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INFORMATION:

Removal of Radar Feedback Signs Along Rainwater Road

Staff Resource: Will Shumaker, Transportation, 996-4175, william.shumaker@raleighnc.gov

Within the next 30 days, staff is planning to remove the four radar speed signs on Rainwater Road. Included with the *Update* materials is a staff memorandum prepared detailing the background history of these signs, reasoning for their removal, and staff recommendations moving forward.

(Attachment)

Moore Square Affordable Development - Option to Lease

Staff Resource: Ken Bowers, Planning & Development, 996-2633, ken.bowers@raleighnc.gov

As Council may recall, the redevelopment of City-owned property east and south of Moore Square has been in process for many years. Moore Square was identified as a Catalytic Project Area in the 2015 Downtown Raleigh Plan. The 2017 Downtown Land Disposition Strategy identified the land east of Moore Square as a potential housing site. Acting on City Council direction from July 2021, the Planning and Development Department initiated the rezoning of the City-owned parcels on the blocks east and south of Moore Square Park, in preparation of issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the redevelopment of those sites. The rezoning was approved in January 2022.

Subsequently, the RFP was published on March 11, 2022, with submissions due to staff in June of that year. A total of nine submissions were reviewed by a diverse, intradepartmental committee. Based on this review, staff identified a preferred proposal and presented the findings to the City Council at the November 15, 2022, regular meeting. Council accepted the staff recommendation to negotiate the fee sale and lease of property owned by the City of Raleigh and located east and south of Moore Square Park with a development team led by LODEN Properties and LODEN Hospitality. Harmony Housing Affordable Development is the team member that will develop the affordable housing component, which will include a minimum of 160 units targeting an average income level of 60% of area median income, with some units targeting as low as 30% of AMI.

For the awareness of the City Council, Planning and Development staff in coordination with Housing & Neighborhoods and the City Attorney's Office, are preparing an agenda item for the April 2 City Council meeting to request authorization to enter into an Option to Lease for City-owned property east of Moore Square for an affordable housing project. This option is a first step in the redevelopment process, establishing site control that will allow the affordable development entity, Moore Square Harmony Housing LLC, to begin the process of applying for funding from the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency, Wake County, and the City. Notice of this action has been provided as required by state statute (NCGS 160A-278).

(No attachment)

Portable Solar Electric Vehicle Chargers Available

Staff Resource: Rick Longobart, Engineering Svcs. - Vehicle Fleet Svcs., 996-5615, rick.longobart@raleighnc.gov

Staff with the Vehicle Fleet Services division in cooperation with the Office of Sustainability are powering up Raleigh electric vehicle drivers! With funds received from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the City was able to purchase two portable solar BEAM chargers, growing the availability of charging infrastructure, and backing the Raleigh Community Climate Action Plan. The new solar chargers can be found soaking up the sunrays at Anderson Point Park and Brier Creek Park. The chargers will occasionally be moved around the City so people in different areas can give them a try! At this time, the public can use these chargers at no cost.



Founded in 2006, Beam Global is a clean technology leader providing innovative, sustainable products and technologies for the electrification of transportation and energy resiliency. These two chargers are the first of their kind in the City: 100% solar powered. Raleigh looks forward to showcasing these new chargers around the city, optimizing the sunniest spots, and allowing for equitable charging access.

Solar-powered EV chargers offer a sustainable solution to the rising demand for electric vehicles. By harnessing the power of the sun, these chargers can provide an environmentally friendly way to charge electric vehicles, reducing our dependence on traditional fossil fuels. This is crucial in the fight against climate change, as transportation accounts for a significant portion of greenhouse gas emissions worldwide.

This and other initiatives continue a path towards a more sustainable future.

(No attachment)

Weekly Digest of Special Events

Staff Resource: Sarah Heinsohn, Office of Special Events, 996-2200, sarah.heinsohn@raleighnc.gov

Included with the *Update* materials is the special events digest for the upcoming week.

