

MINUTES

REGULAR TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING

April 21, 2021

7:00 a.m.

VIA ZOOM

PRESIDING: Frank Pyles, Chair

MEMBERS PRESENT: Frank Pyles, Fred Davis, Mike Kilkenny, Michael Holloran, Larry Fairclo, Sandy Haechrel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Russ Brown

STAFF PRESENT: Cindy Keever, Administrative Secretary; David Mills, Transportation Division Manager; Dale McCabe, City Engineer; Nikki Lesich, Codes Enforcement, Jeremiah Dutton, The Dalles Police Officer

GUESTS PRESENT: Matthew Klebes, Wasco County Director of Administrative Services and Austin McDonald

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Pyles at 7:04 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Holloran and seconded by Davis to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None.

TRANSPORTATION DIVISION MANAGER REPORT

- A) Transportation Manager, Mills reported his team has completed patching back the intersection of E. 3rd and Jefferson Street. They have installed new melt down on crosswalk legends and painted the yellow curbs.
- B) Mills reported they ground out and paved back 775 feet of distressed road of the westbound lane of W. 2nd Street.

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- C) The Transportation team will be performing night time flagging operations for ODOT on Thursday, April 22nd from 8 pm to 1 am. This is to assist them with the signal head upgrade at the intersection of Webber and 6th Streets.
- D) Sometime in May they will be completing the scrub seal project on E. Scenic Drive from Jefferson Street to the Sorosis Park exit. They will also be on Bridge Street from W. 10th to W. 14th Streets. Mills is still working with the contractor to firm up the dates.
- E) The chip seal project will be the week of June 14th thru June 16th. They will follow this up with a fog seal on the same roads the week of July 12th through July 14th.

CITY POLICE REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

- A) Officer Dutton reported he and his fellow officers have been paying special attention to the Middle School streets trying to get drivers to slow down.
- B) He also said they have been in touch with the gentleman who is concerned about the Mt. Hood and 16th Street intersection. Traffic appears to be moving through the area at a safe speed but officers will continue to monitor the area for unsafe driving habits and drivers not letting pedestrians cross when they are waiting at an intersection. .

CITY CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT

- A) Codes Enforcement Officer, Nikki Lesich thanked David Mills and his team at Public Works for helping her with her various duties and thanked him for inviting her to begin attending the Traffic Safety Commission meetings.
- B) Lesich is working on several areas (specifically W. 2nd Street, W. 7th Street and E. 1st Street to name a few). These areas have motorhomes and vehicles camping on them. She has been tagging vehicles that are parked or camping. This is a fluid situation and she will continue to tag violators.
- C) Lesich reminded members and our guests to let her know if you see anything needing attention.

CITY ENGINEER REPORT

- A) City Engineer McCabe updated the members about the ADA Concrete Contract. The contract is currently being worked on for the intersections of Union Street at 7th Street, 8th Street & 9th Street, the 11th Street and Mt. Hood intersection and the stairs between Brewery Grade and 9th Street. Codes Enforcement Officer Lesich asked about the 50/50 Sidewalk Replacement Program. She wondered if there are still funds available this year? McCabe said no, the funds for this year have already been allocated. She also asked if funds will be available next year. McCabe said yes, there will be a 50/50 Sidewalk Replacement Program if it's approved in the upcoming budget. Budget Committee meets the first part of May.

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will be a 50/50 Sidewalk Replacement Program if it's approved in the upcoming budget. Budget Committee meets the first part of May.

- B) McCabe also told the members the E. 15th Street Reconstruction contract is currently out to bid with bids due back by May 20th, 2021.

CONSENT AGENDA

Being no further business, Fairclo made a motion to adjourn and Holloran seconded the motion. All approved and the meeting adjourned at 8:15 a.m.

