

MOTION

During the State of the City address and in subsequent days, the Mayor announced a partnership between the Department of Transportation and Waze, a popular mapping app, which would share up-to-the-minute city traffic data with Waze.

The goal of Waze, Google Maps and other internet mapping tools is to maximize the efficiency of public street infrastructure by utilizing unused streets during periods of high traffic congestion. The problem with this approach is that the public street infrastructure is comprised of major avenues and boulevards with high capacity and safety implements for pedestrians like signal lights and crosswalks, but also smaller residential streets that were never designed to accommodate the volume, speed and often carelessness of cut-through traffic.

In light of the mayor's announcement of a data-sharing partnership with Waze, the City may be able to leverage that partnership to reduce the impact of routing efficiency apps on neighborhood streets by, for example, regulating the number of added daily trips or other means.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council INSTRUCT the Department of Transportation to report on the City's partnership with Waze and on the feasibility of expanding that partnership to implement steps to reduce the volume of cut-through vehicle traffic diverted onto residential streets.

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