transportation Plan and that are within the site. Approximately 2,000 linear feet of the extension of Carroll Lane is proposed within the school site. CCISD is not required to construct portions of proposed streets located beyond their site.

Description of the Request:

The transportation plan proposes that Carroll Lane, a C1 Minor Residential Collector with 60 feet of right-of-way width, be extended along both sides of the Kostoryz/Carroll Drainage Ditch from its existing endpoints near Grassmere Drive on the east and Cresthill Drive on the west

with both connecting into Kostoryz Road. CCISD requests removal of the portion of the proposed Carroll Lane that is located on the south/east side of the Kostoryz/Carroll Drainage Ditch between the future extension of Wickersham Drive and Kostoryz Road. The requested amendment would remove approximately 2,500 linear feet of street from the transportation plan.

Description of the Transportation Plan:

The proposed high school site is within a one square-mile study area bounded by Holly Road, Saratoga Boulevard, Weber Road, and Kostoryz Road, which are “arterial” streets. The transportation plan attempts to create a grid of streets to serve local traffic within this one square-mile area by placing smaller “collector” streets between the larger “arterial” streets. At full buildout, the transportation plan calls for Carroll Lane, a collector street, to be built on both sides of the Kostoryz/Carroll Drainage Ditch to provide the neighborhoods an entrance/exit to Holly Road and to Kostoryz Road. Wickersham Drive would also be extended according to the transportation plan and would cross the Kostoryz/Carroll Drainage Ditch and provide additional access to Kostoryz Road. Wickersham Drive already provides the neighborhoods access to Weber Road. The future extension of Norchester Drive would provide the neighborhoods access to Saratoga Boulevard.

Analysis of the Request:

To support their request, CCISD provided a Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) conducted by the Maldonado-Burkett engineering firm. Maldonado-Burkett made the following findings:

- The volume of traffic coming in and out would be only slightly lower if Carroll Lane were extended to Kostoryz Road without the requested amendment.
- If Carroll Lane is not extended from Wickersham Drive to Kostoryz Road, most intersections within the study area will function at an acceptable Level of Service (LOS) of **D**. A traffic signal will be needed at the Masterson Drive/Kostoryz Road intersection to maintain an acceptable LOS. *[LOS represents the quality of traffic and ranges from A to F. LOS A means traffic is free flowing. LOS F means traffic is congested and the flow is forced. The LOS analysis assumes that the timing of all traffic signals in the study area is optimized for performance.]*
- Eliminating the intersection of Carroll Lane at Kostoryz Road helps justify a traffic signal at the intersection of Masterson Drive and Kostoryz Road, which is an intersection that would serve Galvan Elementary School and the surrounding neighborhood. Eliminating this intersection also provides better spacing between intersections with Masterson Drive being approximately 1,900 feet north of Saratoga Boulevard.
- A traffic signal at Masterson Drive/Kostoryz Road will be needed possibly in 2026.

Since the school site will not be developed with single-family subdivisions, having Carroll Lane on the south side of the ditch for local street connections is no longer necessary.

The area will still have an adequate street network to provide neighborhoods access to the arterial streets. Carroll Lane will provide access to Holly Road; Norchester Drive will provide access to Saratoga Boulevard; Wickersham Drive will provide access to Weber Road; and Masterson Drive will provide access to Kostoryz Road.

FHWA/TX-04/4286-2 report titled “Traffic Operations and Safety at Schools: Recommended Guidelines” states that a school have access from more than one direction to the immediate vicinity and access to the site from at least two adjacent streets. The proposed site for the new Mary Carroll High School meets this guideline without Carroll Lane being extended. The site will also have access to a bicycle/pedestrian trail, as recommended by the Guidelines.

The City’s adopted Strategic Plan for Active Mobility: Phase 1 Bicycle Mobility will also require CCISD to construct an off-road multi-use trail along the southside of the ditch. Having this trail will provide students non-vehicular access to the school from the neighborhoods in the subject

area when the trail network is complete. The TIA also states that Wickersham Drive could also serve as an alternative drop-off location and students could use the trail to walk to school.

ALTERNATIVES:

Extending Carroll Lane to the school site but not connecting all the way to Kostoryz Road was considered as an alternative to the requested amendment to provide neighborhood access from the north. But, this alternative would result in a public street serving one property owner and the Traffic Impact Analysis showed an acceptable Level of Service without the street.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

No financial impact is associated with this item.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of CCISD's requested transportation plan amendment. The proposed amendment maintains an adequate and efficient street network for the proposed land uses in the area.

The Transportation Advisory Commission recommends approval of the proposed amendment with the condition to keep bike or non-vehicular access to the school.

The Planning Commission recommends approval of the proposed amendment.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Ordinance
Letter of Request from CCISD
School Site Plan
Traffic Impact Analysis (select pages and exhibits)
Presentation