

Traffic Safety Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2007

Committee Members Present: Lynn Archibald, Roscoe Orton, Graydon Burton, Eric Sundberg, Jodi Weimer, John Millar, Randy Lewis, and Randy Reese.

Lynn Archibald welcomed the committee and introduced April Howard as the new secretary and visitor Gregory Wilcox.

Approval of Minutes

Eric Sundberg moved to approve the minutes for February 6, 2007.

Graydon Burton seconded it.

All approved.

Reports

Police

The speed counter is out on 12th West. They are writing tickets as needed. Jodi Weimer who lives over by 12th West said the speed counter seems to be helping. They are still having problems with trucks going down this street. The “no truck” signs have just recently been put up. Mr. Archibald explained that the problem with the truck signs is that you actually have to turn onto 12th West before you see them. Once a truck is on the road, they have no way to turn around. They are still hoping that the “no truck” signs help.

There was a school bus accident on 7th South that happened 3-5-07. Pedestrians were crossing at an intersection; there are no crosswalks within 500 ft. of the intersection, so it is legal for pedestrians to cross here. This was a school district issue. One bus was stopped for pedestrians when a second bus failed to stop and rear-ended the back of the other bus. They have not yet been able to speak to the driver to get details of the situation.

Streets

Public Works Director, John Millar is still working with the State of Idaho to get a dedicated turn lane at Main Street and 2nd East on the North/South route. It is tentatively planned to be installed by summer, 2007. This will require a new system on the existing poles.

Old Business

The light at 7th South and 1st West is now fixed.

New Business

There are no new nominees for the Traffic Safety Committee. They have not yet heard a status on Jan Crawford. Mr. Archibald is not sure if she has been asked and didn't want to do it, or if she still needs to be asked to join the committee. He will try to find out the status on Jan by the next meeting.

Committee Bylaws

The Bylaws have been emailed to Council Member Randy Schwendiman who was going to get these reviewed by the city council at the February 7, 2007 meeting. The committee has not yet heard a status on this.

Quadrant Reports

Public Works Director Millar is working with the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) to see if any improvements can be made to the safety of the intersection of 5th West and Main Street.

Citizen's request – Wes Lawrence – requested to have speed reduced from 35 mph to 25 mph on South 5th West.

Public Works Director Millar explained that the completion of University Blvd should slow traffic down quit a bit. No action will be taken until University Blvd is completed. Stop signs will be installed on the North/South route so travelers on 5th West will have to stop.

Graydon Burton wanted to know if there was any way to stop the water from crossing from the hill across the highway onto 7th South. Some days it is like a lake at the end of the street. Eventually this will fix itself once homes get built in there. This is going to be a problem until homes are put in this area.

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

Public Works Director Millar said the city is still trying to figure out what they are going to do in these alleys. The city is bidding the sewer line replacement next week in one alley. This item will be discussed at the next meeting on April 3, 2007.

Lyle Wakefield – Traffic congestion at Pioneer Road and Main Street

The committee talked about restriping the street at the section of Pioneer Road and Main Street. The restriping will make a left hand and a right hand turn lane. This will not happen until the weather warms up enough to restripe the road. It will be at least a few more months.

Traffic lights at Main Street and 2nd East

The city is in the process of redesigning this intersection. Funds have been committed to this project. It will cost about \$35,000 for a new cabinet and wiring to give a dedicated left turn signal.

Pedestrian crosswalk near the Middle School

Mr. Archibald has not been able to contact Mike Bennett, the principal of the middle school. He has driven by this intersection several times and said there is not a real easy solution. Pedestrians are not always using the crosswalk and are walking between

waiting vehicles. This is a potentially hazardous situation since there is very bad visibility at times. Mr. Archibald will continue to try and follow up with Mike Bennett this month to see if he has any suggestions.

Exit at the Snow Building parking lot creates delays

Randy Reese talked with BYU-Idaho who is not opposed to improvements. Mr. Reese did a survey of the Snow Building parking lot. They did the survey on a Wednesday which is one of the heaviest class load days, and it was done during class breaks. They had someone just stay outside the parking lot and count cars and the number of seconds it took them to clear the lot from the time they pulled up to turn onto 2nd South. With this survey, they determined there is no need to put in a right turn only sign. The most any car waited was 80 seconds with an average wait time of 21.9 seconds. Graydon Burton asked about the accident history on this road. Mr. Reese reported that in two years, they found two accidents. The entire parking lot is usable. There is a problem when big events are hosted. Mr. Reese explained that they are going to work to have an officer available to direct traffic when large events are held. All traffic will be directed to the east at this time. BYU-Idaho will support this. The committee decided that they don't need to take any further action on this except when there are big events.

National Parking Survey by BYU-Idaho

Public Works Director Millar explained that this is not a national parking survey; they are conducting an "event parking plan." No data has been received as of yet. The committee will talk about this next month once data is received.

