

**CITY OF KEIZER
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES
KEIZER CITY HALL ~ Conference Room B
Thursday, August 22, 2002 @ 5:30 p.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Randy Jackson, Harlan Naegeli, Joseph Ortiz, Steve Prothero, Steve Lamb (arrived at 5:43 p.m.) and David Dehlin (arrived at 6:40 p.m.)

Absent: Glenn Putman

Also present: Staff Liaison Officer Dave LeDay, Council Liaison Charles Lee, City Manager Christopher Eppley and Recording Secretary Cindy Perry

3. REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES

➤ *July 25, 2002*

Steve Lamb moved for approval of the July 25, 2002 minutes as written. Steve Prothero seconded the motion.

AYES: Jackson, Lamb, Ortiz and Prothero (4)

NAYES: None (0)

ABSTENTIONS: Naegeli (1)

ABSENT: Dehlin and Putman (2)

Chair Jackson rearranged the agenda with General Business being heard prior to the remainder of the agenda.

4. APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS

Tony Moore, 1226 Harmony Drive, Keizer-expressed his discontent with staff's recommendation pertaining to Trail. He urged the Commission to forward their recommendation to Council.

5. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None

6. BIKEWAYS REPORT

Councilor Judy Smith reported that a subcommittee for Bikeways had received \$2,150 in grants to organize bike safety packets to be distributed to local elementary schools.

7. REPORT FROM CHAIR

Steve Prothero noted he attended the recent Keizer Future's Committee meeting, but unfortunately no information pertaining to traffic safety was discussed during this meeting.

Chair Jackson noted that the Oregon Transportation Conference was scheduled for October 23-25 in Tigard, Oregon. He encouraged those Commission members interested to attend.

David Dehlin arrived at 6:40 p.m. and took a seat at the table.

8. STAFF LIAISON REPORT

Officer Dave LeDay reported that the grants discussed by the Commission during the last meeting would be submitted tomorrow.

9. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Councilor Lee reported that the Council has continued to actively work on the Keizer Station Plan. He indicated that other issues being addressed during the September 3rd meeting would be future Parks Funds.

The Commission expressed an interest in having their issue heard early on the agenda. Councilor Lee agreed to forward this request through the Management Committee Meeting to see if this could be done.

Councilor Smith also interjected that the Transit Task Force was seeking a member of the Commission to serve on this committee. She provided a background pertaining to the committee and asked if any of the Commission members would like to participate. Steve Prothero expressed interest depending upon the dates and times the group would be meeting.

Councilor Lee left the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

New Member

Chair Jackson introduced the newest member of the Traffic Safety Commission David Dehlin (pronounced DE-Lynn). Mr. Dehlin provided a brief background. The Commission welcomed Mr. Dehlin along with his expertise and past experiences with traffic safety.

At 6:55 p.m. the Commission reverted back to discussion of the Gubser Neighborhood Traffic Plan under *General Business*.

10. GENERAL BUSINESS *(reviewed after approval of the minutes)*

Chair Jackson introduced City Manager Christopher Eppley who presented a memo dated August 15, 2002 as submitted by Public Works Director Rob Kissler. The memo pertained to staff's review of the July 26, 2002 Gubser Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan.

Mr. Eppley went through each point of the memo. It was noted that item 1-A of the plan had been completed and would be monitored to determine if there was a need to further increase additional time to the left turn signal south bound on River Road. He noted staff's wish to not lessen time from the west to east commute.

Staff agreed with item 1-B of the July 26th plan. Funding was allocated in the 2002-2003 street fund to accomplish this task. Mr. Eppley indicated that he was not aware of a timeline for this project, but would follow up with public works regarding this.

Staff agreed with items 2-A, B and C with the recommendation of the placement of stop signs at the intersection of Manzanita and Trail to complete a four-way stop and not place stop signs at 11th and Manzanita until it was determined that they were needed. Also recommended was a designated "no parking" zone using a yellow curb for the first fifty feet on the south side of Manzanita east of Trail, when the lane delineation in 2-B was transformed.

Members of the Commission believed there was a bus stop at the location of 11th and Manzanita. Mr. Eppley indicated staff would follow up on this, as the intent was not to impact these types of services.

Steve Lamb arrived at 5:43 p.m. and took a seat at the table.

Staff addressed their greatest concern regarding 3-A, the closing of Trail Avenue at Manzanita. Reasons included:

- Trail Avenue is designated as a collector in the TSP (Transportation System Plan);
- Thirty acres of undeveloped high density residential and mixed use property adjacent to Trail Avenue is needed to connect the properties in alignment to the city's arterial street system;
- The closure of Trail Avenue would reduce the State's requirement of connectivity in neighborhoods;
- Turnarounds would need to be constructed to meet the needs of the driving public to exit the dead end street.

Mr. Eppley stressed the importance of additional public testimony if it was the Commission's wish to alter the TSP by removing Trail Avenue as a collector. Members of the Commission felt closing Trail Avenue temporarily, by means of a decorative gate, until development began in the area would at least alleviate the problems that neighbors were having with traffic at this time.

Mr. Eppley and the Commission discussed how Trail Avenue serves the community at this time. The Commission believed the majority of traffic using Trail was cut-through traffic, which accessed Harmony, causing the large volumes of traffic throughout the surrounding neighborhoods.

Mr. Eppley expressed staff's concern that closing Trail would impact the intersection at Lockhaven and River to an expanse beyond its capability. The Commission concurred suggesting that a great deal of traffic onto Manzanita from River Road originated from McNary Estates Drive. Mr. Eppley expressed his personal opinion that he was not opposed to having a "no through" out of McNary Estates and suggested a "right" or "left" turn only out of McNary Estates onto River Road. Additional possible future alternatives for Trail Avenue were outlined by Mr. Eppley, which were not deemed satisfactory to the Commission because of the timeframe involved.

