

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
Tuesday, November 12, 2002
7:00 P.M. Public Safety Building

PRESENT: Bob Andrews, Doris Brandt, Everett Clarkson, Becky Simpson, Ron Sult, and Ernie Saffert.

STAFF PRESENT: Dan Danicic and Mary Newell

ABSENT: Dick Meyer, Howard McDonald, and Jack Stephens

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Meeting was opened at 7:02 p.m.

A) Presentation by Lynne Murtrie, ACTS Oregon

Lynn Murtrie, ACTS Oregon, noting she was glad for the opportunity to address the Traffic Safety Commission, indicated she was available to assist with traffic safety related issues, working with grants and traffic safety initiatives.

B) Review and approve minutes of October 15, 2002

Motion: Saffert/Clarkson to approve minutes of October 15, 2002. Motion carried.

2. NEW BUSINESS:

A) North Street Local Improvement District - Request for approval of one-way east bound and no-parking on the north side of street designation for North Street between Grant Street and Main Street

Dan Danicic indicated that this stems from a request from area residents who requested an LID. The street was constructed as wide as possible, but the result is more narrow than normal. The options are: two-way street with no parking, or make it one way and allow parking. Staff supports the one-way designation and is asking for the Traffic Safety Commission's concurrence. The LID is 90% complete and there are four properties adjacent to this proposed area between Main and Grant.

Responding to Simpson, Danicic indicated that this proposal is one of the original options raised by the residents.

Motion: Brandt/Saffert to accept the recommendation of Staff and approve a limited decision for one-way east bound and no-parking on the north side of street designation for North Street between Grant Street and Main Street. Motion carried.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

A) Continued discussion regarding request for stop signs on N Main at Oxford and N Main at Edgewood

Dan Danicic indicated that equipment malfunctions has caused the delay of the traffic count scheduled for N. Main Street, but would have a written report available for the next meeting. For the benefit of those in attendance, Danicic explained how a traffic count works and the types of information which will be collected.

Debbie Irsik, N. Main Street, distributed photos depicting children and parking issues. She cited the following as concerns:

- children and adults walking in bike lanes
- vehicles parking in bike lanes
- increased traffic and speed on bad weather days
- kids forced to walk in street where no sidewalks exist
- many close calls between pedestrians and vehicles

Suggested that neighbors contact the Newberg School District to expand school zones and investigate possibility of crossing guards and training for kids regarding pedestrian safety.

Staff indicated that construction is ongoing and remaining sidewalks will be installed as the development is completed. Slow Children at Play signs are not acceptable signs under the Sign Code and open the City to liability.

Rodney Storedahl, N. Main, said that cars actually speed up when they approach the radar trailer to see the speed increase. There's no traffic enforcement. He addressed traffic volumes from Mountain View and Edgewood. Residents were before the Traffic Safety Commission two years prior requesting speed signs. Would like stop signs but understand that the need is to move people. However, location has two schools and lots of children. Going on three years now that residents have complained and the children are vulnerable, and there isn't any enforcement at all.

Bob Andrews will convey the concern for the lack of law enforcement to the police department, but the Traffic Safety Commission cannot do anything until the traffic count is completed.

Heather Storedahl, N. Main, indicated the school district has refused to extend the school zone due to liability. Often times the principals send home notes to families to encourage children to walk safely down the street and to advised about construction.

Kevin Buring, 2709 N Main, advised there is a jog in the road. He said it is a "race track" from Mountain View to the school, and as the vehicles negotiate the jog they move into the bike lane. A dog was killed .

Barbara Amos, 3000 N Main, noting she has no children, expressed concern for the safety of the many children in the area. She cited high traffic numbers and high speed. She suggested speed humps if they can't get stop signs.

Bill Fournier, corner of Edgewood and Main, indicated he has a good view of traffic moving from Foothills down Main. He indicated that it is a popular route for north and southbound traffic turning on Edgewood on their way to College. Frequently, vehicles cut the corner which is quite dangerous to the children.

John Wolf, 2400 N Main, said he supports the request for stop signs.

Responding to a question from Debbie Irsik, Dan Danicic explained the criteria/factors which determines whether or not stop signs are warranted for that location.

Becky Simpson suggested Traffic Safety send a letter to the school regarding the concerns.

Ron Sult concurred with the residents observations that traffic has increased since N. Main opened at Foothills Drive.

Doris Brandt suggested it might be appropriate to discuss these issues with the Superintendent.

Clarkson voiced support for stop signs.

Storedahl stressed the increased traffic due to the nature of that area: schools, senior center, and the softball diamonds which cause traffic year round. He indicated that working with the school will not connect with those involved with the other activities.

Motion: Saffert made a motion that subsequent to Staff's report on the traffic situation, that the Traffic Safety Commission schedule a public hearing because this issue has been going on a long time. **Motion failed for lack of a second.** Saffert withdrew the motion.

Motion: Simpson/Brandt to hold a public hearing at the December meeting to discuss the installation of stop signs on N Main at Edgewood and at Oxford. Motion carried.

Announced that next meeting is December 9th and that the area will be posted and all property owners noticed.

Becky Simpson and Doris Brandt will work on a draft letter to send to the school district about the concerns raised during the meeting.

4. STAFF REPORTS - GENERAL INFORMATION:

COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Kiwanis did a great job on Halloween night.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY: Simpson reported two holes in the crosswalk where School meets Hwy. 99; Dan suggested possibly could be fixed with a cold patch.

PARKING SAFETY: Reported that parking on River, closest to Portland Road, is a hazard when SUVs are parked in the northernmost space. Danicic will review and make a recommendation

5. REPORTS:

Dan Danicic indicated the traffic count had not been completed on Vittoria Way due to malfunctioning equipment.

Charlotte Seth, 3715 Vittoria, indicated that when Staff places the traffic counter next time they move it down the street, further from the intersection. This matter will be set over to the next meeting.

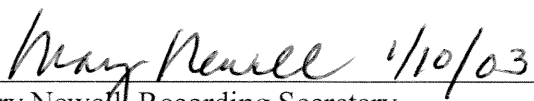
Responding to question from Bob Andrews, Dan Danicic will confer with ODOT regarding a left turn storage lane into Fred Meyer's. Fred Meyer is expanding the west side of their building and the left turn lane will eventually be prohibited as part of the new reconfiguration. ODOT is opposed to a left-turn storage lane due to insufficient space.

No report on Mulholland request.

Danicic to check on the following:

- paint has been applied at the Villa Road/GFU Physical plant intersection
- resolution to alley issue raised by Verizon and report
- will put center stripe painting for Verimillion and Center on the list for next summer

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.



Mary Newell, Recording Secretary