

**MINUTES
CITY OF KEIZER
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
KEIZER CITY HALL LIBRARY
SEPTEMBER 19, 1996**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gorklinsky at 7:35 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Newly-appointed members Fredric George and Ernest Smyres were welcomed to the Commission.

3. ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Paul Gorklinsky, Mike Kirby, Fredric George, and Ernest Smyres. Greg McLeod had informed Mr. Gorklinsky that he would be unable to attend.

Also present were: Staff Liaison Sgt. Mark Miranda, Recording Secretary Nona Oxe', Police Officers Lance Inman from District 1, David Babcock from District 2, and David LeDay from District 3. Officer Babcock was unable to stay for the meeting.

Mr. Gorklinsky noted that Council Liaison Koho had informed him that he would be unable to attend because his attendance was required tonight at a neighborhood association meeting. Mr. Gorklinsky stated that he planned to suggest to the Council that he attend Council meetings following regular Traffic Safety Commission meetings and do his own liaison reporting.

4. REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES - AUGUST 15, 1996

The minutes were approved as submitted.

5. APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS

No one came forward to present any issues to the Commission.

6. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT - MINI-GRANT

FMAGIC

Mr. Kirby reported that he and Sgt. Miranda met and discussed activities that might be eligible for a grant. He noted that the one selected reflects what was discussed by the Traffic Safety Commission at its last meeting--educating adults on the importance of setting a good example by wearing bicycle helmets. For the benefit of the new members, Mr. Kirby described education measures talked about at the last meeting including movie theater announcements, and flyer distribution.

Sgt. Miranda distributed copies of the grant application requesting mini-grant funds in the amount of \$2,500.00 for an advertising campaign entitled "Bicycle Safety Helmet Awareness for Adults & Children." Mr. Kirby briefly reviewed the request. Sgt. Miranda talked about estimated costs for materials and services to implement the theater announcement program for one year, and distribute flyers.

Mr. George asked about age limits for legally requiring the use of helmets. Sgt. Miranda answered that the use of helmets is mandated for children age 16 and under. He explained that the Commission's stand was that in addition to providing for their own safety, parents should wear helmets to set an example for the kids.

Sgt. Miranda acknowledged that he would be working on the Police Department's DUII Prevention grant application. It also would deal with educational issues. He hoped to have it completed by the September 28 deadline.

Sgt. Miranda recommended that the Traffic Safety Commission, by motion, authorize submittal of the proposed mini-grant application. He indicated that he would then request the supporting letter from the Mayor before submitting the application to ACTS Oregon.

Mr. Gorlinsky moved to authorize submittal of a mini-grant application for a project entitled "Bicycle Safety Helmet Awareness for Adults & Children," upon attachment of the required documents including a letter of support from the Mayor. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kirby and carried, all present voting aye.

Sgt. Miranda advised that the deadline for next year's mini-grant applications is June 1. Mr. Gorlinsky suggested that Commission members begin thinking about ideas for next year's grant request.

Sgt. Miranda reported on this Summer's Police Department program to give a Hollywood Video coupon to any kid wearing a helmet. He responded to questions about the bail for not wearing a helmet.

7. REPORT FROM CHAIR ON PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED STADIUM

Mr. Gorlinsky reported that he attended a couple of the public meetings to discuss the proposed baseball stadium. He noted that on September 12, most of the non-financial objections were relative to the issue of 1,500 cars passing through the neighborhood, and the related problems. The financial-related issues centered around the suggestion that money might be better spent on some other type of project, and a concern about how the City's contribution would be financed--whether with redevelopment funds or other public investment. Mr. Gorlinsky estimated that the audience represented about 50% in favor and 50% opposed to the project.

Mr. Gorlinsky reported that those in favor of the stadium pointed out benefits to Keizer such as additional income from Salem and surrounding areas, a sense of uniqueness for Keizer, and the addition of a landmark for the city that would be visible from the I-5 freeway. It was Mr. Gorlinsky's perception that all seven Council members were united in support of the proposed stadium. He felt that the only obstacle would be whether or not a financial package could be put together.

Mr. Gorlinsky responded to questions about the proposed location of the stadium, and efforts to mitigate neighborhood concerns and traffic and noise issues. He explained why the proposal was not discussed publicly earlier--specifically the need for the baseball team to complete their current season before making a public announcement of its intention to move. He noted that owners have indicated that their focus will be on sports, not concerts.