(Attachment)

Council Member Follow Up Items

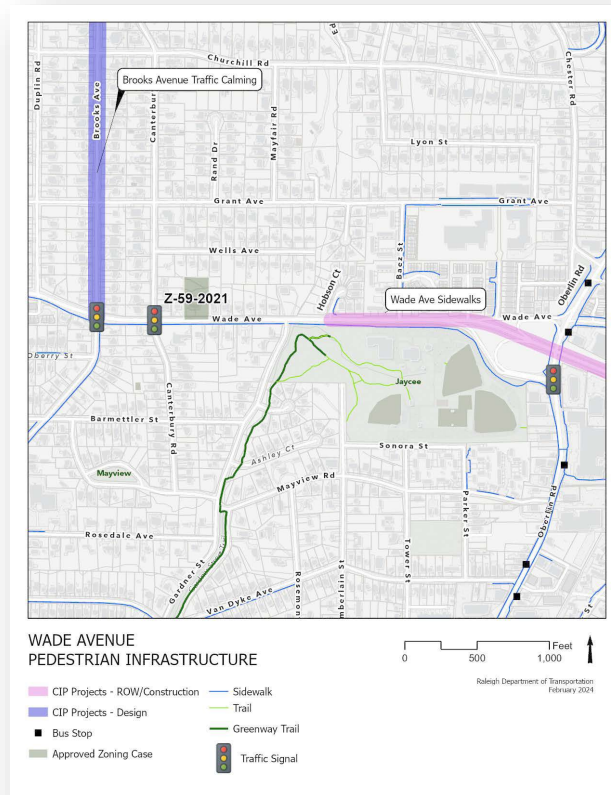
Follow up from March 1, 2022, City Council Meeting

Wade Avenue Traffic Conditions (Council Member Forte)

Staff Resource: Anne Conlon, Transportation, 996-2160, anne.conlon@raleighnc.gov

During the public hearing for rezoning case Z-59-21, Council requested that staff provide a report on traffic conditions on Wade Avenue in the vicinity of the rezoning case. Specifically, they requested a review of pedestrian connectivity between the site and Jaycee Park and walkability in the surrounding area.

The map below displays existing and programmed infrastructure in the vicinity of the rezoning case along Wade Avenue, an NCDOT maintained 4-lane undivided street.



An existing sidewalk on the south side of Wade Avenue connects to Jaycee Park. A programmed sidewalk is nearing construction on the north side of Wade Avenue between Hobson Court and Oberlin Road. This sidewalk project was identified in the 2012 *Comprehensive Pedestrian Plan* and will connect residents on the north side of Wade Avenue with transit stops and commercial destinations on Oberlin Road. There is currently no planned project to construct a sidewalk on the north side of Wade Avenue directly adjacent to the rezoning site. This section of Wade Avenue did not score well in the original adopted Pedestrian Plan and was not scored as part of the most recent sidewalk project prioritization update in 2015. This sidewalk gap may be reconsidered in future sidewalk re-prioritization.

(No attachment)

Follow up from March 5 City Council Meeting

[Raleigh Green Growth Initiatives Update \(Council Member Harrison\)](#)

Staff Resources: *Sally Hoyt, Engineering Services, 996-4388, sally.hoyt@raleighnc.gov*

Keegan McDonald, Planning & Development, 996-4630, keegan.mcdonald@raleighnc.gov

Zachary Manor, Raleigh Parks, 996-4868, zachary.manor@raleighnc.gov

At the meeting, Council requested an update on the Green Growth initiatives recently discussed by the Growth and Natural Resources Committee. Staff from Engineering Services, Planning and Development, and Parks Recreation and Cultural Resources Departments have collaborated to provide an update to the

proposed action items originally presented at the January 16 Council work session. Included with the *Update* materials is a staff memorandum summarizing the initiatives and status of each.

(Attachment)

To	Marchell Adams-David, City Manager
Thru	Paul Kallam, Transportation Director
From	Will Shumaker, Mobility Development Supervisor
Department	Transportation
Date	March 22, 2024
Subject	Removal of Radar Feedback Signs along Rainwater Road

Since 2012, the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP) policy has gone through multiple revisions and review by City Council in an effort to simplify the process, decrease complexity, offer more traffic calming treatment options, increase output, and deliver projects faster. The NTMP consists of three tools to improve speed compliance and overall safety on residential streets. These tools are speed limit reductions, all-way stops, and traffic calming projects.

Background & History

In 2012, Rainwater Road between Spring Forest Road and Hunting Ridge Road was eligible for what was called at the time a “major traffic calming project”. During this time, the NTMP had a more complex project offering process that consisted of two project tracks. Streets with a width of 31’ or less were offered a traffic calming project that consisted of speed hump or speed tables. Streets greater than 31’ in width, were offered a more holistic streetscape project or major traffic calming project. Projects progressing through the “major traffic calming project” track did not allow speed humps and were only eligible for “horizontal” traffic calming treatments such as curb bump outs and chicanes. Rainwater Road is approximately 41’ wide and fell into the more complex project track.

During the public engagement process, the residents were displeased with the process and the limited options that were offered. The residents raised their concerns and City Council decided to remove Rainwater Road from the project list. As a replacement for the removal of the traffic calming project, City Council approved the installation of all-way stops at most intersections along this section of Rainwater Road. In addition to the all-way stops, staff was directed to install 4 permanent radar feedback signs (see map below).

