

MINUTES

City of The Dalles, Oregon TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING of September 21, 1983

Commission Present: Chairman Mike Courtney, Don Hall, Cecelia Cushing,
Harvey Prouty, Jack Rinehart, Maury Snow, Chris Zukin.
Commission Absent: None.
Staff Present: Rod McKee, City Engineer; Kurt Corey, Assistant to City
Engineer.
Visitors Present: None.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 A.M. by Chairman Mike Courtney.

Approval of Minutes

Prouty moved, seconded by Rinehart, to approve the August 17, 1983 meeting minutes as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

State Highway Division Response to Request for Turning Lane

A letter from Dick Hawkins of the State Highway Division was received indicating the State's denial of the City's request for a right-turn lane at 3rd and Union. The State's contention is that the action is unwarranted at this time. No action was necessary.

Status Report - East 10th Street Survey

Kurt Corey reported that City Council had concurred with the Commission's recommendation to survey East 10th Street residents for possible improvements to existing traffic conditions. Alternatives include widening, one-way grid, eliminate parking, and leave as is. It was stated that the survey will require a considerable amount of time and that results would probably not be available for a couple of months. Corey was requested to provide an update at the December meeting.

Emergency Snow Routes

Rod McKee was in attendance to solicit support for implementation of an emergency snow route plan. McKee had submitted a similar request approximately one year ago, at which time the Commission elected not to proceed with the plan. McKee presented a brief outline of the plan, stating that details remained to be ironed out, that an ordinance would be required to outline enactment and enforcement policies, and that the plan could probably not be implemented in time for the coming snow removal season. Commissioners Snow and Zukin reiterated their contention that the plan would place an unnecessary burden on residents of certain neighborhoods where off-street parking was limited or unavailable. McKee replied that all concerns would be addressed and hoped that neighbors would assist one another during snow emergencies. Following further discussion, Rinehart moved, Prouty seconded, to recommend proceeding with implementation of an emergency snow route plan. Motion passed.
Yes - Rinehart, Prouty, Cushing, Hall. No - Snow, Zukin.

Review of Ordinance Prohibiting Parking in Alleys

The following information was submitted for review by the Commission:

- 1) Memo from Police Chief Paul Nagy to City Council requesting review of existing ordinance which prohibits blocking of alleys at any time and stating that the matter had become an immediate concern following the recent citing of a truck driver;
- 2) Letter from cited truck driver, Rex Maurer, expressing concern over the inability to both deliver freight in the alleys and comply with the ordinance. Maurer suggested eliminating the blocking clause in the ordinance;
- 3) Petition with thirty-nine signatures representing downtown merchants and freight carriers requesting Traffic and Safety Commission review and recommendations;
- 4) Memo from City Attorney, William F. Cloran, to City Council outlining the problem and possible solutions;
- 5) Draft ordinance amendment from Cloran which would amend existing ordinance to essentially remove blocking restriction for school buses, worker transport buses, and delivery trucks, provided that such blocking should not be in excess of thirty consecutive minutes.

Commissioner Prouty felt that the ordinance should be left intact as is and require the merchants and carriers to propose a workable solution.

Commissioner Hall also felt the ordinance should remain unchanged but that carriers should not be cited.

Commissioner Rinehart felt that the problem should be deferred to the Downtown Development program for recommendations, fearing that any action taken now may be temporary and need to be reversed within a short period of time.

Commissioners Cushing, Zukin, and Snow spoke in favor of removing the blocking restriction.

Following further discussion, Zukin moved, seconded by Snow, to recommend removal of the blocking clause from the existing ordinance as pertains to delivery trucks while retaining the thirty minute time limit. Motion passed. Yes - Prouty, Cushing, Snow, Zukin. No - Rinehart, Hall.

Coordination of Traffic & Safety Commission Duties

A memo from City Manager Del Cesar to City Engineer Rod McKee was presented outlining the transfer in meeting coordination duties from the City Manager's office to the City Engineer's office. This item was for information only and no action was necessary.

Miscellaneous Informational Items

The following items were reviewed for information only:

- 1) Notice of upcoming Annual Traffic Safety Conference to be held in Salem on October 17, 1983.

- 2) Report from Oregon Traffic Safety Commission outlining new laws enacted by past legislative session regarding traffic safety and drunk driving.
- 3) Letter of response from Traffic Safety Commission to property owners on Garrison Street below KODL radio station who had requested guardrail along Scenic Drive.

TSMP Update

Chairman Mike Courtney requested that projects within the Traffic Safety Management Program be reviewed for status at the next regular meeting.

Sight Distance Problem - Court Street between 8th and 9th

Commissioner Hall requested that the east side of Court Street between 8th Street and 9th Street be investigated for sight problems associated with entering Court Street from the alley. Findings are to be reported at the next regular meeting.

Traffic and Safety Commission Meeting Place

Commissioner Rinehart stated that the Recreation Cafe was again open during morning hours and that the location was both more centralized and convenient and was, in fact, the original meeting place for the Commission. Rinehart moved, seconded by Snow, to hold future meetings at the Recreation Cafe on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 A.M. effective immediately. Motion passed. Yes - Rinehart, Cushing, Snow, Zukin, Hall. No - Prouty.

Adjournment

With no further business pending, Chairman Courtney adjourned the meeting at 8:05 A.M.