9. STAFF LIAISON REPORT - (taken out of order)

Sgt. Miranda distributed copies of a memorandum from him to Police Chief Stull outlining accident statistics for 1996, to date. He reviewed the statistics which listed accidents by the day of the week, hour of the day, cause, and location. He responded to questions about Keizer's response to accidents and reporting.

Mr. Smyres had observed drivers making illegal turns at the Chemawa and River Road corner near the new Shari's Restaurant. Sgt. Miranda acknowledged that several accidents were reported in that vicinity. Mr. Gorlinsky questioned the possibility of having a small curb constructed along the 4900 block. St. Miranda felt that it would be difficult due to space restrictions. Mr. Smyres suggested putting reflective posts on Chemawa for a short distance to ~~slow vehicles down~~ ^{stop illegal left turns}. Sgt. Miranda indicated that he would check with the traffic engineer.

Mr. George asked how this year's statistics compared with last year's. Sgt. Miranda answered that accidents this year have increased over last year. He perceived that increased traffic volume was the reason for more accidents.

Sgt. Miranda distributed copies of Traffic Speed Survey Statistics for August and September. The statistics were compiles by reader board volunteers. He also

distributed copies of a listing of School Bus Violation Warning Letters sent between October, 1995 and June, 1996. Sgt. Miranda noted that today he received a message to call TCI Cable regarding a public service announcement they are doing on busses. He was unsure whether school buses would be their focus, but felt that it would be good to get the message on cable TV. Mr. Gorlinsky reported that since school started, school buses are running the red light at the River Road and Lockhaven intersection.

Sgt. Miranda distributed copies of flyers entitled *Motorcycle Safety Facts, Think Fast* (information about speeding), and *Turning up the Heat on Air Bag Injuries*. He also handed out copies of the August *Traffic Safety Notes*.

Sgt. Miranda reported that a police department in Nebraska is making inquiries into traffic fines in school zones. He noted that currently in Oregon all traffic fines are set by the Supreme Court which has allowed doubling the fine in work zones. Oklahoma and Michigan have now doubled the fines in school zones. Sgt. Miranda suggested the possibility of getting the City, by ordinance, to do that, or lobby with the State to do it in a legislative package.

Sgt. Miranda reported that about two weeks ago a Keizer police officer crashed his motorcycle. He will be out for about two months. He noted that the City now has two cycles and four officers to ride them, so they are being used quite a bit. Officers Inman and LeDay responded to questions about motorcycle enforcement.

A discussion followed regarding specific traffic problems and enforcement measures. Semi-trucks parking in the center lane on Lockhaven while drivers run into 7-11, and also semi-trucks parking in bike lanes on Lockhaven were mentioned. Sgt. Miranda noted that he has requested that all the curbs be painted yellow on both sides of Lockhaven off River Road to give the Police Department an "extra boost" for enforcement.

Sgt. Miranda asked if Mr. Gorlinsky had checked on the speed bumps for Ridge Drive. Mr. Gorlinsky had not yet had opportunity, but made a note to do so.

The Commission also discussed speeding problems on Harmony and Dearborn. Officer LeDay responded to questions about enforcement. Mr. Kirby pointed out that Dearborn acts as an arterial street, and thus higher speeds might be expected. He suggested that putting sidewalks on Dearborn would make it safer for pedestrian traffic. Sgt. Miranda noted that so far this year only one accident has occurred on Dearborn. He felt that the high level of enforcement was the reason.

As a side note, Mr. Gorlinsky reported that he received a letter from District 2 acknowledging reducing the speed limit on River Road from The Meadows to the city limit to 45 MPH. He passed the letter on to Public Works Director Mull who will

need to sign it and send it back. Mr. Gorlinsky anticipated the process to get the reduced speed in place would take another 30 days.

10. OTHER/NEW BUSINESS

Articles for Keizertimes

Mr. Gorlinsky explained for the new members that as part of the Commission's education efforts, each member agreed to draft an article about a specific traffic issue for submission to the Keizertimes. He noted that so far two articles have been published; one reminding drivers not to pass (in either direction) school buses stopped with red flashing lights, and the other about the proper use of the two-way left turn refuge such as is on River Road.

