

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES

Monday, May 14, 2001

Public Safety Building

PRESENT: Dick Meyer, Howard McDonald, Doris Brandt, Don Matthews, Terry Mayfield, Everett Clarkson, and Bob Andrews.

ABSENT: Jack Stephens and Becky Simpson

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Casey, Russ Thomas, Dan Danicic, and Mary Newell

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairman Dick Meyer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed back Bob Andrews as a commission member.

A) Review and approve minutes of April 9, 2001

Minutes were distributed. Following review, Russ Thomas made a correction stating that ODOT did not acquire the 7-11 property, they acquired the building only. Regarding College and Foothills, Bob Andrews reaffirmed that the Traffic Safety Commission should pursue with the School District the need to provide crossing guards.

Motion: Mayfield/Clarkson to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ed Cantrell, ODOT Community liaison gave a presentation on the Brutscher to Main Street Project, addressing specifically the complaints regarding the boat ramp detour from College to River Streets. He introduced Ron Clay, Project Manager, and Shane Allison, Assistant Project Manager.

In summary, Mr. Cantrell expressed the following:

- 300+ vehicles use the signal at North River and 99W, drivers who must use a detour during the duration of the project
- Signal will not be installed until 2002
- Looked at a temp signal but discarded the idea
- Detour developed: collect vehicles to Fourth, back to River, and down to boat ramp. Detour has a couple tight spots
- This detour was designed to last two years; not possible using Meridian and Springbrook bad near south end

Casey went on record saying the police department is not supportive of the detour, noting it does not make sense to send boats downtown when two alternate routes are available.

Other facts of interest:

- PGE has moved most of their wires on the south side, with AT&T and Verizon still in

process.

- Project will allow traffic to get to Dundee faster
- Limited funding allowed fixing only portions of the highway at a time
- Clay said, first, future development eliminated detour of Villa Road to Wyooski; and, second, ODOT did not have permission from Yamhill County to use their roads as a detour

Ed Cantrell noted that people were concerned about having drivers directed into their neighborhoods, but that is unavoidable in projects like this.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

STAFF REPORTS - GENERAL INFORMATION:

A) Chief of Police

Aided by Newberg Reserve officers, Newberg Police is beginning a Pedestrian Safety program to slow traffic and raise awareness of crosswalk and pedestrian safety in the Downtown core area. A press release on the project will be forthcoming.

May 15th is Police Officer Memorial Day and flags are required to be flown half mast.

B) Engineering

Russ Thomas introduced Dan Danicic, Newberg's new City Engineer, and then distributed some general information regarding vision clearance, street closures, et cetera.

C) Traffic Safety Committee Sub-Committees:

1. Community Relations - Watch for information concerning the Block Party.
2. Pedestrian Safety - No report.
3. Parking Safety (passenger vehicles & trucks)- reported a motor home parked on Hayworth, between Deborah and Elliott; and a Toyota on Meridian, in front of Spaulding Oaks.
4. Traffic Control & Obstructions - No report.

REPORTS:

A) Brutscher to Main Street Project/Access Management Issues:

• Papa Murphy property

Ed Cantrell explained that Mr. Robbins (Papa Murphy's) currently has access off Hancock, leaving access on Main. He feels it makes sense to allow one-way access on the alley from Hancock.

Main businesses being affected by this proposal are Papa Murphy's and Jem 100. The glass company has a fence, and will not be affected by the one-way alley.

Russ Thomas reported the following:

- Alley is gravel, providing no method for parking indicators
- May present some signage issues to sign the alley because of the close proximity to the

building, unless signs are installed on the building itself. It can be done, but there will be some difficulty making the signage visible to everyone.

Question raised on legality of crossing three lanes of traffic – from alley to alley. Noted also that Texaco alley has two way traffic.

Motion: McDonald/Brandt to create a north-south alley between Hancock and Sheridan and between North Main and Garfield, making the alley a northbound alley for the whole block.

Mr. Robbins asked to leave parking access open; Mr. Cantrell and Mr. Clay indicated that leaving parking access open is not possible.

McDonald and Brandt confirmed for Matthews that the motion was to make the alley one-way for the entire block.

Mr. Mayfield asked whether or not Mr. Robbins used the alley for loading and unloading, noting that Jem 100 uses the alley for loading and unloading. Robbins indicated he receives night delivery, not daytime delivery.

Russ Thomas noted that Glenn Sykes Chiropractics has a parking space on the south end which would go against the direction of travel to access the parking space. Access is mostly off Hwy. 99.

