MINUTES
CITY OF KEIZER
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
KEIZER CITY HALL LIBRARY
MAY 22, 1997

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chair Kirby at 7:05 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Mike Kirby, Ernest Smyres, and Fred George.

Also present were: Council Liaison Dennis Koho, Staff Liaison Sgt. Mark Miranda, and Recording Secretary Nona Oxe'.

3. REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES - April 24, 1997

The minutes were approved as submitted.

4. APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS

Alan Vannoy, representing the Claggett Creek/Central Keizer Neighborhood Association, relayed a concern expressed by merchants in the association about vehicles making left turns onto River Road, especially during the afternoon rush hour. He noted that cars are using the center lane to merge to go north, sometimes as many as four cars deep. He recalled hearing comments at a previous meeting about putting in a center island and allowing U-turns every few blocks. He questioned whether anything was in the works to mitigate the problem.

Mr. Vannoy responded to questions. He confirmed that no particular location was mentioned. In general, the center lane was being used as a collector lane to merge to the right into traffic. He pointed out the difficulty for people lawfully using the center turn lane to make left turns at intersections. He conceded that no one in the association had an alternative or suggestion, but wished to bring the issue to the Commission's attention.

Mayor Koho believed that when the fifth lane was put in, the accident rate on River Road decreased. Sgt. Miranda recalled that the issue of a center median was addressed a few years ago by the River Road Redevelopment Board. It was felt that the road was not wide enough, and the businesses along River Road objected to the idea. He noted that

most accidents on River Road are the result of following too close, not the improper use of the center lane.

A second issue brought up by Mr. Vannoy was a suggestion for audio signals at a few traffic signal locations in Keizer. He explained that an individual in the association is blind. She had requested that the association follow up on a request that she previously made for installation of audio signals at the River Road/Chemawa intersection, the River Road/Lockhaven intersection, and at the Lockhaven/14th Street intersection.

Mayor Koho recalled that the issue was raised at a Council meeting. Someone was supposed to look into the cost. He suspected that at some time in the future, audio signals would be required at traffic signals.

One final issue brought up by Mr. Vannoy was relative to the Traffic Safety Commission report given at Monday night's City Council meeting. He questioned why the vision clearance issue was discussed without being listed on the agenda. Mr. George noted that he gave the report. He pointed out that scheduling the matter as an agenda item would have delayed its presentation until sometime in June. He, therefore, made the presentation under "Public Testimony." Mayor Koho noted that he gave an introduction to the issue in his Council committee report. He felt that the matter was handled appropriately. It was confirmed that the issue would be discussed further later in tonight's agenda.

5. TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION VACANCIES

It was noted that prior to last month's meeting, Mr. Gorlinsky had submitted his resignation, effective at the end of the meeting. With his resignation, two vacancies exist on the Traffic Safety Commission. It was Mr. Kirby's understanding that the Volunteer Coordinating Committee was working on finding replacements. Mayor Koho was unsure of the status of the request, but suggested that if anyone on the Commission wished to submit a name, he could hurry the process along.

Mr. Kirby wondered about putting a notice of the vacancies in the newspaper. Mayor Koho noted that City Recorder Tracy Davis is the staff person who handles notices. She is also the person to contact for an application.

Mr. Kirby pointed out that in his absence last month, he was elected Vice-chair of the Commission. He questioned whether the Commission wished to elect a new Chair to replace Mr. Gorlinsky, or wait until a full Commission is seated. Mayor Koho noted that although the resolution establishing the Commission states that the mayor is to appoint the chair, he would give his approval for anyone the Commission wished to elect.

It was the consensus of the Commission to elect Mr. Kirby as chair. Mayor Koho officially appointed Mike Kirby as Chair of the Traffic Safety Commission.

Mr. Kirby indicated that he would pursue filling the two vacancies.

6. INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN BICYCLE PLANNING WORKSHOP WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 1997 AT 7 PM

Mr. Kirby called attention to an announcement of a Bicycle Planning Workshop scheduled for June 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the Keizer Council Chambers. The workshop was being hosted by the Keizer Planning Commission. The Bike Committee, Traffic Safety Commission, Parks Board, Neighborhood Associations, and LSACs were invited to participate.

Mr. Kirby and Mr. George indicated that they will attend the workshop. Mr. Smyres was unsure. Mayor Koho will be unable to attend.

Referring to a closely related topic, the SKATS Transportation Study, Mayor Koho noted that the regional bicycle advisory committee has been talking about disbanding. Their work to put together a coordinated plan has been completed, and it's now up to the local jurisdictions to implement the plan.