Mr. Gorlinsky gave Mr. George a copy of the Oregon Driving Manual and suggested that he choose a specific traffic concern to write about. He explained that in writing his article he paraphrased a regulation found in the manual. Mr. Gorlinsky suggested that Mr. George bring his article to the next meeting. Sgt. Miranda, as liaison with the Keizertimes, will put the article in the proper format and submit it to the paper.

Traffic Concerns

Mr. Smyres asked if anything could be done about over-hanging trees that scrape the top of RVs and buses. He had picked up copies of Keizer's Ordinance No. 83-014, but was unsure if the restrictions applied to trees. He gave Mr. Gorlinsky a copy of a news article about Salem's restrictions, and suggested that the Traffic Commission work on getting similar ones for Keizer. Mr. Smyres pointed out several locations where trees have grown out over the street.

Sgt. Miranda was aware of setback requirements to control weeds and shrubs from encroaching on traffic. He was unaware of any minimum clearance for trees, but will check into the matter. He asked Mr. Smyres to provide him with a list of problem areas for submittal to the Public Works Department. Mr. Smyres advised that he has turned in a list to Public Works. Sgt. Miranda acknowledged that the Traffic Safety Commission could make a recommendation to the Council to adopt or amend an ordinance to impose restrictions.

Mr. George asked if the Traffic Safety Commission deals with street lighting issues. He was specifically interested in the lack of lighting on streets in his neighborhood. Sgt. Miranda explained how lighting could be installed by formation of a local improvement district (LID). Mr. Gorlinsky suggested that he contact Public Works Director Mull. Officer Inman noted that he is putting together a packet for District 1 telling how to form a Local Improvement District.

8. BRAINSTORMING SESSION - GOALS/OBJECTIVES

Mr. Gorlinsky displayed the charts depicting the goals that were identified by the Traffic Safety Commission. Sgt. Miranda explained that the next step would be to develop objectives for reaching each goal.

The following are goals that were identified as the highest priority.

**ID TRAFFIC PROBLEMS
ADA
CITY STAFF FEEDBACK
EDUCATION
VISIBLE TO COUNCIL**

Sgt. Miranda suggested that each goal be reworded to clearly identify the objective worked toward. The following is a list of the reworded goals, and steps/tools that were identified to help reach each goal.

DEVELOP A PROGRAM TO IDENTIFY TRAFFIC PROBLEMS

Accident stats
Speed surveys
Citizen complaints
Vision clearance problems (identify)
Develop a Citizen Complaint Form for engineering-type problems

Mr. Gorlinsky suggested that once a complaint form is developed, it be published in the Keizertimes. He noted that it would not only make Keizer residents aware of the program, but the actual form from the paper could be used to submit a complaint.

REVIEW CURRENT ADA STATUS IN KEIZER AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS

Check with Public Works Director Mull
Do a survey of what's in place
Research other cities
Draft a report for the City Council

IMPROVE CITY STAFF FEEDBACK

Public Works participation on the Traffic Safety Commission
Memos - written communications
Due dates - for responses

DEVELOP EDUCATION PROGRAM

- 6 news articles a year
- Volunteer program -
 - letters
 - reader board
- 4 bike rodeos a year
- 1997 grant
- PSAs (public service announcements)

Mr. Gorlinsky was asked if he had investigated the possibility of joint participation with the Bicycle Committee, particularly with regard to bike-safety education. He noted that after investigation of their purpose, it was his belief that their focus was somewhat different from that of the Traffic Safety Commission.

IMPROVE VISIBILITY TO THE COUNCIL

Personal contact with Council Liaison after each meeting

Sgt. Miranda suggested that one year from now the Traffic Safety Commission revisit the established goals and objectives to evaluate how well they were met. At that time the Commission can decide whether to work on new and/or additional goals.

Mr. George wondered if it might be good to have some kind of periodic review, possibly every month. It was agreed to add "Goal Status" as a permanent item on the agenda. The Commission also directed that a copy of the "Goals and Objectives" be listed on the back side of the agenda.

Mr. Gorlinsky requested that "Review of Newspaper Article Subjects" be placed on next month's agenda.

11. ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING OCTOBER 17, 1996

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Gorlinsky at 9:45 p.m.