Mr. Eppley also expressed concern that if Trail was closed turnarounds would need to be developed to allow traffic to exit the area. He again reminded the Commission that the closure of Trail would be a Council decision with a modification of the TSP.

Officer LeDay suggested signage stating "no commute" during certain hours of the day. The Commission conceded that this was discussed, but enforcement was considered a deterrent to this solution. Officer LeDay maintained that the compliance rate for this type of signage was high, and he urged the Commission and staff to consider it.

After further discussion Mr. Naegeli recommended that at least temporary islands be placed at each end of Harmony to negate some of the cut through traffic. The Commission agreed with Mr. Eppley's comments about addressing all streets in the area as not to move the traffic problem from one area to another.

Tony Moore, 1226 Harmony Drive, Keizer-spoke as a concerned citizen living along Harmony. He implored the Commission to address the cut through traffic on Harmony for the welfare of the families living along this street.

Councilor Judy Smith expressed her opinion that a temporary gate on Trail would not be beneficial. She also spoke against any suggestion of improving Trail Avenue. She urged the Commission to submit their plan separately from staff for review by the Council.

Due to the limited time Chair Jackson requested that Mr. Eppley move forward with the remainder of his presentation.

Mr. Eppley indicated that staff agreed with item 3-B noting that funding had been allocated to accomplish this task.

It was noted that staff disagreed with item 4-A as recommended by the Commission. This was due to the creation of a two-lane offset east bound onto Manzanita. Staff believed this would cause a dangerous vehicle movement because of the grade elevations and on-coming traffic. As an alternative staff recommended construction of a dedicated right turn lane on McNary Estates Drive.

Responding to questions pertaining to Wheatland Road Mr. Eppley noted the possibility to tie the McNary intersection signal in with a new signal making the north commute safer to travel.

Mr. Eppley indicated that Council would review the plan during the September 3rd City Council meeting. The documentation of public hearings, minutes and written testimony would be provided to the Council as part of the packet.

Chair Jackson thanked Mr. Eppley for his presentation.

Mr. Eppley left the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Chair Jackson moved to address the remainder of the agenda to come back to this issue later in the evening.

At 6:55 p.m. the discussion continued relating to the Gubser Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan.

The Commission expressed interest with the idea of eliminating cross traffic from McNary Estates Drive onto Manzanita.

Chair Jackson addressed the TSP noting Trail's collector status. The Commission agreed that this status was spurious as the road was currently configured. Questions were submitted regarding staff's suggestion that closing Trail would reduce the State's requirement for connectivity in neighborhoods.

Steve Prothero urged the Commission to submit a response to staff's memo. He believed the simplest solution with the greatest impact would be to place a gate at the end of Trail Avenue.

Also discussed was the possibility of medians and/or a modified pork chop at each end of Harmony. Stressed was the need to keep cut-through traffic out of the neighborhoods.

Steve Lamb moved a motion to forward the July 26, 2002 Gubser Traffic Management Plan to the City Council adding the amendment to the Commission's recommendation, as suggested by the City Manager, to include a left and right turn only from McNary Estates Drive onto River Road. Also to include a letter, which outlined the Commissions comments to staff's memo. Harlan Naegeli seconded the motion.

Due to conflicts Chair Jackson indicated he would be unable to attend the September 3rd City Council meeting. Steve Prothero agreed to formulate the Commission's response and to attend the City Council meeting.

David Dehlin expressed dismay that staff did not present a solid alternative to the Commission's recommendation pertaining to 3-A (Trail Avenue).

The Commission considered a Trail Avenue/Verda Lane alignment versus how the streets are currently designated in the TSP.

Councilor Smith noted that the process of updating the TSP in conjunction with the city's periodic review was scheduled to take place in the near future. She indicated from information she received from COG (Council of Governments) that it was possible for the city to close Trail Avenue.

Karen Trucke, 6330 14th Avenue NE, Keizer-did not agree with the Commission's recommendation to close Trail Avenue. She urged the Commission to recommend closing Manzanita at River Road. Mrs. Trucke asked that the livability of the neighborhoods is a high priority in this process and she suggested a backup plan if the original plan was not concluded as feasible.

Wayne Trucke, 6330 14th Avenue NE, Keizer-urged the Commission to forward their recommendation to Council allowing staff to make their recommendation with Council making the final decision.

Chair Jackson thanked the Trucke's for their input.

After further discussion it was noted that the City Manager's suggestion of "no through" traffic from McNary Estates Drive was not part of the memo as submitted by staff. The Commission believed that this was a viable option for the Council to consider.

The issue of connectivity was also considered. It was suggested that connectivity as it pertained to Trail Avenue might be part of the problem in the neighborhood.

The Commission debated various scenarios for presentation to the Council. Some Commission members stressed the importance of submitting a stand-alone plan. Others believed submission of the plan with a memo outlining additional comments as presented by the City Manager would meet the Commission's purpose.

Steve Lamb moved to amend his motion to forward the Gubser Traffic Management Plan dated July 26th to the City Council as written, in addition to a letter responding to staff's recommendations to the plan as outlined in the memo dated August 15, 2002. Harlan Naegeli seconded the amendment.

Steve Prothero agreed to organize the letter for the Commission's review prior to submission as part of the City Council packet.

The motion passed as follows:

AYES: Dehlin, Jackson, Lamb, Naegeli, Ortiz and Prothero (6)

NAYES: None (0)

ABSENT: Putman (1)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

11. ADJOURN-7:00 p.m.

➤ *Next Meeting- September 26, 2002*

Chair Jackson thanked everyone for their participation and he adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.