Joe Edgell from the Keizer Bikeways Committee was present in the audience. He commented that he had not attended the last regional bike committee meeting, but at the previous meeting he did not get the impression that they intended to disband. They had talked of plans to review the Highway 22 corridor.

7. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

GRANT PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION - FUND RAISING EFFORT - Mr. Kirby/Sgt. Miranda

Mr. Kirby noted that he was absent from last month's Commission meeting, but had reviewed the minutes of the meeting. With regard to the ODOT slide that was displayed at the meeting, he suspected that the picture of an adult wearing a helmet would concur with the grant requirement if the wording were changed to mention adult helmet usage. Mr. Kirby had talked with Walt McAllister at ODOT who gave him the name of the ad agency in Portland who produced the graphic. He then called Gard Strang Edwards Agency in Portland and was advised that to keep the graphic in tact and change the language would run about $150. Mr. Kirby noted that the grant money can be used for that purpose.

With the Commission's approval and agreement on the appropriate verbiage, Mr. Kirby indicated that he would call and have the slide made. He noted that thus far donations amount to $250 to pay for movie screen rental time. Sgt. Miranda added that $250 would

more than cover 60 days screen time. Ninety days would cost $332. He reminded the Board that the grant requires a $500 match.

Mr. Kirby had read in last month's minutes the suggestion that Keizer Traffic Safety Commission be substituted for Oregon Department of Transportation, and that the verbiage "Always wear your helmet" be added. He asked for thoughts.

A discussion followed regarding the appropriate verbiage, and the possibility of producing a slide rather than using the existing ODOT graphic. Mr. Kirby pointed out that he went after an existing graphic to save the time it would take to prepare one. Sgt. Miranda explained the process to produce a slide. Mr. Kirby had investigated the cost of producing a graphic and was told it would cost about $300, and some time.

Mr. Edgell pointed out flaws in the ODOT graphic with regard to the positions of the bike riders and pedestrians. He made suggestions for improvements if a similar graphic were produced. Sgt. Miranda suggested doing a graphic of a family on bikes with the adults wearing helmets as well as the kids. Mayor Koho suggested that it be at an identifiable Keizer location. Sgt. Miranda suggested staging the graphic in front of Whiteaker Middle School.

After discussion, the consensus was to do a separate shoot showing a family wearing helmets. The Board also agreed on a message along the lines of "Set an example for your kids--always wear your helmet," followed by "Keizer Traffic Safety Commission."

Mr. Kirby brought up the subject of also sending out a flyer with the City's water/sewer billings as was talked about last month. Mr. George liked the idea of using the ODOT "book mark" type announcements displayed last month. He noted that they include good information on traffic safety. Mr. Kirby agreed that something already produced could be used, or the Board could produce some type of pamphlet. Sgt. Miranda noted that anything included in billings must be a single sheet and be of a certain size. He agreed to check with the City's billing department to find out the appropriate size.

Mr. Kirby confirmed that he would proceed right away with the movie screen announcement.

VISION CLEARANCE PROPOSAL/ORDINANCE REVISIONS DRAFT - Sgt. Miranda/Mr. Smyres

Mr. Smyres reported that he and Mr. Kirby attended the Planning Commission hearing on the City's Development Code held on May 14. The Planning Commission was given a copy of the revised vision clearance amendments. They will review the amendments applicable to the zoning ordinance and take them into consideration during the deliberation stage of the continued hearing. Mr. Smyres noted that in addition, last

Monday, May 19, the proposed amendments were presented to the City Council where there was some discussion of the proposals.

Mr. Smyres noted that a question came up about proposed setback provisions in areas with unimproved streets. He distributed copies of another code section that he had since crafted to clarify the setback requirement. Also brought up was the issue of large trees in the planting area next to a curb. Mr. Smyres noted that he went to Salem and talked to the city engineer, legal department and the vision clearance people. They indicated that they use common sense in applying the provisions. Mr. Smyres felt that Keizer could also deal with such cases on an individual basis.

Mayor Koho suggested building into the ordinance authority for the Public Works Director to grant exemptions on a case-by-case basis. He suggested passing on the intent to the attorneys who will be drafting the ordinance in the proper form.

Mr. Kirby pointed out that the draft document was turned over to staff for review and comment. Mr. Smyres felt that before staff sends it out to the public, it should come back to the Traffic Safety Commission for a final review. The other Board members agreed.