ACTION ITEMS

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A) McCabe talked about the 50/50 sidewalk repair project, between the City and the property owners that is currently being worked on. Lesich asked if all of the monies have been designated. McCabe said hopefully yes. The City is hoping for more money to continue repairs in the next fiscal year.
- B) ODOT will be visiting the City and working on the stop lights at the 6th Street and Webber Street intersection in the evening of April 22nd, 2021 to change the turn timing on the north and south bound traffic. Public Works will be helping with flagging and traffic control from 8:00p.m. until 2:00a.m.
- C) The Transportation Division received approval for the removal of 22 foot of regular parking for the LINK bus stop on 12th Street near the Dry Hollow intersection. They also looked at various sites around town and 11th Street and Kelly Avenue is the next site to be considered for a LINK bus stop.
- D) The Commission received a request from Mr. Nichols asking if stop signs with the LED lighting around the edge could be installed at that intersection. He has a business at 500 Washington and sees many people driving straight through the intersection which is a 4-way stop. A discussion followed regarding the intersection at 4th and Court Streets. Members were asked to observe each intersection before the May meeting.
- E) A discussion was held regarding areas where it would be beneficial to have the LED blinking stop signs. McCabe is keeping notes of suggested areas. Several suggested areas were 10th Street and Kelly Avenue, 19th Street and Nevada Street below the hospital, 10th Street and Dry Hollow Road, the angled intersection on the east side of the High School, 12th and Thompson Street and possibly the Union and 14th Street intersection. If commission members could look at these different intersection to see how they flow it would be very helpful. More discussion at the May meeting.

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Possibly Officer Dutton could be contacted to gather accident data from the different intersections. McCabe also encouraged members to bring other suggestions to the commission.

- F) Austin McDonald was a guest of the meeting and explained the problems he and his wife are experiencing when trying to pull into or back out of their driveway which is located on E 16th Place at the top of Kelly Avenue. Also, there is a painted cross walk further up from their house and they are concerned about the speeds in which the cars are traveling and the hazards of pedestrians using that crosswalk. They are very concerned with the speed of the drivers who are going up and down the hill. A discussion was held among members and staff and a suggested 25 mph speed sign could be a helpful reminder of the speed limit in that area.

A suggestion was also made for Mr. McDonald to check out the radar gun at the City Police station and record speeds as the cars go by. This information can be gathered and shared with the police. This would help the police recognize when the biggest problem times are. Transportation Manager Mills suggested checking to see if continental striping could be applied to the cross walk on E 16th Place to remind drivers there is a cross walk there too. Mills will check with the City's Public Works Director to make sure it is acceptable also.

- G) Matthew Klebes, Administrative Services Director for Wasco County, requested an ADA parking place on 5th Street near Washington Street or on Washington Street near the 5th Street intersection. This would be for clients who are trying to access the County Courthouse. A discussion was held regarding different ADA parking areas in relation to the current ADA entrance into the County Courthouse. After some discussion questions were asked about the adjacent parking lot and how that could be reconfigured to accommodate two ADA parking spaces, as is required by Oregon Statue, with one being a full van accessible style. Holloran asked if ADA Handicap signage directing drivers to the parking lot could be installed? Klebes will be talking the County staff to see if they can make the changes in their own parking lot.

ROUNDS TO COLLECT AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Fairclo discussed his observation of drivers parking in the bike lanes. What can be done about this?
- Pyles said speed is still a problem near where he lives. He walks on both E. 10th Street, west of Thompson and on Old Dufur Road near his home. Anytime officers want to visit the area, and hopefully slow the traffic down, he would welcome their presence.
- Welcome Commissioner Kilkenny to another four year term as of April, 2021.
- Colonel Wright School parents are causing traffic congestion problems each day on Trevitt Street during drop off and pick up times and because of the congestion they are also causing unsafe driving habits for the people who are trying to drive up and down Trevitt Street..

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- Received a LED Stop Sign request from J. Nichols. He is concerned about the frequency in which drivers regularly run the stop sign at the 4th Street and Washington Street intersection. He believes a LED Stop sign would make that intersection more visible to drivers.
 - Commissioner Brown said the parking issues on Webber Street near the Center for Living doesn't appear to have been solved and sight problems are still occurring.
 - Speeding problems are still happening on Columbia View Heights. Dan Richardson will attend the May meeting to try and help find some kind of solution.
 - Commission member Brown is concerned about Center Market's parking lot issues. Delivery trucks and long bed pickups are parking on 12th Street or backing out of the parking lot onto E 12th. His concern is that it just opened and parking is already a problem. Where does the Traffic Safety Commission go from here?
 - A request to deploy e-scooters in The Dalles along with a short demonstration for members and guests.
 - Commissioner Brown has suggested an acknowledgment letter or award to R. Kuenzinger for his diligence and dedication while researching traffic movements at the Webber & 6th Street intersection and his suggestions for the timing changes for the north and south bound traffic lights.

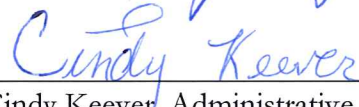
ADJOURNMENT

Submitted by/
Cindy Keever, Administrative Secretary
Public Works Department

SIGNED: _____


Frank Pyles, Chair

ATTEST: _____


Cindy Keever, Administrative Secretary
Public Works Department

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