

**Traffic Safety Board Members**

Roscoe Orton	Trudy Porter
Stephen C Smith	Rick Robbins
Reed Neilson	Eric Sundberg
Graydon Burton	Lyle Wakefield
Kevin Brady	Jody Weimer
Garth Gunderson	

**Those who were present:**

Roscoe Orton  
Stephen C Smith  
Reed Neilson  
Graydon Burton  
Richard Woodland  
John Millar  
Natalie Powell  
Eric Larson BYU-I student from southern California  
Afton Despain BYU-I student from North Carolina writing a paper for a communication class

**Chairman Roscoe Orton**-conducted the Traffic & Safety Board meeting. He welcomed all those in attendance and thanked them for coming.

**Approval of September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010 minutes:** There were not enough committee members in attendance to approve the minutes.

**Chairman Roscoe Orton**- mentioned the recent newspaper article where Randy Lewis was quoted concerning pedestrian safety and driver awareness. It was a very well written article. The newspaper has been very good to work with the City in getting information out to the public.

**Mayor Richard Woodland**-stated he would speak to the University concerning putting reflectors on bikes, backpacks, dark clothing, cell phones etc. He suggested that perhaps the University would provide reflectors or armbands to their students because in the dark it is very difficult to see pedestrians. There needs to be more education given to the students regarding safety.

**John Millar**- reported on the city projects in progress. He stated that 12<sup>th</sup> West was finished early Sunday morning. City Council choose to go with a 38' road providing two 12' driving lanes and two 7' wide shoulders being used for a pedestrian walkway, which may not be as good as a bike path, however it is providing a fairly safe pathway. The striping on the road will be done soon. The traffic at the corner of 12<sup>th</sup> West and University in the morning and after school is very heavy for about 15-20 minutes. The four way stop that was put in at 12<sup>th</sup> and University was causing traffic to back up to the on/off ramps of Highway 20. The stop signs going east and west have been removed while north and south bound traffic will continue to stop. The speed limit is posted as 35mph all along 12<sup>th</sup> West. Extra patrol officers have been assigned to assist in these areas. The traffic count numbers were about the same the first week coming down 12<sup>th</sup> West as it was on University. Now that the road as been redone, we would like to see how those numbers sort out. The plan is that when the kids come back to school after spud harvest, that we give them about a week to find their route to school and then conduct another traffic count. The traffic study will help to see numbers and what direction traffic is coming from, what maneuvers are being made etc. This study will help determine whether we need a signal, a roundabout, four way stop or if what we have there is adequate. We will work together to come up with a long term solution.

Last month it was brought up that students would be walking down University and crossing Yellowstone and the fact that there is no crosswalk at that location. John stated that he has closely watched that area several different mornings and he never seen any pedestrians. There are no residential areas near this intersection, so at this time there are no plans to provide a crosswalk. It will be monitored and may change in the future. Other cross walks that have been put in and signed are the crosswalks for the Burton Elementary children near the Kartchner Subdivision. Second South is complete near the Hemming property, except for the decorative lights that Hemmings will install once they arrive. The trouble with the traffic light at 7<sup>th</sup> South and Yellowstone will be switched over to a camera control system. There are many BYU-I students coming and going up and down 7<sup>th</sup> South causing traffic to back up. This camera controlled system will help move traffic and the flow will be better. Over the Summer the City has gotten the bike path tied in at the North town Horkley's and redid the pedestrian signals so there is a safe way to come across from that Sugar City bike path.

**Graydon Burton**-mentioned that the off ramp of Highway 20 located at West Main is overgrown with weeds and is causing an obstruction of vision as oncoming traffic cannot be seen. John Millar stated that he will have Bill Blair from the City Street Department get the weeds trimmed down right away. Graydon didn't have anything further to report from his area.

**John Millar**-informed the board members that the City Council will meet and be doing a drive around tomorrow to see what roads and new projects will be done this coming year. Regarding the Bypass to be put in, there is a final public hearing meeting scheduled for November 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm located in the Commissioners Room of the Madison County Courthouse. It was encouraged that all those that have an opinion or interest in that Bypass to please attend the meeting. John stated the Hawk Signal light is up and working properly again at Taco Time. The controller on the light went out the first morning that BYU-I was back in session. The cost was covered under warranty. The Pioneer Road project of connecting it to Main Street has been completed. The area that is left in the middle will eventually be landscaped by the City Parks Department; they are just getting started on this project and already have the sprinkler pipe laid out. The old Pioneer Road serves as a parking lot for the park.

**Stephen C Smith**-was asked to report. He stated that near the old Craigo's Building on 3<sup>rd</sup> West there is a safety concern. The striping and parking are overlapping. John Millar stated that the City is in the process of removing the striping and making it one lane.

**Reed Neilson**- was asked to report. He asked what had been done about the large pine tree located on the corner of 5<sup>th</sup> West and 4<sup>th</sup> South on the Magnuson Hotel property. Compliance Officer Natalie Powell reported that she had discussed the safety issue with the owner AC Patel. AC has agreed to trim the tree. She will follow up next week to ensure it gets done. John Millar stated he met with the transportation department and there are some funds available and they would like the City of Rexburg to make an inventory of all of our Railroad Crossings. We will conduct a study on the conditions, problems, and challenges in these areas. Then we will submit a report back to ITD and seek funding to redo some of those crossings. They may need to be replanked and/or signals may be added. Reed also report a concern with the right hand turn lane on 7<sup>th</sup> South onto 2<sup>nd</sup> East. Currently it is only painted on the road as a right hand only turn lane. The suggestion was made to add signage so as when it snows and covers the road, drivers will still be aware that it is a turn lane only.

The bridge on 7<sup>th</sup> South located at the Southgate apartments has been signed as “no parking at any time” The Trejo & Mariah road project is completed and looks good.

**Discussion on Traffic Safety Bylaws:** Discussion took place concerning the lack of participation and attendance of board members. For the last couple of meetings there haven't been enough voting members present at the meetings to form a quorum. The suggestion was made to have the secretary contact the members and ask them if they would like to continue serving on this board or if they would like to be released. The Bylaws state “Committee members are encouraged to attend a majority of meetings. Any member having more than 2 unexcused absences per year may be excused from serving on the Traffic/Safety Committee.”

**Chairman Roscoe Orton:** Thanked those in attendance for coming and for their comments and concerns. If there is anything you would like to add to next month's agenda, please contact City Hall. He then adjourned the meeting until the next meeting to be held at City Hall November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:15pm. If you are unable to attend please contact City Hall at 359-3020.