Mr. Smyres advised that he talked yesterday with Community Development Director John Morgan. Mr. Morgan advised him that City Planner Amy Drought would be the staff person responsible for vision clearance. Mr. Kirby suggested that Mr. Smyres let Ms. Drought know that that the Commission would like to review the finalized draft before public distribution.

Mayor Koho noted that there was good support from the Council when the draft was presented.

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION WEB SITE - Mr. George

Mr. George reported that he completed a revision of the information proposed for web site publication. He had removed references to past commission members and had made other changes suggested at last month's meeting. He suggested that the finalized packet be published as soon as possible. Mr. Kirby confirmed that he had reviewed the update. Mr. George indicated that with the approval of the Commission, he would e-mail the material to Mayor Koho to load onto the Web.

Mayor Koho stated that he made the Council aware that the information would be published on the Web.

> Mr. Kirby moved that the Keizer Traffic Safety Commission web site be established in conjunction with the City of Keizer's web site. The motion was seconded by Mr. George.

Mayor Koho asked if the KTSC e-mail address mentioned in the material had actually been established. Mr. George indicated that it had not. He agreed to substitute his e-mail address before transmitting the material to Mayor Koho.

The motion carried unanimously.

8. STAFF LIAISON REPORT

Sgt. Miranda distributed copies of the Police Department's Traffic Speed Survey Statistics, Traffic Complaint Log, 1997 Accident Log, and the April *Traffic Safety Notes* published by ACTS Oregon.

Sgt. Miranda responded to questions about speed survey statistics. He perceived that the climbing accident rate could be attributed to Keizer's population increase. He suspected that the reduction in speed all over the City would result in a reduced injury level.

Mayor Koho noted that the south gateway sign was run into again. Sgt. Miranda was unaware of how it happened.

Mr. Smyres questioned whether a speed survey was done on Newberg Drive in response to Ms. Boyles' complaint.

Mr. George indicated that he had contacted Sgt. Miranda just this last Monday with the request from the Commission for a speed survey. Mayor Koho pointed out information in the Speed Survey Statistics for May 9, 1997 that indicated no speed violations. Mr. George had taken the time to monitor traffic on Newberg for a period, and also saw no problems. Sgt. Miranda indicated that a speed survey would be done in the area. Mr. George indicated that he would contact Ms. Boyles and advise her of the status of her request.

Sgt. Miranda reported that last month he and four traffic officers went to a DUII training conference in Beaverton. About 300-400 people attended, from all walks of life. He commented on the type of training they participated in, and how it would be applied. Also, Officer LeDay is currently going through DRE (Drug Recognition Expert) training which will teach him how to determine what specific drug a person is on. Officer Inman is doing bicycle presentations--he did one at Whiteaker Middle School and one at Gubser Elementary School. Next week he will do a presentation at Keizer Elementary School.

Sgt. Miranda noted that another traffic grant dealing with video cameras must be applied for before June 6. Since there are currently video cameras on all the cars, he was unsure whether the Police Department would apply.

On the subject of statistics, Mr. Smyres called attention to a pin map he put together to track problem areas in the City. He posted the map, and explained the pin color coding system he worked out to identify specific problems. He felt that the map would give a clear indication of areas where there are accidents, violations, and other traffic hazards. Already, some areas were heavily marked.

Sgt. Miranda suggested that Mr. Smyres provide him with receipts for the pins already purchased so that he could be reimbursed. Sgt. Miranda will get more pins and flags to use on the map. Because Mr. Smyres will be updating the map each month, he will keep it at his home and bring it to the meeting each month. Sgt. Miranda felt that it would be a good visual effect to show at Council meetings.

9. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Mayor Koho had nothing additional to report.

10. OTHER/NEW BUSINESS

- Mayor Koho recalled that in past summers some grassy areas along River Road were mowed to keep down the weeds. He had observed vision hazards at Hollyhock and Bever, and wondered if anything was being done. Sgt. Miranda confirmed that letters have gone out to the property owners.

- City Planner Amy Drought stopped by briefly and introduced herself to the Commission. She confirmed that she will be working on vision clearance. She suggested that Mr. Smyres contact her regarding the ordinance draft.

- Mr. Smyres questioned the status of the speed humps approved for Ridge Drive. Sgt. Miranda left the meeting briefly and returned with a copy of the project plans. He noted that the project has gone to bid. There will be eleven humps, starting just before Kennedy Elementary School and continuing up the hill to just beyond the Little League Park. Sgt. Miranda responded to questions about the speed study done prior to approval of the speed humps.

