

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
June 18, 2014

COMMISSION PRESENT: John Nelson, Frank Pyles, Chuck Covert, Mike Kilkenny,
Jim Bishop and Donna Lawrence.

ABSENT MEMBERS: John Layson

STAFF PRESENT: Dale McCabe – City Engineer, Tim McGlothlin – Council
Representative and Cindy Keever – Administrative
Secretary

PUBLIC PRESENT: Ethan Wray

Chuck Covert made a motion to approve the May minutes as written. Mike Kilkenny seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT/AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/PRESENTATIONS:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) 10th & Thompson

John Nelson asked Tim McGlothlin if he had talked to the City Council regarding concerns the Traffic Safety Commission members have regarding the 10th and Thompson budget item. Tim has not, but will ask to have it put on next month's agenda.

2) Site Issues at 12th & Thompson Intersection

John asked Dale McCabe if any of the shrubs have been trimmed. When cars are parked on the east side and are looking south it is difficult to see traffic traveling down the hill. Dale was not sure if any trimming had been done. Dale told members the manufactured home and shrubs on the SE corner are both on private property and they are not causing a site problem. The power pole that is set at the corner is causing the visibility issue.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Resignation of John Layson

A letter was received from John Layson regretfully submitting his resignation as a Traffic Safety Commission member effective immediately. John's letter was forwarded to the City Clerk and the City has begun accepting applications for the vacated position.

2) Site Visibility Issues

A discussion was held regarding various locations that need vegetation trimmed or even possibly removed.

- * Alley west of Union Street between 12th & 13th needs the shrubs trimmed.
- * Traffic heading east and west while entering into the roundabout, the vegetation (Russian Sage), is too tall and needs trimmed because it is difficult to see the traffic that is already in the roundabout.
- * At 14th and Lincoln the trees planted in the parking strip are making it difficult to look west and see oncoming traffic. Dale will do a vision triangle and report back to the Commission.
- * On 14th Street, west of Kelly Avenue, there is a large fishing boat that parks on the street. Although cones are put at the corners to help with visibility, the road is too narrow to park the large boat on the street. Information will be passed along to the Police Chief.

3) I84 Exit 83 Off Ramp and West 6th Street

Donna Lawrence brought up the difficulty of entering onto West 6th Street from I84's Exit 83 (in front of Denny's Restaurant). This area has been discussed many times over the years because of the continuing difficulty when making a left hand turn onto West 6th. Discussion evolved regarding the large volume of traffic on 6th Street during the day and the substantial increase in traffic (4000 to 5000 cars) during cherry harvest and the change in traffic that could occur when the old Armory site is developed. The question was asked if a traffic light is proposed for this intersection. Dale will contact ODOT regarding the questions and ask about ODOT's future plans for this exit and report back to the Commission.

4) 7th Street Extension

Dale gave an update regarding the new West 7th Street that is being designed and the MOG Transportation Center.

5) 1st and Union (Boat Dock Area) Congestion

Tim McGlothlin reported the trash from the docked cruise ships was being carried across 1st Street to waiting garbage trucks which was causing added congestion to the area. The Dalles Disposal trucks have changed their pickup route and are now parking on the river side of 1st Street so their employees no longer need to walk across 1st Street.

6) PSA for Roundabout Driving Rules

Tim McGlothlin recommended the Traffic Safety Commission put together a Public Service Announcement (PSA) letting drivers know what they need to do while in a roundabout. He suggested the PSA be put in the paper and on the radio and both an English and Spanish version should run too. All commissioners agreed this was a good idea.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chuck Covert moved to adjourn. Mike Kilkenny seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Cindy Keever
Administrative Secretary
City of The Dalles

Final approval

John Nelson