Campus Corner
Pedestrian Safety Plan

City Council Study Session
September 17, 2019
Campus Corner Pedestrian Safety Plan

Background

• Area bounded by Duffy Street on the north, Boyd Street to the south, Asp Avenue to the east and University Boulevard to the west

• Popular nocturnal destination for college students with many bars and restaurants

• Increasing popularity of Campus Corner and higher number of pedestrians

• 2,000 to 3,000 pedestrians per night on weekends (Thursday thru Sunday)

• Narrow streets with two-way traffic and on-street parking
Campus Corner Pedestrian Safety Plan

Background

• Increasing number of “close calls” between pedestrian and automobiles
  – Mid-block crossing
  – Intoxicated pedestrians
  – Obstructed visibility (hard to see pedestrians walking between parked and moving vehicles)

• Ride Share Services (e.g., Uber and Lyft) blocking traffic lanes while waiting to pick-up passengers
Pedestrian Waiting for Ride
Pedestrians Walking across Asp Avenue
Pedestrians Walking across Asp Avenue
Pedestrians Walking across Asp Avenue
Pedestrians Overcrowding on Roadway
Pedestrians Overcrowding on Roadway
Emergency Vehicle in Gridlock
Campus Corner Pedestrian Safety Plan

Elements of the Plan

• Temporary night closure of Asp Avenue, between the first private driveway south of White Street and Boyd Street

• Permanent conversion of White Street from two-way to one-way westbound

• Creation of a staging area for Taxis, Uber / Lyft vehicles in the new Municipal Parking Lot

• Establishment of passenger pick-up area on the north side of White Street immediately west of Buchanan Avenue (next to Victoria’s Restaurant)
Elements of the Pedestrian Safety Plan - **Closure of Asp Avenue**
Elements of the Pedestrian Safety Plan - Traffic Control Plan and Devices
Campus Corner Pedestrian Safety Plan
Asp Avenue Closure

• Actively managed by Norman P.D. officers

• Convenient and safe traffic circulation directing drivers to the Municipal Parking Lot
Elements of the Pedestrian Safety Plan - **Permanent Conversion of White Street From Two-Way to One-Way Traffic**
Elements of the Pedestrian Safety Plan - **Permanent Conversion of White Street From Two-Way to One-Way Traffic**
White Street - Current Configuration

- 24-foot wide
- 8-foot parking lane on the north side of the street
- 16-foot width for two traffic lanes (8-foot wide lanes)
- Standard lane width is 12 feet
- Minimum lane width is 9 feet
- 8-foot lanes are too narrow to adequately support two-way traffic flow
- No sidewalk on the south side, between Buchanan Avenue and Asp Avenue
- Unsafe for motor vehicles and pedestrians
White Street - Recommended Configuration

• 24-foot wide

• Carries approximately 1,750 vehicles per day

• 8-foot parking lane on the north side of the street

• One-Way Westbound

• One 10-Foot wide lane

• New 6-foot wide ADA accessible sidewalk on the south side of the roadway, between Buchanan Avenue and Asp Avenue
White Street – One-Way Traffic Flow Conversion

• Requires City Council approval

• Section 20-201(2) of the Code of Ordinances states:

  “The City Council shall have the sole authority to determine and designate any street, alley or part thereof as a one-way street”
Permanent Signs for One-Way Conversion
Elements of the Pedestrian Safety Plan - Staging Area for Taxis, Uber / Lyft vehicles & Establishment of Passenger Pick-up Area
Campus Corner Pedestrian Safety Plan
Implementation Details

• Seasonal, beginning two weeks prior to the beginning of OU’s Fall Semester
• Exceptions: Summer Months, Christmas Break and Spring Break
• From 10:00 pm to 2:00 am, Thursday – Sunday
• Detour Asp Avenue vehicular traffic to use White Street
• Actual closure and deployment of traffic control devices to be performed by Norman PD officers
• Specific Plan to be developed by the City’s Traffic Control Division
• Traffic Control Devices to be pre-loaded on trailer and store at the NIC on Lindsey Street
Campus Corner Merchants Association Position

• Supports staging area and designated passenger pick-up area for Taxis, Uber / Lyft Vehicles
• Generally supports the temporary closure of Asp Avenue
• Some objection to the permanent one-way conversion (westbound) of traffic flow on White Street
Next Steps

• Adopt Campus Corner Pedestrian Safety Plan

• Council to consider conversion of White Street from two-way traffic to one-way flow in the westbound direction.