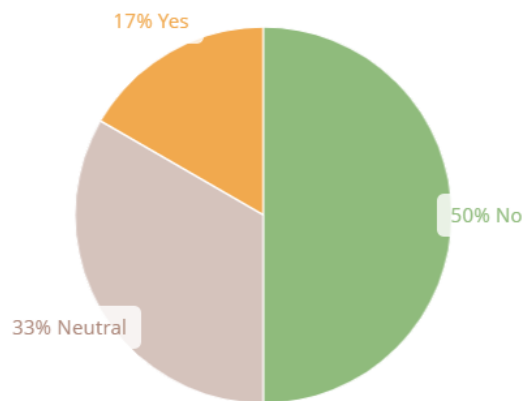


Based on a post evaluation done in 2013 and a most recent evaluation in July 2023, the radar feedback signs do not seem to have any measurable effect on slowing down drivers. In addition to these radar feedback signs being ineffective over a long period of time, they have required continuous maintenance on a more frequent basis due to the age and locating replacement parts.

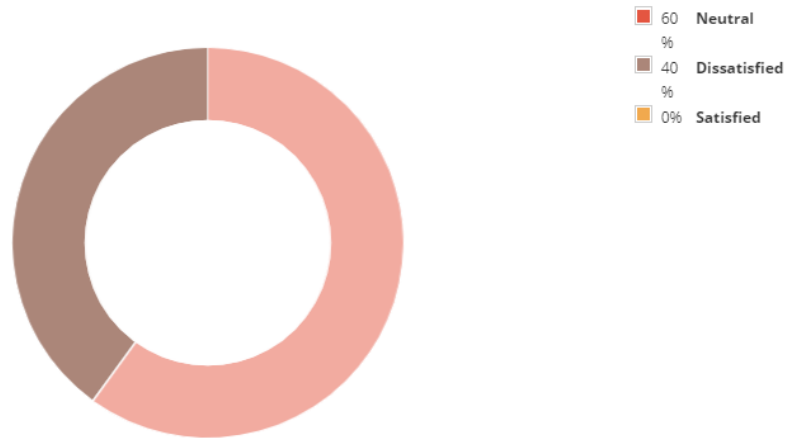
Resident Engagement

Prior to taking any action on the removal of the radar feedback signs, staff reached out to the residents that live along Rainwater Road to see if the radar feedback signs provide any value to their street. Results of the survey questions are below:

Have you noticed a change in driving patterns because of the radar feedback signs?



How satisfied are you with the radar feedback signs placed along Rainwater Rd?



The overall feedback from those who provided additional comments on this effort was that the all-way stop conversions were having some level of positive impact, but the radar feedback signs were not adding any real value in slowing down drivers. Some commented that they did not notice any difference in driver behavior when the radar feedback signs were working versus when they were down for maintenance.

Staff Recommendation

Staff has engaged with city staff who are responsible for maintaining these radar feedback signs and external stakeholders that live along the street. Based on the feedback received from both groups, staff is planning to remove the four radar speed signs on Rainwater Road within the next 30 days. The increasing and continued maintenance expenses is not the best use of the limited NTMP funding. After removal, staff will conduct another speed study along Rainwater Road in approximately six months. Depending on the data from that evaluation, Rainwater Road could qualify for a traffic calming project if requested by the residents.

Weekly Events Digest

Friday, March 22 – Thursday, March 28

City of Raleigh Office of Special Events
specialevents@raleighnc.gov | 919-996-2200 | raleighnc.gov/special-events-office

Permitted Special Events

[Spring Eggstravaganza](#)

City Market

Sunday, March 24

Event Time: 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Associated Road Closures: Parham Street between Martin Street and Wolfe Street, and Wolfe Street between Blount Street and Blake Street will be closed from 10:00am until 11:00pm.

Other Upcoming Events

[Revelation Presents Bill Clancy's Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award](#)

Friday, March 22

Fletcher Opera Theater

[Stravinsky Rite of Spring – NC Symphony](#)

Friday, March 22 & Saturday, March 23

Meymandi Concert Hall

[Raleigh Convention Center Boat Show](#)

Friday, March 22 – Sunday, March 24

Raleigh Convention Center

[Egg-Hunts and Spring Events](#)

Friday, March 22 – Thursday, March 28

Various Locations Citywide

[Raleigh Roasts](#)

Saturday, March 23

City of Raleigh Museum

[Craft Club: Paper Quilting](#)

Saturday, March 23

Flowers Cottage at Dix Park

[The Little Mermaid – Carolina Ballet](#)

