

# Work Session

<b>Agenda Item #</b>	5
<b>Meeting Date</b>	November 17, 2014
<b>Prepared By</b>	Daryl Braithwaite Public Works Director
<b>Approved By</b>	Brian T. Kenner City Manager

<b>Discussion Item</b>	Planning for the Carroll Avenue Bridge Closure and Process for Implementing Temporary Traffic Control Measures
<b>Background</b>	<p>The Carroll Avenue bridge rehabilitation project will result in the closure of the bridge and the detour of north bound and south bound vehicle traffic for a period of approximately 18 months. The project is expected to get underway in the summer of 2015. Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) plans to provide a truck detour route using University Boulevard, Piney Branch Road, New Hampshire Avenue and Philadelphia Avenue. The detour for both directions of local traffic will be to Old Carroll Avenue, Sligo Creek Parkway, Maple Avenue, Maplewood Avenue and Flower Avenue.</p> <p>Given the large volume of traffic affected by the bridge closure and the potential impact to local neighborhoods from cut through traffic, the Council discussed establishing local working groups in the affected neighborhoods at the June 2, 2014 Council meeting. The purpose of the working groups would be to convene meetings in the affected area and discuss various options for reducing the speed and volume of traffic and bring forward the recommendations that receive the most support for Council consideration and authorization. Potential traffic calming options could include making a street one way, turn restrictions, speed humps, and additional signage. The City's on-call engineering firms could be asked to review the requested traffic calming measures prior to the Council's decision to evaluate the options and render an opinion on the effectiveness and appropriateness in calming the potential added traffic.</p> <p>City staff has currently held one meeting with residents in the Maple Avenue and Maplewood Avenue area.</p> <p>The SHA has indicated that the bridge plans are near final and City staff will be attending an SHA meeting on Thursday, Nov. 20 to receive the final plans and construction schedule.</p> <p>City staff recommends that neighborhood meetings be held over the winter with the goal of identifying requested temporary measures by March, 2015. These requests can be reviewed by the City's on-call engineering firm and final recommendations be brought to the Council for public discussion and deliberation in the Spring. Installation of approved measures would be planned for early summer – or prior to the bridge construction.</p> <p>Currently, the City's traffic calming process requires residents to circulate a petition to an affected area and receive signatures of 2/3 of the residents in that area. The process requires a public hearing and two readings of an Ordinance to enact the</p>

	requested measure. The Council may want to discuss whether the existing process, which is intended for permanent traffic calming, should be used for temporary traffic calming requests or if these temporary measures can be authorized through a different process.
<b>Policy</b>	
<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	Unknown at this time
<b>Attachments</b>	None
<b>Recommendation</b>	
<b>Special Consideration</b>	