

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES

**Monday, February 14, 2005
7:00pm, Public Safety Building
401 E Third Street, Newberg, OR**

Present:

Present: Michael Simpson, Chair; Becky Simpson, Co-Chair; Doris Brandt, Everett Clarkson, Dick Meyer, Ronald Sult, Joyce Vergets, Tamera Wimmer

Excused: Bob Ehmann

Staff Present: James Bennett, City Manager; Dan Danicic, Engineering; Tim Weaver, Police

Chair Michael Simpson called the meeting to order, at 7pm.

The minutes from January 10, 2005, were approved with two corrections: Ron Sult and Dick Meyer were not present

**Moved: Dick Meyer
Seconded: Ron Sult
Passed:**

Communications from the Floor: None

New Business:

A) Request for Stop Signs at E. Fifth/S. Chehalem Street

Correction: E. Fifth/S. Meridian Street.

Staff Study: Peak traffic volume: 190 cars per day on S. Meridian
150 cars per day on E. Fifth

Speed: Consistently about 20-25 mph.

Staff Recommendation: No overwhelming evidence to justify posting a stop sign. Staff recommendation was not to post stop signs at that intersection.

B. Simpson inquired if any other citizens called in and complained about the intersection other than the one call to the Police Department. No reports were found.

Motion: J. Vergets moved to recommend no stop sign at E. Fifth/S. Meridian, and the issue be dropped.

Second: B. Simpson

Passed

Old Business:

A) Designated Handicap Zone, 100 block S. Howard, in front of the Veterans of Foreign Wars building.

History: Last month, Staff recommended denying the request for the Handicap Space. The matter was held over for Staff to review with City Administration some of the history involving this request.

Staff Statement, J. Bennett: reported Public Works was not involved in the discussions involving the parking lot behind City Hall and the VFW, including the history of the use of the parking lots. Since public parking lot was nearby, the decision was made for city employees to use Merchants' Parking lot and allow the VFW to use their parking spaces. Sign modifications, notifications and cleanup topics were discussed through Fall, 2004.

Discussions with the City Manager's office began in the fall regarding the use of a public parking space in front of the VFW Hall. Discussion was with VFW to take the matter to TSC recommending the VFW be granted the request.

Clarifying the City's position, M. Simpson asked if the City's position would be to allow for one or two parking spaces. Mr. Bennett said either would be acceptable from the Committee.

Ed Savage, 510 S. School, Newberg. Mr. Savage expressed his thanks for the City reducing three spaces down to two in front of VFW. He said that has helped in car occupants getting in and out of their cars and eased some congestion in the parking spaces.

Disabled parking is in the VFW parking lot and other non authorized parking signs have been posted. One car has been towed from the lot over several months. No enforcement has been made regarding violations of the handicapped spaces.

The activities in the VFW hall have increased in the last few years. The need for additional handicapped spaces are needed due to the aging membership needing disabled spaces is increasing.

M. Simpson asked if the VFW needed more than one space was needed. The VFW stand was one would be appreciated, two be better

Motion: Doris Brandt: One space designated for Handicapped Parking, the south most space, north of the driveway.

Second: Joyce Vergets

Passed:

Staff Reports:

Engineering:

Red light program: Study has returned from ODOT. The rules were changed, corrections made, and resubmitted to ODOT. The study is available at Engineering, if anyone would like to go through the book.

Chief Tardiff and Engineering will be working with a vendor to place video cameras at intersections for monitoring and enforcement. Three companies have submitted proposals for bids and review.

Astor House/Hayes St. changes are made: Parking is back on the south curb, along the bike lane. Waiting for the signs to be posted. Enforcement will begin with warnings, then to enforcement.

Fernwood Road improvements: First lift of pavement will go down sometime this week. PGE needs to come in to move some poles from the roadway, but cannot finish moving them for another two months. Temporary barricades and warnings will be made for traffic to avoid the poles still in the pavement and roadway. Some homes are already in at the Greens, along the golf course.

Hayes to Springbrook: a local development company has offered to finish the roadway build a complex behind Burger King. Plans are for restaurant and office space. Plans are to build a nice higher end and nice development. One advantage for the City is the company's offer to complete Hayes Street from Deborah to Springbrook.

One slowdown has been with the signal at Hayes/Springbrook due to some problems with easement plans.

Transportation Plan: Review of the TSP, particularly the areas around the southeast areas, including the new Springbrook Oaks development, golf course and areas east of Springbrook Road. Funding issues were discussed, including additional taxes, fees and ODOT involvement.

The next Planning Commission meeting to take up this project is February 24.

Adoc Committee on Newberg Future: J Vergets outlined some of their concerns and announced a meeting to air concerns regarding industrial, residential and commercial areas in the City.

Council Invitation: The Chairs of each City Committee is invited to participate and attend each Council meeting. The Council wants the Committees to feel their input is valuable and the Chairs are invited to participate.

Police:

Our newest hire, Huntley Miller, is in his fourth week at OPSA. He will graduate April 1. Officer Nathan James continues to progress through his field training and will likely move to a shift in April.

Other changes are moving ahead, including the transfer of Molly Schwartz from dispatch into the evidence/records position. Mary Newell and Julie Carrasco attended a session in records and evidence last week. The department also hosted a daylong session on internal investigations.

During January, officers issued about 265 traffic citations and 100 warnings. We are seeing an increase in DUI arrests, about 15 in January, up a few from last year.

Committee Reports:**Community Relations:**

D. Meyer: nothing about traffic; 2/18, concert in Bauman, African Gospel Choir; 2/25: Michael Allen Harrison, benefit concert for CYFS;

Pedestrian:

J. Vergets: Lady at College/Hancock, concerned about pedestrians crossing at crosswalk/lighted intersection;

M. Simpson said he has noticed the pedestrian crossings at the lighted intersections along Hancock are adequately timed for crossing at the lights. This is an appreciated change by ODOT.

Grant Application: Letter of support from the Committee for the Mini-Grant from Community Cycling Center Bicyclist Mini Grant Program Application, for \$5000.

Post Office: J. Vergets, brought up a concern regarding the USPS mailbox, E. First/Blaine, and the hazards of cars driving in and out of the drop off box. She described some of the near misses of cars leaving the driving lane and returning to eastbound E. First. She requested the Committee to think about moving the mailbox to another place to help reduce congestion around the Post Office and mailbox.

No action taken.

McDonald's Lane: D. Meyer conveyed the concerns of two Councilors, B. Anderson and R. Currier, regarding the allowable left turn from the private lane onto Portland Road. Apparently, near misses have been observed between several vehicles, including the local YCAP community bus.

Motion: E. Clarkson: Staff will research and report the feasibility of recommending the placement of "Right Turn Only," or "No Left Turn," at

the access to Portland Road. The study should be available for the March meeting,

Second: T.Wimmer

Passed

Motion: D. Brandt, moved to adjourn to the March 14 meeting.

Seconded

Passed

The meeting adjourned about 810pm.



Sergeant Tim Weaver, Secretary Pro-Tem