

## **TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES**

**7:00 PM, Monday, July 14, 2003**

**Public Safety Building**

**401 E. Third Street, Newberg, OR**

**PRESENT:** Dick Meyer, Doris Brandt, Becky Simpson, Everett Clarkson, Joyce Vergets, Michael Simpson, and Ron Sult.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Dan Danicic, Engineering; Mary Newell, Newberg Police.

**ABSENT:** Paul Thompson and Howard McDonald

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

Chairman Dick Meyer called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

- A) Review and approve minutes of May 12, 2003

**Motion: Brandt/Clarkson** to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried.

### **2. OLD BUSINESS:**

- A) Continued consideration on request for 4-way stop at the intersection of 9<sup>th</sup> and Chehalem streets

Dan Danicic presented the staff report.

**Motion: M. Simpson/Brandt** to accept the staff report and move ahead with a Limited Traffic Decision to install stop signs on Chehalem and Willamette streets at their intersection with 9<sup>th</sup> Street to effectively stop north and south bound traffic. Motion passed unanimously. There will be a 14-day appeal period.

### **3. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A) Request to limit truck traffic on the new road which will serve as the main access to Providence Newberg Hospital from Hwy. 99W, exiting through Springbrook Oaks

John Bridges, 515 E First Street, representing Providence Health Systems, addressed the Traffic Safety Commission, outlining the request for restricted truck traffic on the new road that will serve as the main access to Providence Newberg Hospital from Hwy. 99W and will exit through Springbrook Oaks to box trucks only, prohibiting tractor trailers.

Using a wall map, he explained that the project is currently in the design review status.

For the benefit of Traffic Safety Commission members, Mr. Bridges identified the proposed buildings, parking and access areas, and existing buildings. The intent is that other buildings are planned for additional conferencing/educational space as part of a long-range plan.

Mr. Bridges stated that this request is generated based on past experience, noting that other Providence system has three campus facilities in the Portland area and seven in the state. Typically, the users of these medical complexes are elderly people who generate lots of pedestrian activity between different buildings. As other buildings and offices are added to the Newberg facility, there will be much interaction between the buildings and that is what drives this request. Bridges identified where the roadway is expected to be located.

This request is aimed at limiting pedestrian-to-vehicle contact. He feels it is essential to place a limitation on the size of vehicle that can use that segment of the roadway. He indicated that the Traffic Safety Commission can (1) designate truck routes, and (2) based on safety considerations, limit who can use the roadway based on the use of the facility. He is asking that truck and trailer activity be limited because they pose a greater hazard.

Mark Meinert, Administrator of Providence Newberg Hospital, agreed that most of the patients are, though not necessarily elderly, but are generally encumbered with difficulty to ambulate. He cited the Portland area hospitals where the greenspace surrounding their facilities have grown up around the sites and suggested the same would happen to the Newberg facility in 20-25 years. Mr. Meinert identified existing businesses in the area, Suntron and the retirement home, and identified zoning for the area.

Dean Werth, property owner, indicated there was a specific plan for all the property. He indicated that one element of the plan is a north-south traffic lane to the industrial zone. He said this was to be the access to his property for industrial access and had been a part of the newberg plan for a long time. Further, he stated, both the industrial zone and the character of this connecting street has been known since the beginning.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Bridges indicated that the Hospital has been trying to work with the Worthy's, but disagrees that this property was part of the transportation plan. Understanding was that a roundabout on Brutscher was built to accommodate truck traffic.

Dan Danicic indicated that Hayes Street is to connect to Springbrook.

Mr. Werth indicated that a better map was needed to make the decisions necessary, noting that significant landmarks were not showing on the map in use. Also, there is a

residential development planned for all of the south side of the area. Werth, stating that while he is not opposed to limitations on the road, but zone changes will be needed before he can agree.

Sites for the golf courses were identified. Dan Danicic suggested staff pull the zoning information together for the next meeting.

**Motion: Brandt/M. Simpson** to postpone more discussion on this issue to the next meeting. Motion carried.

B) Request for Limited Parking Zone at 1200 E Sheridan Street

Mona Gettman, 1200 E Sheridan, asked that the Traffic Safety Commission consider providing her with residential parking area in front of her residence. She has two tenants and provides art lessons over her garage. College students use all the on-street parking, frequently parking in front of her driveway. She used to work for George Fox University and they own all the surrounding property. Ms. Gettman indicated that the students have other parking options while her tenants do not.

Both Doris Brandt and Becky Simpson suggested Ms. Gettman contact the college to see if they will work with her to solve her parking issue. Mike Simpson disagreed, stating that the contact should be from the Traffic Safety Commission.

**Motion: M. Simpson/Brandt** to send a letter to George Fox University requesting their assistance in seeking a solution to Ms. Gettman's parking issue at 1200 E Sheridan. Motion carried unanimously.

C) Extension of No Parking area at the intersection of W North Street and Main Street

Pam Shirts, 505 N Main, said she disagreed with removing parking on W North Street, that it would take away all the off-street parking in front of her residence. She asked that the Traffic Safety Commission deny the recommendation of City Staff.

Dan Danicic, indicated that the City recently completed the North Street LID, but that the geometry of the intersection is far back from N Main, causing a significant sight hindrance for drivers. To resolve this, City staff suggests that the no parking area be set back from N Main 50 feet, instead of the usual 20 feet.

Mike Simpson disagreed, noting that it would adversely affect the Shirts property too much. He said there are blind spots coming out from many Newberg streets and there is no other parking available.

Dan Danicic indicated there is no plan to relocate the telephone pole, but that there is not enough space to park in front of the pole with the 20 foot setback. Mike Simpson agreed, noting he would vote for 30 feet but not for 50 feet.

**Motion: Brandt/Clarkson** to have staff measure the distance from N Main back West North Street to the telephone pole, and to schedule a public hearing for the September meeting. Motion carried.

D) Request to modify the parking time limits for the Blaine Street parking lot

ODOT has turned the Blaine Street parking lot over to the City of Newberg. Dan Danicic presented language to amend the City Code and asked for input. Discussion followed.

**Motion: Brandt/Vergets** to recommend that the 24 hour time limit be reduced to a 12-hour time limit. Motion carried.

**4. STAFF REPORTS - GENERAL INFORMATION:**

- A) Chief of Police - New canine patrol is on duty and the Newberg Fire Department and 9-1-1 center will benefit from funds obtained through a Homeland Security grant.
- B) Engineering - Red light proposal is moving forward.
- C) Traffic Safety Committee Sub-Committees:
  - 1. Community Relations - No report.
  - 2. Pedestrian Safety - No report.
  - 3. Parking Safety (passenger vehicles & trucks) - No report.
  - 4. Traffic Control & Obstructions - Brandt reported a mini motor home parked for several weeks on Meridian Street and asked Danicic to look at the van parked on Sierra Vista.

Dick Meyer suggested that the right turn lane near Ray's Market at Main Street be reviewed as people try to squeeze in the westbound lane.

**5. REPORTS:** None.

**6. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR:** None.

**7. ADJOURN TO NEXT MEETING: August 11, 2003**

Motion: B. Simpson/Brandt to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

