




MEMORANDUM

Date: May 2, 2023

To: Honorable Mayor and Commissioners

Via: Albert P. Childress
City Manager 

From: Gary Volenec, P.E.
Interim Engineering Director

Subject: **Approving One-Way, One Lane Traffic Flow in a Northerly Direction on Ashe Street from Olivia Street to Southard Street**

Introduction

The City desires to implement the conversion of Ashe Street from its current configuration to a one-way street with traffic flowing northbound in the direction from Olivia Street to Southard Street. This change is being proposed to comply with road width standards established to protect life, health, and safety of the traveling public.

Background

According to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Manual of Uniform Minimum Standards for Design, Construction and Maintenance for Streets and Highways (commonly referred to as the "Florida Green Book"), nine-foot (9') wide lanes should be considered the minimum travel lane standard, thereby requiring eighteen feet (18') of travel width to allow two-way traffic.

Engineering staff measured the widths of the three blocks being considered for changing to one-way traffic flow.

- Ashe Street from Olivia Street to Angela Street (700 & 800 blocks) has a total road surface width of eighteen (18') feet. Allowing seven (7') feet of width for parking leaves only eleven feet (11') to accommodate two-way traffic which results in an unsafe condition.
- Ashe Street from Angela Street to Southard Street (600 block) has a total road surface width of twenty-four (24') feet. Allowing fourteen feet (14' - two 7' lanes) of width to accommodate parking on both sides of the street leaves only ten feet (10') for two-way traffic, which results in an unsafe condition.

City Staff held two separate meetings with the neighborhood, the first on-site in which the neighbors' voiced concerns which were addressed by the Engineering Department resulting in a second meeting at City Hall. During the follow-up meeting the two neighborhood groups that were involved in the project collectively endorsed the project. Staff and members have left notifications for all residents affected by the change of the upcoming City Commission meeting on April 2nd at 5:00PM at City Hall.

Procurement

This conversion will be funded from Account 102-4102-541-6300 (Internal Improvements/Gas Tax); Project II41022103 One-Way Streets to provide new Signage and Pavement Markings.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the 600 block of Ashe Street be made one-way with parking on both sides of the street. The 700 & 800 blocks of Ashe Street will be one-way with parking along only one side of the street. The direction of traffic flow will be northward, from Olivia Street to Southard Street. Additionally, at the request of residents, the 600 block will be striped with a continuous lane edge striping instead of individual parking space striping.

The City Manager's Office recommends the Mayor and Commission approve the resolution authorizing the City Manager to have staff make the changes to portion of Ashe Street between Olivia Street and Southard Street to be one lane, one-way in a north-westerly direction, and installation of appropriate traffic signage and striping.