

MINUTES

REGULAR TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING

August 20, 2025

7:00 a.m.

Via Zoom

- PRESIDING:** Mike Kilkenny, Chairman
- COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Russ Brown, Michael Holloran, Bob Wood, Jim Schwinoof and Jayme Reineccius
- COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Randy Cole
- STAFF PRESENT:** Todd Stephens – City Engineer, Cynthia Roe – City EIT, David Mills – PW Deputy Director, Doug Kramer – Sgt. City Police, Dan Richardson – Council Representative, Jonathan Kara – City Attorney, Nikki Lesich – Codes Enforcement Officer and Cindy Keever – Administrative Secretary
- GUESTS PRESENT:** Rod Runyon, Sherry Runyon, Linda Glanden, Julie Wilburn, Kelly Howsley Glover and Julie Ryan

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kilkenny at 7:04 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the August agenda was made by Brown and seconded by Holloran. Motion approved by Kilkenny, Schwinoof, Wood and Reineccius. Cole absent.

5. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

None

6. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

A. Rod Runyon handed out paperwork and spoke on behalf of the neighborhood of W Scenic Drive, near the Lincoln Street intersection. Neighbors are very concerned with the high rate of speed drivers are attempting to drive through the Scenic Drive curves and the wrecks (six) that have occurred in the last

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MINUTES

Traffic Safety Commission Meeting

August 20, 2025

Page 2 of 5

several years. Neighbors believe the speeds have increased substantially over the last two or three years.

Runyon requested additional speed signs in the area, ideally solar powered radar speed sign or an equivalent that would notify drivers when they are traveling over the speed limit. The need for additional police patrol to deter speeding and the cost and effectiveness of the solar powered radar speed signs was discussed.

B. Judy Merrell gave TSC members several handouts regarding bicycles on city streets and spoke more about her concerns about pedestrians and riders sharing the sidewalk.

Jonathan Kara spoke with the group about the General ORS 801.010 ordinance from the Oregon Vehicle Code that addresses definitions of different types of bicycles.

Reineccius thought it isn't realistic to expect no e-bikes or motorized scooters on sidewalks. They too have to have safe places to ride. Merrill said that through her research she has found other cities are implementing walk only zones. Kara said that the city does have some ordinances regarding sleds and skates on sidewalks but it hasn't been updated since 2010 so updates are needed. Kara recommended, after further discussion in August that the Traffic Safety Committee make a recommendation to the City Council to update the City Ordinance to reflect e-bikes.

Merrill suggested members check on the ordinances in Hood River regarding riding on sidewalks. This item will be brought up again in the August meeting.

7. STAFF REPORTS

A. TRANSPORTATION DIVISION MANAGER REPORT

- 1) ADA curb and sidewalk installations on 13th between Washington Street and Union Street is continuing throughout the summer. This schedule should achieve paving in the fall.
- 2) The city is currently working, this week, in conjunction with the Wasco County Road Department, painting all of the long line striping areas around town.
- 3) The paving of the alley between 1st and 2nd Street from Washington Street to Court Street will be coming up soon. Exact date unknown at this time.
- 4) The Transportation Division has welcomed three new operators to their division since June 30th, bringing them closer to being fully staffed.

B. CITY POLICE REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

- 1) Sgt. Kramer spoke briefly about the accidents at the intersection of Trevitt Street and 12th Street.

MINUTES

Traffic Safety Commission Meeting

August 20, 2025

Page 3 of 5

- 2) New police officers and traffic safety officers are finishing training so more police presence is out on the streets.
- 3) Current traffic grants have been extended for another year.
- 4) If someone is experiencing a pattern of speeding or unsafe driving in their neighborhood, please let the police department know and they will try and have extra patrol during those reported times.

C. CITY CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT

- 1) Vegetation continues to grow and cause problems, whether it's late blooming puncture vine or trees and shrubs blocking sidewalks or street signs. Lesich reported there is a new company that rents goats for eradication of vegetation on areas that are difficult to access.
- 2) Lesich said she has a new Codes Enforcement partner and things are working out well.
- 3) Codes has been working with PW to have vehicles moved for upcoming projects. She's also been working with the management of the Commadore Building. The city requires their tenants to park down on 1st Street in their designated areas. Tenants aren't allowed long term parking in the downtown core area.

