

# Traffic and Safety Committee Meeting

January 8, 2013 Minutes



CITY OF  
**REXBURG**  
America's Family Community

**Mayor Richard Woodland**

**Traffic and Safety Committee Members:**

Rick Robbins-Chairman  
Reed Nielsen-Vice Chair  
Roscoe Orton  
Ryan Ballard  
Lyle Wakefield  
Virginia Pratt  
Blake Garner

Jerry Merrill-City Council Liaison  
John Millar – Staff Liaison/Public Works  
Randy Lewis- Staff Liaison/Police Captain  
Doug Barker-University Security Liaison  
Dee Dee Tucker- City Staff/minutes

**Those that were present: Rick Robbins, Reed Nielsen, Blake Garner, Doug Barker, Ryan Ballard, Lyle Wakefield, Roscoe Orton, Dee Dee Tucker**

**Rick Robbins opened the meeting and welcomed those in attendance.**

**1. Review and Approve Minutes:**

- a. All minutes approved to date.

**2. Unfinished / Old Business:**

Rick Robbins asked about street lights. John Millar replied with projects are in motion and 4<sup>th</sup> N and Barney Dairy also the Chevron lights are up and will have power soon. Decorative lights are being installed on East of 2<sup>nd</sup> N. and each crosswalk there will have 40 ft. pole with a high intensity light. The city is looking at putting a rapid flashing beacon light on the roundabout.

Rick Robbins asked about the intersection by 0500 Mechanics. John Millar replied they are going to redo North 5<sup>th</sup> this year and work on South 5<sup>th</sup> West next year and complete and engineer study on the corner.

Roscoe Orton informed the group that the lights at the Nature Park are finally working.

**3. New Business:**

**a. Introduction of new Committee Member Ryan Ballard**

- i. Brief introduction by Ryan Ballard new member lives in Hidden Valley and has a law practice on 2<sup>nd</sup> East.

**b. Explanation from John on how and when roads are plowed and sanded**

- i. Dispatch is responsible for calling out sanders and plows when they feel the roads are in need. The City developed a policy to plow when snow reaches a point of two inches and rising. Street department has two people on call 24 hours a day. Main roads are taken care of first and then the crews work their way through out the remaining streets.

**c. Discussion on options for University and 12<sup>th</sup> West**

- i. Looking into traffic study
- ii. Need for lighting

- d. Concerns about the round-a-bout
  - i. Committee felt the roundabout is a good thing and we need to keep it. New crosswalk will be installed soon to help with the pedestrian travel. Lyle Wakefield suggested that the crosswalks be moved back to allow driver to complete the turn prior to entering the crosswalk. The main complaint is pedestrian congestion.
- e. Pedestrian Crossings
  - i. Committee agrees that there needs to be a study done at the Main Street Diamonds crosswalk. ITD may be synchronizing lights and include the crosswalks. Very tentative. May decide to remove that crosswalk all together.
- f. Topics to include in public service announcement for Share the Road campaign
  - i. See PSA after Adjournment

4. Quadrant Reports:

Rick Robbins asked about future plans at the corner by BMC West and the Mill. John Millar said that the plan is to purchase the properties on either side city owned house to allow for straightening the corner and making it a better intersection all together. Long term, possibly three years out.

Lyle Wakefield asked about the light at Artco and was wondering why it doesn't stay consistent. John Millar replied that the camera is returning to max recall. A new camera has been ordered.

Reed Nielsen asked about the road going around the outside of town to 7<sup>th</sup> South. John Millar notified the committee that the plans for that road are still in the works but pressure to build went with the building market and will pick up again when building comes back up.

5. Report from Committee Members concerning Safety Issues

6. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by *Roscoe Orton* 2<sup>nd</sup> by Reed Nielsen

**Public Service Announcement.**

Pedestrian - It's your life!

Lately there have been several accidents between vehicles and pedestrians. This time of year it is very important that we all work together to ensure safety for all. With snow on the ground, drivers cannot always recognize the designated crosswalk, as the painted lines cannot be seen. Although the crosswalks usually are also indicated by a sign or lighted beacon, you as a pedestrian, cannot assume that the driver will see you or that they are going to stop for you. On the same note, drivers cannot assume that the pedestrian is going to wait for the beacon to light or even activate the flashing light. As a pedestrian please remember that it is your life and you need to be responsible for it. Although facilities have been installed to improve your safety, there is always a chance that the driver does not see you or will be able to stop, and you may be hit. Please be on the defensive side and protect yourself by taking the following measures:

- Stop, Look and Listen (Rail Road instructions)

- Follow Ordinance 1019 (*full description @ [www.rexburg.org](http://www.rexburg.org)*)
- Activate crosswalk electronic devices
- Attempt to make eye contact with the drivers.
- Verify the device has started and is indicating to drivers you are there.
- Use hand held flags, if available, to increase your visibility to drivers.
- Wait for oncoming traffic to stop before stepping off curb.
- Cross the street with a **fast pace** looking at each driver as you pass
- Enjoy the rest of your day.

As part of the “Share the Road” program we would like to encourage a safe and courteous interaction with pedestrians and drivers. We want everyone to return home safely and minimize pedestrian/vehicle encounters. As we all know, the end result of a pedestrian/vehicle encounter is often deadly. Remember that accidents happen, so when in doubt, remember it is your life protect it!