

City of Copperas Cove Information Item

June 21, 2012

Courtney Lane Traffic Impact Analysis

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SUBJECT: Courtney Lane Traffic Impact Analysis.

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City executed an agreement with the firm of Freese & Nichols, Inc. to conduct a traffic impact analysis (TIA) to describe the existing traffic conditions and estimate the future traffic conditions along Courtney Lane from Fairbanks Drive to FM 116. The main objective of the study was to assess the safety of the area, particularly with respect to the CCISD facilities and the peak hour congestion and the concern for children's safety.

2. BACKGROUND/HISTORY

City staff requested and the Council authorized the completion of a TIA through the issuance of Tax Notes on January 17, 2012. The analysis requested was in response to citizen concerns about the congestion along Courtney Lane, and in response to the initial discussions with the developer of the Lehmann Heritage Tract about the development plans.

The firm conducted a traffic survey "in the field" and utilized standard engineering methods in its analysis. It evaluated "trip generation" and turning movements at each of the intersections (existing and proposed) for the years "0", "3", and "5" which includes the anticipated build out of the Lehmann Heritage Tract. With this information about the trips generated and their movement, recommendations were presented about the types of improvements that should be made, and a sequence for making these improvements.

3. FINDINGS/CURRENT ACTIVITY

In the existing condition, the analysis shows that Courtney Lane is operating at a "C" Level of Service (the grading system used by traffic engineers to describe congestion and delays). This is a delayed, but borderline level of service. In future conditions, the level of service deteriorates, necessitating a set of improvements to be implemented over time.

The analysis and recommendations do not directly tie the Lehmann Tract development to specific improvements that will need to be made, nor does it specifically calculate a share of the improvements that would be attributable to this development. While the growth and buildout of the Lehmann Tract is anticipated within the calculations, regional background growth is also anticipated. The recommendations for capital projects, in order of their priority for implementation, from the report are as follows:

- 1) Restripe Courtney Lane from two lanes to three lanes, implement during the first phase of development.
- 2) Traffic signal installed, implement no later than during second phase of development.
- 3) Addition of right turn lanes for schools, implement after restriping Courtney Lane from two lanes to three lanes and as needed,
- 4) Pedestrian cross walks and ramps, implemented as needed.

These recommendations are part of the overall set of recommendations presented in the Executive Summary (p.2) of the report.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

No financial impact exists to provide the update.