D. CITY ENGINEERS REPORT

1. Stephens reported several big projects around town are continuing throughout the summer and into the fall season.
 - a) On 10th Street there has been a slight delay waiting on a local utility. Flat work, ADA ramps and paving are currently on hold. Working with Crestline and the school district to find the best time to finish the project.
 - b) Continuing with assistance to the Transportation Division for their ADA concrete ramp projects.
 - c) The 6th Street Widening Project is continuing. All curb work is done, extension of the storm sewer to the Hostetler tie-in is continuing and the plan is to pave in mid-September.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Holloran and seconded by Brown to approve the July minutes. Kilkenny, Schwinof, Reineccius and Woods voted in favor. Cole was absent. Motion carried.

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Brown began the continued discussion regarding pedestrian and bike safety on sidewalks in the downtown core areas. A handout was given to members from City Attorney Kara on the Oregon Vehicle Codes. The information contained licensing requirements and definitions for different types of

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MINUTES

Traffic Safety Commission Meeting

August 20, 2025

Page 4 of 5

transportation that isn't vehicles or motorcycles. It was agreed that a public awareness campaign to educate the public would be helpful. Discussion was held between members regarding areas that scooters, etc. should be ridden and what is safe in one person's mind is not in another's opinion. Brown made a motion to recommend to the Public Works Director, City Manager and City Council that an ordinance needs to be created addressing the various types of transportation (that excludes vehicles and motorcycles) and the areas they need to be restricted to (streets vs. sidewalks). The downtown area being proposed for restrictions is on 2nd Street and 3rd Street between Lincoln Street and Taylor Street. Also, need to review what the current ordinance addresses and make suggested updates. Schwino seconded the motion. Holloran, Kilkenny and Reineccius voting in favor. Woods voting nay. Cole absent.

B. 7th Street and Richland Court Visibility Issues postponed until September meeting.

C. Crosswalk Request on Dry Hollow Road and 10th Street postponed until September meeting.

D. Neighbors Wilburn, Howsley-Glover and Ryan are all neighbors who live near the intersection of Trevitt Street and 12th Street. They would like some type of speed monitoring box on Trevitt to slow the traffic down. They have also requested additional yellow curb paint on the NE corner of Trevitt Street. Four accidents, since January 2025, and many near misses have been witnessed. A request was made to trim the tree branches away from the stop sign on the NE corner of Trevitt Street and 12th Street. Neighbors believe these things would greatly improve the visibility for the drivers crossing Trevitt Street. A discussion followed regarding the best way to accomplish the neighbors' concerns. Holloran made a motion to have Public Works conduct a Clear Vision Triangle test and trim the tree

branches away from the stop sign so drivers have a clear view of the stop sign. Also included in the motion was to have Public Works paint white stop bars on 12th Street, with possibly the word STOP painted on the asphalt too. The painting of 20 foot of yellow curbs on the NE corners of 12th Street and on Trevitt Street was included in the motion. Woods seconded the motion. Brown, Kilkenny, Wood, Schwino and Reineccius all in favor. Cole absent.

A Codes Enforcement letter will be sent to the property owner adjacent to the stop sign on 12th Street regarding the tree that needs a long-term trimming plan so it doesn't block the stop sign.

10. ROUNDS TO COLLECT AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Due to time constraints, two items from the August meeting, Items #9B & #9C, will need to be carried over to the September meeting.

Holloran let fellow commissioners know August is his last meeting. He is moving out of town. This will create an opening on the Traffic Safety Commission if anyone knows of someone who may be interested in joining the group.

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MINUTES

Traffic Safety Commission Meeting

August 20, 2025

Page 5 of 5

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:30a.

Submitted by/

Cindy Kever, Administrative Secretary

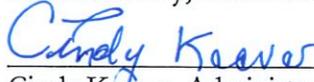
Public Works Department

SIGNED:



Mike Kilkenny, Chairman

ATTEST:



Cindy Kever, Administrative Secretary
Public Works Department

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