

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2013 7:00 PM
Public Safety Building, 401 E. Third Street, Newberg

“Mission Statement: To give the citizens of Newberg a forum to voice traffic safety concerns, evaluate related issues, provide a liaison with the City and promote traffic safety within the community.”

A work session was held prior to the meeting. A presentation was given by Barton Brierley, Planning & Building Director, discussing the process and timeline for Planning Commission items. No action was taken and no decisions were made.

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Neal Klein called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present:	Neal Klein, Chair	Karl Birky, Vice Chair	Dianna Cotter
	Shannon Eoff	David Venable	
	Mayor Bob Andrews, Ex-officio	Austin Christensen, Student Commissioner	

Members Absent: Tony Roos (excused), Ron Johns (excused), and Kari Lawson (excused)

Staff Present:	Brian Casey, Chief of Police	Mary Newell, Support Services Manager
	Jason Wuertz, Civil Engineer	Nicole Tannler, Minutes Recorder
	Barton Brierley, Planning & Building Director	

Others Present: Josh Kraner

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Klein opened and closed the public testimony; no citizens appeared.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Approve meeting minutes for October 16, 2013

MOTION: Cotter/Eoff to approve the Consent Calendar including the Traffic Safety Commission minutes for October 16, 2013. Motion carried (5 Yes/0 No/3 Absent [Johns, Roos, and Lawson]/1 Vacant).

VI. OLD BUSINESS

None.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

a. Foothills traffic study

Mr. Jason Wuertz, civil engineer, presented the staff report (see official meeting packet for full report).

Chair Klein said the Terrace Estates subdivision has been appealed and is going to council, so depending on that the commission will see where to go.

Mr. Wuertz stated looking at the traffic study the speeds on foothills exceed the speed limit. We did the study because we wanted to have the data for future reference as the development progresses.

Mayor Bob Andrews asked how many trips per day each resident creates. Commissioner Karl Birky answered the average is 9.57 trips per day.

Chair Klein stated Terrace Estates is adding forty homes. Mayor Andrews asked where Terrace Estates will empty out. Chair Klein said Terrace Drive and the rest would probably dump onto Foothills Drive and Morris Street.

Chair Klein stated the intent was to establish a baseline for now and not to have a discussion.

b. Request for “no parking” signs on Tukwila Drive

Mr. Jason Wuertz, Civil Engineer, presented the staff report (see official meeting packet for full report).

Mr. Josh Kraner testified he recently moved into the neighborhood on Tukwila Drive and noticed during pick up times of school there is quite a bit of congestion. The builder put in many homes without regard to safety for pedestrians and drivers who use Tukwila Drive to bypass the stop sign down the street. This causes safety concerns for kids crossing the street before and after school because speeding is also a problem. Mr. Kraner stated he is a police officer in Portland and has been on many traffic safety committees.

Commissioner Birky asked if there is any parking on Foothills Drive. Mr. Kraner said there is no parking on the south side of Foothills Drive nor on the west side of Main Street, but there is on the east side.

Commissioner Dianna Cotter asked what solutions he suggests. Mr. Kraner answered to have no parking on the street, or just at those pickup times. Commissioner Cotter asked if no parking may be a problem for the residents. Mr. Kraner stated not for what he is asking. Commissioner Cotter asked if he had spoken to any residents. Mr. Kraner said a couple of residents are in agreement, but he has not spoken to any others.

Commissioner David Venable asked where else parents park to pick up students. Mr. Kraner said there is a large parking lot and a line of cars to pick up students; my street is just a short-cut to not have to wait in the line. There are also a lot of cars that use it as a bypass instead of the stop sign at Main Street and Foothills Drive.

Chair Klein asked how long he has been there. Mr. Kraner said just under a year, but with my experience it is just a matter of time until something happens. Commissioner Cotter asked if he had any discussions with the school itself. Mr. Kraner answered no. Commissioner Cotter said we had a similar situation at Mable Rush and we did get some cooperation from the parents once we notified them. Mr. Kraner said I think the only way to fix this is no parking at all times, or just school pick up times.

Chair Klein stated with the no parking how do you think it will affect your neighbors and will this move the problem down the street. Mr. Kraner said the map is deceiving and he does not think it will move the problem.

Mayor Andrews said the school can educate the children and parents to try to clear this up.

Chair Klein said if there was no parking in front of your residence and it will affect your neighbors down the street they will have time to appeal the decision. Just be aware this can be a two to three month time frame before anything is established.

Commissioner Cotter said my first instinct would be to restrict the parking at certain times and separate it into two issues with the people using Tukwila Drive to bypass the stop sign.

Chair Klein suggested communicating with the schools first to see if we get any improvement, because even if we make a decision tonight we would not hear an appeal until January. Mr. Kraner stated he thinks that will just be a band-aid.

Chair Klein said he is worried about enforcement because it is such a small street and he does not want to punish a neighborhood.

Commissioner Birky said the three problems seem to be parking, speed, and pedestrians and thought the only way to resolve it is to talk to the school.

Commissioner Cotter stated there is a tremendous amount of parking in the area and felt a limited no parking restriction during peak hours on one side of Tukwila Drive would have a beneficial effect.

Mayor Andrews asked if this would be for 12 months out of the year. Commissioner Eoff said she would suggest during school days only.

Mr. Kraner said his main concern is the amount of children using Tukwila Drive to walk home and the litter that accumulates from the parked cars.

Chair Klein said we will draft a letter to the school district to start an education process on pedestrian crossings.

MOTION: Cotter/Venable to place no parking signs on Tukwila Drive in front of lot 114, at the junction of lots 127 and 224 on the west side of Tukwila Drive, and on the East side of Tukwila in from of lot 115 and to restrict parking between the hours of 7:30 AM to 9:30 AM and 2 PM and 3:30 PM on school days. Motion carried (4 Yes/1 No [Birky]/3 Absent [Johns, Roos, and Lawson]/1 Vacant).

VIII. STAFF REPORTS – GENERAL INFORMATION

a. Engineering:

Mr. Jason Wuertz, civil engineer, reported they are working to get traffic data at the intersection of Natalie Drive and Morris Street. The changes ODOT made to traffic signals throughout town have been noticed by the community. The lights at Villa Road and 99W intersection is one we have heard a lot about. The reason for the change is because of the significant amount of traffic turning left on Villa Road. The goal is to move more cars through where needed. Hopefully, people will notice traffic is improving and pedestrian crossing has changed as well.

b. Police:

Mr. Brian Casey, chief of police, reported there was a 15-year-old girl hit by a dump truck because she rode her bike out in front of the truck and disobeyed the traffic control device. She is okay, but has a lot of broken bones. The new drug dog has been out and had three hits on three traffic stops. A woman passed away and left money for the K-9 unit. We have not received complaints about the Newberg-Dundee Bypass, but have had complaints in Dundee about fast paced dump trucks. I would anticipate as the project comes to Newberg we will have the same problem.

c. 2013 TSC Log of Decisions:

There was no discussion as the log was provided in the official meeting packet.

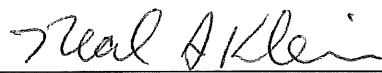
IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 PM.

Approved by the Newberg Traffic Safety Commission this 13th day of January, 2013.



Minutes Recorder



Neal S. Klein
Traffic Safety Commission Chair