Saturday, March 23 & Sunday, March 24

Fletcher Opera Theater

[Triangle Springfest](#)

Sunday, March 24

Moore Square

[Vayuputra – The Son of the Wind](#)

Sunday, March 24

Memorial Auditorium

[Toronto Maple Leafs vs. Carolina Hurricanes](#)

Sunday, March 24

PNC Arena

[**KevOnStage & That Chick Angel: Here's The Thing**](#)

Sunday, March 24
Meymandi Concert Hall

[**TommyInnit How To Be A Billionaire**](#)

Wednesday, March 27
Meymandi Concert Hall

[**"Taking Back Control of Our Narrative" Women's History Month Event**](#)

Wednesday, March 27
The Optimist Raleigh

[**Detroit Red Wings vs. Carolina Hurricanes**](#)

Thursday, March 28
PNC Arena

Public Resources

[**Event Feedback Form**](#): Tell us what you think about Raleigh events! We welcome feedback and encourage you to provide comments or concerns about any events regulated by the Office of Special Events. We will use this helpful information in future planning.

[**Road Closure and Road Race Map**](#): A resource providing current information on street closures in Raleigh.

[**Online Events Calendar**](#): View all currently scheduled events that impact city streets, public plazas, and Dorothea Dix Park.

Council Member Follow Up

To	Marchell Adams-David, City Manager
Thru	Rich Kelly, Engineering Services Director Patrick O. Young, AICP, Planning and Development Services Director Stephen Bentley, Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Director
From	Wayne Miles, Engineering Services
Department	Engineering Services; Planning and Development; Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources
Date	March 22, 2024
Subject	Follow Up Report on Green Growth Initiatives

At the March 5, 2024 City Council meeting, Council requested an update on the Green Growth initiatives recently discussed by the Growth and Natural Resources Committee and authorized by Council at their January 16, 2024 meeting. Staff from Engineering Services, Planning and Development, and Parks Recreation and Cultural Resources Departments have collaborated to provide an update to the proposed action items originally presented at the January 16, 2024 City Council Work Session. The following table summarizes the initiatives and their current status:

Strategies that require initiation of a code change

Strategy Summary	Impact Summary	Work Effort	Initial Timeline	Status – March 2024
Prohibition of Invasive Species	Would ban the use of invasive species to meet landscaping requirements on private property.	Draft UDO text Change	Q1 2024: Bring forward as part of 2024 Omnibus text change list.	Lead Dept: Planning Initial 2024 Omnibus list, which includes this change, was presented to Council at their March 19, 2024 meeting.
Nuisance Code Review/Pollinator Habitat	Identify barriers or provisions that are incompatible with the use of native species and pollinator habitat.	Partner with Planning and Development, Housing and Neighborhoods, and Sustainability to review examples of certified pollinator habitat criteria (CPHC) for applicability in Raleigh and provide recommendation.	Q2 2024	Lead Dept: PRCR PRCR is currently reviewing Nuisance ordinance for contradictions to installing pollinator habitat, and reviewing various habitat certifications. Parks will make recommendations to Housing and Neighborhoods.
Private Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) in Right of Way (ROW)	Evaluate allowing GSI to meet private regulatory requirements in the ROW.	Review with the current Stormwater Design Manual process Review Street Design Manual. Coordinate maintenance processes with Stormwater and Transportation Coordinate legal processes with Transportation and City's Attorney's Office.	Q1 2024 to Q2 2024 Q1 2024 to Q2 2024 Q1 2024 to Q2 2024	Lead Dept: Engineering Services Stormwater staff reviewed the concept as part of the current Stormwater Design Manual Process. Any needed changes to the Street Design Manual will be incorporated into Transportation's upcoming revision to that document. Coordination meetings with Transportation and the City Attorney's office will be scheduled in Q2.