Meeting with City of Rexburg and School District

The City and the School District had a meeting to finalize the designs on the locations of the new schools. Public Works Director Millar reported that the city is meeting with the architect on Thursday. They need to do a traffic study to see how this will affect traffic. Anything that affects traffic requires a traffic study. The school district has 160 acres to the North. They have been planning to put the new schools there. The school was talking about selling off some of the land to the South for residential development, however, there were some concerns about this. Public Works Director Millar explained that right now, they are trying to decide the sites of the two schools and the disposition of the remaining property. Jodi Weimer wanted to know why the school decided to go north. It was explained that this helps them avoid having to pay for University Blvd, and also more valuable commercial real estate is to the south. More information on the traffic study will be available on Thursday.

Concerns

Graydon Burton has a concern on the corner by the Christmas tree next to Upper Valley Industries. The wiring on the pavement is up on the road. Public Works Director Millar explained that this wiring is no longer used.

Roscoe Orton said the pedestrian light in front of the Snow Building does not work on the south side. Public Works Director Millar said that as soon as the weather warms up enough, they will work to get this operational.

Greg Wilcox -- BYU-Idaho Student Representative Council

A study was done on students jaywalking. The study found that approximately 61% of students jaywalk rather than use a crosswalk. The Student Representative Council would like to propose that a few additional crosswalks be put in five different locations where jaywalking seems to be more prevalent. The proposed areas are:

- 7th South and 2nd East between BYU-Idaho property and The Ridge
- 7th South and Center Street
- 1st West between 3rd South and 4th South across from Royalcrest
- 1st West and West Campus Drive need a crosswalk on South side of street
- Center Street between 5th South and 7th South

They also wanted to propose a four-way stop at the intersection of 1st South and 2nd South by the Kirkham building. This is currently a two-way stop and at some points traffic is backed up to 3rd South. Public Works Director Millar explained that they did study this intersection. Two meetings ago, it was decided not to put a four way stop in because the traffic flows well most of the time. It does get backed up during class changes for a very short period of time. A four-way stop would slow the traffic flow down all of the time. The committee felt that this intersection is not enough of a problem to warrant a four-way stop. Mr. Archibald explained that much of this problem is a mindset of students. Many students live within a block of campus, yet they still drive to school. The goal of BYU-Idaho is to be a walking campus. Students need to be law abiding citizens. Jaywalking needs to go back on the students. Mr. Archibald would like to study these proposals to discuss with the committee next month. Police Captain Randy Lewis suggested getting groups of students together to do an educational class on jaywalking at BYU-Idaho.

Next meeting April 3, 2007 at 5:15 pm

Meeting adjourned.

BYU-Idaho Snow Parking Lot
Traffic Study
January 10th, 2007

This study was conducted at the Second South St. entrance to the Snow Parking Lot during class breaks. The study included the number of vehicles exiting the parking lot, the direction the vehicles turned, and the wait time it took each vehicle to exit the lot. The study was conducted on a Wednesday.

Time	Turn West	Avg. Wait Time	Longest Wait Time	Turn East	Avg. Wait Time	Longest Wait Time
0955 - 1015	14	20.5 sec.	47 sec.	22	9.8 sec.	28 sec.
1110 - 1130	21	18.3 sec.	58 sec.	26	9.3 sec.	25 sec.
1225 - 1245	14	31.2 sec.	70 sec.	25	21.8 sec.	60 sec.
1340 - 1400	13	21.9 sec.	80 sec.	23	13.5 sec.	40 sec.
1455 - 1515	16	12.8 sec.	29 sec.	16	5.9 sec.	22 sec.
1610 - 1630	9	14.6 sec.	39 sec.	19	2.5 sec.	9 sec.

Summary: 87 vehicles turned west with an average wait time of 21 seconds.
131 vehicles turned east with an average wait time of 10.4 seconds.
Longest wait for a vehicle turning west was 80 seconds.
Longest wait for a vehicle turning east was 60 seconds.

March 6, 2007 .

Traffic and Safety Committee meeting – Rexburg, Idaho

As students of Brigham Young University – Idaho, we have noticed a problem with students jaywalking. According to a statistical analysis, approximately 61 percent of students do not use crosswalks. In order to help combat this problem, I, Gregory M. Wilcox, a member of the BYU-Idaho Student Representative Council, propose that additional crosswalks be made around the BYU-Idaho campus. We hope that having more crosswalks available to students will increase the likelihood of them actually using a crosswalk. I propose that crosswalks be made in the following locations:

- On 1st West, between 3rd South and 4th South, between the Hart Building and Royal Crest apartment complex.
- At the corner of Center St. and 7th South, crossing 7th South, and on the East side of Center St.
- At the corner of 2nd East and 7th South, crossing 2nd East, and on the North side of 7th South.
- At the corner of W. Campus Dr. and 1st West, crossing 1st West, and on the North side of W. Campus Dr.
- On Center Street, between 5th South and 7th South, between BYU-Idaho's Baseball Field Parking Lot and Auxiliary Services Parking Lot.

We also have noticed a traffic congestion problem at the intersection of 1st South and 1st East. We propose that the current 2-way stop at the intersection be changed to a 4-way stop. This will help traffic flow smoother, and reduce the speed of traffic on 1st South.

Signed _____

Gregory M. Wilcox
Community Coordinator
BYU-Idaho Student Representative Council