- Mr. Smyres asked about the status of a sidewalk proposed for construction on the south side of Chemawa Road from the Safeway store to Verda Lane. He had been told by City staff that they were waiting till Spring. Sgt. Miranda was unaware of the proposal and had no information.

- Mr. Smyres reported that the "No Parking" signs along River Road are faded out. He questioned whether the City had a sign department. Sgt. Miranda answered that Marion County Public Works does the City's sign work. A while back he had talked with Public Works Director Mull about the problem and was advised that all the signs

need to be replaced. The cost is the main obstacle. Sgt. Miranda indicated that he would again check with Mr. Mull. Mr. Smyres suggested that something also be done about two partially obscured speed signs; one behind a Fir Tree by the Bi-Mart store, and one at the Keizer Nursery in the 4500 block of River Road.

- Mr. Smyres questioned the legality of kids riding unrestrained in the back of pick-up trucks. He had observed a truckload of kids with nothing to restrain them if they were to be in accident. Sgt. Miranda shared his concern. He noted that there is currently no law requiring seat belts in the back of trucks.

- Mr. Smyres noted that several different groups in Keizer are involved in bike safety efforts. He questioned whether the intention was for the groups to merge. Mr. George recalled Mayor Koho's comments at last month's meeting, that Council would be looking at the structuring of boards and commissions.

  Mayor Koho anticipated the issue would be resolved in the near future. He reiterated that the main problem now is that a Councilor and staff person is expected at each meeting, putting a strain on staffing resources. He emphasized the need for better management. He confirmed that input will be solicited from the Traffic Safety Commission at the appropriate time, but welcomed the Commission to be proactive in making suggestions.

  Mr. George noted that he and Mr. Smyres were new to the Commission at the time goals were approved. He suggested that once a full commission is seated, a review of the goals be put on the agenda. Mr. Kirby agreed with waiting for a full commission. He noted, however, that action had been taken on many of the identified goals.

  Mr. George was particularly interested in coming to some resolution with regard to bike safety issues--whether or not to proceed with the goal for bike rodeos, or to shift responsibility for those efforts to some other commission or committee. Mr. Kirby felt that in the process of reviewing goals there would be opportunity to discuss the Commission's focus, and whether combining groups should be pursued.

  A lengthy discussion followed regarding the need to avoid a duplication of efforts by the Traffic Safety Commission and Bikeways Committee. Mr. Edgell from the Bikeways Committee responded to question about the bike committee's interest in issues being pursued by the Traffic Safety Commission. Sgt. Miranda pointed out that the Bikeways Committee cannot get grants from ODOT; the Traffic Safety Commission, as a Council appointed advisory commission, can.

Mr. Edgell reported on activities of the Bikeways Committee. One specific issue generating considerable interest is a proposal for a bike path between Spongs Landing and Willamette Mission Park.

After considerable discussion of the need to coordinate efforts, the secretary was instructed to list "Bikeway Committee Report" as an ongoing item on the Traffic Safety Commission agenda.

- Mr. Smyres questioned whether any response had been received with regard to the suggestion for a traffic light in front of the fire station. Sgt. Miranda had not received from Mr. Gorlinsky a request to provide historical speed and accident data for the area. Mr. Edgell objected to the proposed light, pointing out that it would cause a problem for volunteers trying to get to the station. Mayor Koho felt that if there was a need, the request should come from the fire district. It was pointed out that Fire Chief Greg Frank was at last month's meeting, and seemed to be in favor of a light at the station. After further discussion, Sgt. Miranda agreed to talk with Chief Frank to get a sense as to whether a study might be appropriate.

- Mr. George questioned whether Mr. Gorlinsky had referred to Sgt. Miranda the request for a speed reduction on Wheatland Road. Mr. George had observed the current lack of speed signs along the road, and in monitoring traffic for about an hour, agreed that there were some serious speed problems.

  Sgt. Miranda explained the ODOT application procedure to get a speed reduction. He noted that in the past he has provided the complainant with the ODOT form to begin the process prior to the City's involvement. He agreed to see that Ms. Moyer of the Gubser Neighborhood Association and District 3 Policing receives an application.

- Mr. Smyres questioned the status of the Fortune Cookie code compliance issue. A discussion followed regarding responsibility for zoning violations and other code enforcement. Mayor Koho and Sgt. Miranda indicated that they would pursue the issue.

11. ADJOURNMENT

JOINT MEETING WITH PLANNING COMMISSION JUNE 4, 1997
NEXT REGULAR MEETING JUNE 26, 1997

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Kirby at 8:50 p.m.