City Council direction of administrative activities

Strategy Summary	Impact Summary	Work Effort	Initial Timeline	Status – March 2024
Tree Manual	Add additional native species reference for the Tree Manual.	Review and update possible species list to include additional native trees.	Q1 2024	Lead Dept: PRCR Staff are reviewing a potential list of additions to the possible street tree list. Completion expected by 4/1. Information will be provided through Manager’s Update when changes are complete.
Pre-vetted Zoning Conditions Related to Invasive Species	City staff and City Attorney’s Office to collaborate on pre-vetted zoning language that applicants could request for conditional rezoning cases. This language would prohibit the planting of invasive species to meet UDO planting or landscaping requirements.	Draft template conditions.	Q1 2024	Lead Dept: Planning Complete – Staff will incorporate this example into the library of pre-vetted zoning conditions that can be shared with applicants upon request, depending on disposition of a rezoning request.
Elimination of Invasives & Encouragement of Natives on City Projects	Develop recommendations for a policy, guidebook, training or other activities that would preclude invasives and encourage use of natives on city projects.	<p>Convene an internal COR stakeholder group to develop a new policy and best practices to identify opportunities and challenges regarding the elimination of invasives and encouragement of natives in City projects.</p> <p>Work with City departments to test the policy through the</p>	<p>Q1-Q3 2024</p> <p>Q4 2024</p>	<p>Lead Dept: PRCR In Progress– Parks has internal guidance already in place to prevent the installation of invasive species and utilize native substitutions where possible on all Parks projects, including plan review by City Horticulturist.</p> <p>Ongoing – a cross departmental team was convened on January 26 to identify barriers and opportunities. This included representatives from Parks, Stormwater, Planning, Transportation, Public Utilities, Sustainability.</p> <p>The next step is for a subset of that group to meet and review seeding specifications</p>

Strategy Summary	Impact Summary	Work Effort	Initial Timeline	Status – March 2024
		<p>new sustainability review for capital projects as part of the CIP process.</p> <p>Seek approval through the CMO and CAO as applicable.</p>	Q1 2025	currently being used on COR construction projects.
Supporting Affordable Housing	Identify opportunities to support affordable housing projects through Stormwater and other City programs.	<p>Host open house for affordable housing developers/designers regarding GSI and stormwater permitting.</p> <p>Interview affordable housing developers/designers About how Raleigh Stormwater can assist their projects.</p> <p>Commit GSI funds and technical assistance with H&N RFP.</p>	<p>Ongoing to Q1 2024</p> <p>Ongoing to Q1 2024</p> <p>Q1 to Q4 2024</p>	<p>Lead Dept: Engineering Services</p> <p>An open House was held on February 21, 2024 Stormwater and Sustainable Practices in Affordable Housing: Open House: Stormwater and Sustainable Practices in Affordable Housing Raleighnc.gov</p> <p>The interviews with affordable housing developers/designers have been postponed until later in 2024.</p> <p>Stormwater and H&N continuing to collaborate regarding providing funds and technical assistance for GSI.</p>
GSI Reimbursement Process for Non-Regulatory Projects in ROW	<p>Develop reimbursement schedule to support UDO Section 8.6.5.</p> <p>Identify potential pilot project(s) to use the reimbursement process.</p>	<p>Contract with consultant to develop values.</p> <p>Coordinate with Urban Projects Group.</p>	<p>Q1 2024 to Q4 2024</p> <p>Q1 2024 to Q4 2024</p>	<p>Lead Dept: Engineering Services</p> <p>This task will be incorporated into a consultant’s contract in 2024.</p> <p>Stormwater staff continues to coordinate with the Urban Projects Group.</p>

Strategy Summary	Impact Summary	Work Effort	Initial Timeline	Status – March 2024
Parking Lot Standards	Prepare a report on opportunities and consequences to create GSI and tree health opportunities.	Staff to conduct a thorough review of parking lot landscaping requirements and report on options to increase GSI opportunities, flexibility, and alternatives to parking lot island requirements.	Q2 2024	Lead Dept: Planning On track for Q2 2024 report.
Evaluate Stormwater Program Resources	Review financial and staff resources for Raleigh Rainwater Rewards and for maintenance of City GSI.	Evaluate Stormwater resources. Coordinate with PRCR.	Ongoing to Q2 2024	Lead Dept: Engineering Services Stormwater FY25 Budget proposal includes increased R3 funding to \$500K and proposal for a four-person GSI maintenance crew to be housed in the PRCR Dept.
Identify Additional Community Partners	Identify organizations that represent indigenous people that could partner with the city on partnership or outreach/ education efforts.	Staff can work to identify any potential organizations.	Q1 2024	Lead Dept: Multiple Staff have identified two indigenous peoples organizations and will reach out for coordination (Triangle Native American Society at TriangleNative.org; and 7 Directions of Service at 7directionsofservice.com)

Additional related work

In addition to the actions above, the City continues to implement Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI), guided by the Council-endorsed 2021 GSI Action Plan. This includes:

- The Stormwater Management Advisory Commission (SMAC), reviewed example rezoning conditions related to GSI. These are available upon request.
- The GSI Evaluation Policy for City Projects was adopted in November 2023. Implementation began immediately to evaluate the possibility for including GSI in City Projects that include land disturbance.
- The City continues to design and construct GSI practices.
- City details and specifications for GSI practices have been updated.
- Several trainings and design charettes were held with City staff from multiple departments.