

Traffic Safety Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2007

Committee Members Present: Lynn Archibald, Randy Reese, Eric Sundberg, Trudy Porter, Lyle Wakefield, Rick Robbins, Roscoe Orton, Graydon Burton, Jodi Weimer, John Millar.

Approval of Minutes

Eric Sundberg motioned to approve the minutes for March 6, 2007.

Rick Robbins seconded the motion. All voted aye, none opposed. **Motion carried.**

Reports

Police

No report this month.

Streets

No report this month.

New Business

There is still no status on Jan Crawford joining the traffic safety committee.

Committee Bylaws

There is no status on the Committee Bylaws. Council Member Randy Schwendiman was going to get these reviewed by the city council at the February 7, 2007 meeting.

Quadrant Reports

Public Works Director John Millar has requested with Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) to put in a dedicated turn lane at the intersection of 5th West and Main Street. This is part of Highway 33 so ITD must approve any changes.

John Millar's Request – Review of Traffic Flow in Alleyways North and South of Main Street

Public Works Director Millar explained that a bid has been awarded for the alleyways. A meeting is scheduled later this week with a landscape architect. The committee will further discuss this at the next meeting on May 1, 2007.

Lyle Wakefield – Traffic congestion at Pioneer Road and Main Street

This intersection will be restriped sometime in June depending on weather.

Traffic lights at Main Street and 2nd East

The city is in the process of redesigning this intersection. This will be done weather permitting.

Pedestrian crosswalk near the Middle School

Mr. Archibald spoke with Mike Bennett the principle of the middle school. Mr. Bennett is more concerned about pedestrian traffic at the intersection at 5th West and 7th South. Mr. Robbins asked about putting in a crossing guard at this intersection. There may not be enough traffic to warrant a crossing guard, but Mr. Bennett is going to talk to his teaching staff for any suggestions. Poor lighting by the intersections with crosswalks are also a concern.

Greg Wilcox explained the intersections along 2nd East have several dark intersections and a lot of space between lights. Mr. Archibald explained that new lighting is needed and in process south of the Ricks building on BYU-I campus and north of the Ridge apartment complex. Mr. Robbins is concerned about children from the middle school crossing at the intersection on Trejo. Crossing East-West is not a problem but North-South is a problem. Crosswalks are not being used. The speed limit is 45mph which is very high when children cross. Jodi Weimer commented that a crossing guard would be the most cost effective solution at the intersection in front of the middle school. Public Works Director John Millar asked for any suggestions where additional lighting is needed.

National Parking Survey by BYU-Idaho

Public Works Director Millar explained nothing has been done on this. Before any building permits are allowed the event parking plan will have to be completed.

Meeting with City of Rexburg and School District

The school is still looking at where they will site the new schools. No study will be done until this is decided.

Randy Reese recommending that the intersection of 4th South/1st West be modified during the current construction period, changing to two way stop from 4 way stop.

Traffic backs up from 1st West to 5th South going North-South. East-West traffic is much less because of the construction. A 2-way stop instead of the current 4-way stop would eliminate some of this congestion. Public Works Director explained that this road is closed indefinitely until the construction is completed. This will be between two and three years at least. There is a lot of pedestrian traffic going up 4th South that may warrant a 4 way stop. Further observation will be given and the committee will look at this next meeting.

Pedestrian light in front the Snow Building repaired yet?

This has not been done yet. It will be done as soon as weather permits.

Greg Wilcox – complete discussion about proposed crosswalks near BYU-I, and further discussion on jaywalking by students as discussed in March’s meeting. Review and determine status on 5 additional proposed crosswalks.

1st West between 3rd South and 4th South across from Royal Crest needs an additional crosswalk. Will the crosswalk be used if one is put in? Greg Wilcox believes that an additional crosswalk will help and encourage students to use it. Mr. Archibald recommended taking out the crosswalk on the south side of the intersection and moving it down in front of the tennis courts so there isn't a crosswalk every 100 feet. Lyle Wakefield is concerned about moving the crosswalk from the south side of the intersection. Greg Wilcox explained that the south crosswalk is used more than the north crosswalk. Public Works Director explained that they highly discourage midblock crosswalks. If one was put in midblock it would be very expensive. Mr. Archibald recommended postponing any action until construction is finished and they can better evaluate traffic flow.

Lyle Wakefield motioned to postpone action and evaluate this situation again when construction is finished. Graydon Burton seconded the motion. All voted aye, none opposed. **Motion carried.**

Greg Wilcox explained in a study that was done they found that 57% of students jaywalk and only 43% use crosswalks. Public Works Director John Millar explained BYU-Idaho is working to educate jaywalkers as well as vehicle traffic. Currently for first time offenders, jaywalkers are given a warning and the second time a citation is given. Very few citations have been given because after receiving a warning the student uses the crosswalks. Mr. Wilcox also explained that part of new student orientation for the university will include information about jaywalking.

7th South and Center Street a crosswalk has already been approved.

2nd East and 7th South, crossing 2nd East this will be postponed until the Temple is completed.

1st West and Corner of West Campus Drive there is a crosswalk on south side of the street but an additional crosswalk is needed on the north side of the street. Public Works Director Millar does not see a problem with putting in a crosswalk on the north side of this intersection. There are equal amounts of foot traffic on both sides of this intersection.

Roscoe Orton moved to put in a crosswalk on the north side of this intersection. Rick Robbins seconded the motion. All voted aye, none opposed. **Motion carried.**

Center Street between 5th South and 7th South needs a crosswalk between the BYU-Idaho Baseball Field parking lot and the Auxiliary Services parking lot. Public Works Director Millar explained that this is a campus street, not a city street so any changes will need to come from the university. Randy Reese will discuss this with BYU-Idaho campus.

2nd South and 1st East has traffic congestion problems at times. This has been discussed and will be reviewed in the future as things change.

Greg Wilcox also explained that lights do not work at the crosswalks by the Hart Building. Rocky Mountain Power will replace these light bulbs from 70 watt to 100 watt. Public Works Director Millar will look into the lighting problem.

Randy Reese explained on 7th South there is only one light working at 2nd East.

Review & discuss status of 4 way stop at 2nd East/2nd South. Convert to two way stop proceeding East & West, through traffic North & South?

Mr. Archibald asked the committee to look at this intersection to see about changing it from a 4 way stop to a 2 way stop. Public Works Director Millar said there is traffic at this intersection during class changes throughout the day. The committee decided the 4 way stop needs to stay.

Concerns

Rick Robbins asked when Millhollow Road will be redone. Public Works Director Millar explained this project is already under contract. Once the subdivision is completed the road will be redone. The homeowners will pay for the ribbon curb going on this road and the city will pay for the street widening.

Eric Sundberg explained on 1st West there is a huge pot hole that needs to be fixed. Public Works Director Millar will work on filling this hole as soon as possible.

Graydon Burton asked about lights at off ramps on Hwy 33 and US 20. Several accidents have happened at these off ramps. This falls under Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) jurisdiction because they are state roads. April Howard will work to get an accident history report.

Next Meeting date— May 1, 2007

Meeting adjourned.