

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES
Monday, October 8, 2001, 7:00 PM
Public Safety Building

PRESENT: Dick Meyer, Howard McDonald, Doris Brandt, Don Matthews, Everett Clarkson, Bob Andrews, Jack Stephens, and Becky Simpson.

ABSENT: Terry Mayfield

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

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairman Dick Meyer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

A) Review and approve minutes of September 10, 2001

Motion: Andrews/Brandt to approve minutes of September 10, 2001, as corrected to reflect Bob Andrews attendance. Motion passed.

B) Presentation by ODOT to Traffic Safety Commission member Becky Simpson in recognition for her contribution to motorcycle safety

Stan Porter, 205 NW 3rd Court, Sublimity, Oregon, representing ODOT, presented Becky Simpson-Donovan with a plaque in recognition for her participation on the Governor's Advisory Committee for Motorcycle Safety. She has been a contributing member since 1997.

PUBLIC HEARING:

A) Public hearing regarding proposal to make the alley on the eastern edge of Papa Murphy's one-way, allowing for a "right turn in" only access off Hwy. 99W

Jim Robbins, 200 N Main Street, expressed concern that making the alley one-way would create a hazardous situation. In addition, he is not in agreement with closing the Hancock access to his property, noting it would create dangerous situation inside the parking lot. He suggested just closing part of the alleyway. Referring to the map, he stated it does not show the parking and suggested conflicts would occur with people entering the alley while others are exiting the parking. According to Robbins, the alley entrance was approximately 15 feet, but now since the light pole has been removed is about 20 feet. From 20 the alley narrows down to 15.

Responding to Bob Andrews, Robbins said ODOT is recommending the slant parking on the lot be straight heading in, and he does not feel there is adequate room to accommodate the change.

Martin D. Tucker, PO Box 28, 200 N Main, Newberg, owner of Chehalem Foot Clinic,

suggested vacating half the alley and entering the alley off Main, allowing the remainder to remain two-way traffic. This would allow truck delivery to Jem 100 and Papa Murphy's. Tucker feels that most alley traffic enters off Sheridan.

A letter from Tom & Linda Vondrachek, Jem 100 Ice cream Saloon owners, was read into the record:

Newberg Traffic Safety Committee,

In regards to the possibility of making the alley east of Papa Murphy's into a one-way with traffic flowing north, I'd like to offer some concerns.

1. If the one-way flow of traffic in the alley is for the whole length of the alley, it will limit traffic to Jem 100 Ice Cream Saloon and Papa Murphy's to the two entrance off of Main Street. As it is now and has been for the last 12-1/2 years, there is a certain percentage of our business that comes into that alley off of Sheridan Street. By cutting traffic off at the Sheridan Street entrance, it will force traffic onto Main Street going south requiring a left hand turn into either entrance. This has potential to be a great traffic safety concern.

2. Deliveries would be forced to be made in the alley off of Hancock. Delivery trucks cannot make that turn with the alley as it is now. Also, multiple deliveries and customer traffic will cause unneeded congestion on Hancock Street at the alley entrance.

3. If the Hancock entrance to the alley must be one-way north, we suggest keeping the north entrance at Sheridan for two-way traffic either entering into the parking lots or exiting them.

Thank you for taking time to consider our input into this situation.

Tom and Linda Vondrachek
Jem 100 Ice Cream Saloon owners

Deputy Chief Brian Casey indicated that the police department has no opinion on this issue, either for or against. He noted that westbound traffic on Hancock would result in a smoother flow if the alley were closed on Hancock Street because there would be no interruption in traffic.

Mr. Robbins indicated his discussions with the Fire Department indicated that the Fire Department had no objection because they could reach all properties from the street.

Extensive discussion ensued and several opinions were considered.

- ▶ Tucker would not be opposed to closing the exit to northbound traffic at Hancock.
- ▶ Robbins indicated that one solution cannot fix all the problems.
- ▶ Most deliveries to Papa Murphy's are at midnight and they pull off Main into the main parking lot; however, Pepsi drivers deliver to both Jem 100 and Papa Murphy's during daytime hours.
- ▶ Tucker indicated trucks sometimes park in the alley
- ▶ Area behind Papa Murphy's is approximately 15 feet; the alley between Jem 100 and the glass shop was estimated at 14-15 feet.
- ▶ Tucker indicated an east-to-west vacated alley exists between the glass shop and the house at the north end
- ▶ Tucker indicated there was never a problem with two-way traffic in the alley, but Robbins

- feels that with parking being consolidated in one area would create a future problem.
- ▶ Tucker responding to Andrews noted that the foot clinic accommodates 4-5 vehicles

Becky Simpson expressed concern with access to the Foot Clinic if the alley becomes one-way.

