

JTSC

1:30 p.m.

May 18, 2026

The Emporia/Lyon County Joint Traffic Safety Committee met on May 18, 2026, in the Evora Wheeler Conference Room. Chair Mark Detter called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Present: Mark Detter, Chair, Deputy City Manager; Brandon Beck, Vice Chair, Emporia Fire Chief; Ed Owens, Emporia Police Chief; Brian Silcott, Emporia Public Works Director; Jon Proehl, Emporia Engineering Project Manager; Eric Paul, City Citizen Representative; Wayne Scritchfield, County Engineer; John Koelsch, County Undersheriff; Bruce Boettcher, County Civilian with Technical Experience; and Bill Heins, County Civilian with Technical Experience.

Consider Approval of Minutes from Meeting on February 23, 2026.

Motion to approve February 23, 2026, meeting minutes.

Heins/Owens

Approved

10-0

**DISCUSS-Update on Emporia TEAP Study
Presented By Jim Ubert, City Engineer**

This item was discussed on December 15, 2025, January 26, 2026, and February 23, 2026. The committee then agreed to present it to the City Commission on March 4, 2026, study session.

Jim Ubert reported that, after his March 4, 2026, presentation, the City Commission did not support removing the traffic signals at 4th Avenue and Commercial Street or 7th Avenue and Merchant Street near the Post Office. He said the revised recommendations reflect the Commission's concerns.

He presented a map showing which signals would remain, which would be removed, which would require sign changes, and which locations would be removed from consideration. He also reported that the City will apply for a Safe Streets for All grant to study the following intersections:

- 6th Avenue & Constitution Street
- 7th Avenue & Merchant Street
- 7th Avenue & Commercial Street
- 5th Avenue & Commercial Street
- 4th Avenue & Commercial Street

The study will evaluate pedestrian safety alternatives if the signals are removed. Engineering will also consider the committee's future recommendations and the 2024 Safe Routes to School Study.

**REQUEST - No Parking Designation
From 11th Avenue & Merchant Street to Constitution Street**

Phil Peacock, property manager for Smith Rentals at 1101 Merchant, requested moving the no-parking designation from the north side of 11th Avenue to the south side. He said parking at 1101 Merchant is limited and noted that the property at 1023–1025 Merchant has its own lot and adequate resident parking.

An initial motion to approve the request was later rescinded. The committee agreed to contact nearby property owners affected by the proposed change and allow time for their response.

A motion was made and seconded to table the item to allow time to contact affected property owners.

Owens/Heins
Approved
10-0

**REQUEST - Pedestrian Safety Infrastructure
At the Intersection of 12th Avenue & Washington Street**

Eric Paul, the committee's city citizen representative, raised concerns about speeding, visibility, traffic volume, and pedestrian safety at this school-zone crossing. He said the RRFBs and crossing guards are helpful when school is in session and suggested bulb-outs with bicycle pass-throughs or a refuge island similar to the concept identified in the 2024 Safe Routes to School Study. He also shared input from parents, teachers, and crossing guards and presented lower-cost alternatives for consideration.

Following further discussion, the item was tabled until the next meeting to allow the City Engineering Department time to gather cost estimates for the requested improvements.

A motion was made and seconded to table the item to allow the City Engineering Department time to prepare cost estimates for the requested pedestrian safety improvements.

Koelsch/Beck
Approved
10-0

**REQUEST - Pedestrian Safety Infrastructure
At the Intersection of 12th Avenue & Lincoln Street**

Eric Paul, the committee's city citizen representative, requested safety improvements at the pedestrian crossing at 12th Avenue and Lincoln Street, including RRFBs, bulb-outs or a refuge island, and signage on both sides of the crossing.

He said visibility at the crossing is limited at certain times of day and that signage is not posted on both sides of the street to alert drivers. Following further discussion, the committee agreed to allow staff time to obtain cost estimates for the proposed improvements, and the Chair suggested that Engineering and Public Works consider alternative safety measures.

A motion was made and seconded to table the item until the next meeting to allow staff time to gather information on safety alternatives and related cost estimates.

The item was tabled until the next meeting pending staff review and cost estimates.

Owens/Koelsch
Approved
10-0

Adjournment at 2:20 p.m.
Beck/Boettcher
Approved
10-0