Casey indicated that for most people there is no reason to pull onto Hwy. 99 unless they want to cross and that would be an illegal turn. He drew the alley and surrounding configuration onto the whiteboard for further discussion.

Thomas indicated that a “No Exit” sign could be posted onto the highway from the alley but it would take some design work to not obstruct clearance and still allow people to see it.

Bob Andrews indicated he concurred with the concept of making the alley one-way but would like to have a public hearing for input from property owners, other businesses and residents who use the alley can speak on this issue.

Vote: Yea: Brandt, McDonald. Nay: Clarkson, Meyer, Mayfield and Andrews. Motion failed.

Motion: Andrews/Mayfield to hold a public hearing on this issues, with proper notification. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Andrews/McDonald to schedule the public hearing for the October meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

• Caravan Coffee property

Mr. Roger Minthorne, Caravan Coffee, addressed the Traffic Safety Commission. Mr. Minthorne owns the building housing Caravan Coffee, and said three tenants of the building depend on the

loading zone for their existence. On August 15, 1999 he spoke with ODOT about the widening and expressed at that time how essential it was to maintain the existence of the loading zone. Things have changed and the final map shows a curb cut farther west where the Loren Berg lot was located. Mr. Minthorne explained the curb cut as proposed — basically an inset to allow parking — would not satisfy the loading and unloading needs of the businesses within his building. Minthorne indicated that the area needs to be designated as a loading zone so trucks can pull into the parking area and the forklifts can move out into the parking area, negating the need to pull into the street unless the parking space is occupied. Mr. Minthorne is asking for a loading zone designation for that parking area so the delivery trucks can pull in off the street.

Ed Cantrell indicated that ODOT would be unwilling to change the parking indentation. He indicated this situation exists all over Oregon, though he agrees it is less than ideal.

Noting that there will not be any parking spaces next to the business, Cantrell drew out ODOT's plans for that section of Hancock on the whiteboard.

Discussion ensued regarding the diagram, parking, distance from the alley, yellow curbs, and crosswalks.

Mr. Minthorne reiterated his request to (1) consider establishing the parking area as a loading zone, and (2) reshape sidewalk so you don't have to move into traffic to load and unload the trucks.

Motion: Andrews/Brandt to table the issue until the Commission can be provided with better particulars relating to the project in order to make an informed decision. Andrews noted that he does not think the Commission has enough detail to decide at the meeting.

Motion passed.

Ed Cantrell said that ODOT makes the decision in terms of the curb and ramp. The Traffic Safety Commission has jurisdiction over the issues relating to parking and loading zones. As part of the Brutscher to Main Project, ODOT has agreed with the City of Newberg to provide parking spaces and it would be up to the City to remove some of those spaces.

- **Review draft Traffic Safety Commission concern letter**

Doris Brandt reported she had contacted Claire Francis, Director of Business Services for Newberg School District, regarding the letter from Joyce Sternberg pertaining to concerns for child safety when crossing College at Foothills. The Newberg School District does provide bus services for those children in Oak Grove subdivision and would be supportive of a signal and crosswalk at that intersection. She read Ms. Francis' letter into the record:

Dear Ms. Brandt:

Thank you for contacting me regarding the College Street safety concerns for students attending Chehalem Valley Middle School and Crater Elementary School. Newberg School District does provide transportation for all students who live east

of College Street, so they do not have to cross a state highway where traffic speed exceeds 40 miles per hour.

Unfortunately, there are still a few students who prefer to walk to school rather than riding the bus. While this is a decision made by each family individually, the school district does recognize the safety concern anytime a student crosses College Street. The school district would be supportive of making College a school zone or installation of a signal and a crosswalk at the intersection of College and Foothills Drive.

Please let me know if there is anything the school district can do to make the College and Foothills intersection safer for our students.

Sincerely,

Claire Francis
Director of Business Services

Dan Danicic reported that a consultant is being hired within the next fiscal year to install a signal at that intersection.

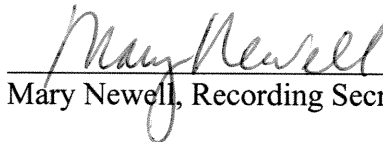
- **Public education/media plan**

Bob Andrews volunteered to take on the responsibility of creating a media plan for providing the public with on-going traffic safety information.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR: None.

ADJOURN TO NEXT MEETING: Next meeting June 11, 2001

Motion: Brandt/Mayfield to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.



Mary Newell, Recording Secretary