Dan Danicic said he understands ODOT's concern for safety because of traffic backing up. Noting the Fire Department has no concerns, Dan indicated he would support closing off the end of the alley and leaving the rest of the alley two-way.

Dick Meyer suggested closing the alley soon, in order to evaluate the closure before a final design is determined. Both Tucker and Robbins agreed with a trial run.

Dan Danicic indicated that ODOT would be fiscally responsible for closing the alley.

Dick Meyer closed the public hearing, and the Traffic Safety Commission entered into deliberations.

Bob Andrews suggested that the alley being two way had presented no prior problems; Tucker agreed but suggested a trial period may allow an evaluation of how it would work out.

Dick Meyer thought a trial period would be good, thinking that a trial period would allow the closure to be evaluated without the expense of adding curbs, etc.

Motion: Andrews/Simpson to go ahead and close , block or barricade the alley way at Hancock, and that the alley itself remain a two way route, but that there can be no egress or entrance to the alley from Hancock and leave the alley a two-way alley upon the commencement of the construction in 2002, leaving it as a keyed access for the future use of fire and police. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Andrews/Clarkson to post the alley No Parking, to commence immediately. Motion carried.

B) Affirm decision of Chief of Police to temporary close N Meridian at Hancock

Motion: Matthews/Brandt to affirm the decision of the Chief of Police to temporarily close N. Meridian at Hancock Street. Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS - GENERAL INFORMATION:

- A) Chief of Police - No report.
- B) Engineering -

Dan Danicic reported contact with Yamhill County regarding intersection of MountainView and

Aspen way. Yamhill County agrees that the interchange is confusing and will do a traffic count to determine traffic flow and quantity of vehicles.

Traffic counts have begun at 5th and Meridian, but problems with equipment is causing a delay. Have not been able to complete traffic counts at Chehalem Meadows or Elliott.

C) Traffic Safety Committee Sub-Committees:

1. Community Relations - Last Transportation meeting scheduled for 10/9/2001.
2. Pedestrian Safety - None.
3. Parking Safety (passenger vehicles & trucks) - None.
4. Traffic Control & Obstructions -

Noted that a bad situation exists as you pass under the trestle on villa heading north, a substantial curve exists making a significant change at the fog line. Danicic indicated that widening is taking place at Carole Ann and he will check to see if some method to minimize the problem can be done in the interim.

REPORTS: None.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR:

Anna Rose, 607 Camden Lane, reiterated request for traffic control signs, dividing lines, and no parking signs. She indicated the postmaster had indicated that moving the mailboxes was okay. She will gather a petition together if necessary.

Howard McDonald said ODOT has neglected to reinstall the bus shelter for children at Newall Addition, nor had the planter and signage for Newall Addition. He asked who would be responsible for this.

Mrs. Gloria Brothers, 1321 Newall Road, indicated that ODOT had indicated that no changes would be made to the entrance of their subdivision, with an entrance designating Newall Addition. The shelter and planters was owned by the Association. ODOT has indicated that they purchased the planters because they own the easement. She indicated they don't need the planters but would like something which identified Newall Addition and would like to see the bus shelter reinstalled. Also asked to know who really owns the easement, the City or ODOT.

Dan Danicic indicated that the City and ODOT are currently in discussion about signs, noting the City had also installed signs on Hwy. 99 W. He will ask Bob Knorr to follow up with ODOT to determine their understanding on who is to replace those signs.

Bob Andrews raised issues regarding the Brutscher to Main Street Project:

- The new meridian north of 99 on Springbrook has eliminated the use of the driveway near

the video store for access to Springbrook Plaza

- ▶ Construction has installed the meridian to establish left turn storage lanes at 99 & Elliott. In doing that, it denies anyone making a left turn off Elliott; there is no escape to turn into. This is a very serious situation until the light goes in during the month of December.
- ▶ The mountable meridian is past the entrance to Newall Addition, which is contrary to ODOT's early claims.
- ▶ Requested the radar trailer be placed in the southbound 1100 block of Sitka.

Chief Tardiff, having just arrived from another meeting, indicated he has had discussions with tenants of Mr. Minthorne's property and sees no solution at this time to making their deliveries if ODOT cannot determine a solution. Until there is some way to get their product off the street, there is not much that the Traffic Safety Commission can do about his situation.

Butch Donovan raised the issue of the metal plates on Hwy. 99W, noting they are very dangerous to motorcyclists. Danicic indicated that ODOT is working with Verizon to get them removed.

ADJOURN TO NEXT MEETING: Next meeting *Tuesday, November 13, 2001*

There being no further business to come before the Traffic Safety Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Motion: Matthews/Simpson to adjourn. Motion carried.



Mary Newell, Recording Secretary