

**TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**7:00 p.m., Monday, May 11, 2009**  
**Public Safety Building, 401 E. Third Street, Newberg, OR**

*“Mission Statement: To give the citizens of Newberg a forum to voice traffic safety concerns, evaluate related issues, provide a liaison with the City and promote traffic safety within the community.”*

**Members**

**Present:** Chair Michael Simpson      Jennifer Dawson (Vice Chair)      Doris Brandt  
Neal Klein      Bryce Jones      Dick Meyer  
Ronald Sult      Lesley Woodruff

**Members**

**Absent:** Andrew Cookson (excused)

**Staff**

**Present:** Paul Chiu, Senior Engineer      Mary Newell, Support Services Manager  
Tim Weaver, Police Sergeant      Jennifer Nelson, Recording Secretary

**Others**

**Present:** Turid Olsen, Brian Peterson, Steve Golden, and Councilor Bob Larson

**CHAIR MICHAEL SIMPSON CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM.**

**A) Review and approve minutes of April 13, 2009**

<p><b>MOTION:</b> Jones/Brandt to approve the Traffic Safety Commission Minutes for April 13, 2009. (8 Yes/0 No/1 Absent [Cookson]) Motion carried.</p>
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**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

Ms. Turid Olsen expressed concerns about the intersection of Springbrook Road and Vittoria Way (she distributed an illustration) and visibility issues. She was concerned for vehicles cutting the corner while turning left onto Vittoria Way from Springbrook Road, especially with a school crossing there. She asked for a curved, dotted line to be painted on the road to keep drivers in their lane.

Chair Simpson asked what is blocking the visibility at that corner.

Ms. Olsen said there were apartment buildings on both sides and many trees; the road also goes back at an angle.

Chair Simpson requested staff to research the issue and report back to the commission at the June meeting with recommendations.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A) TSC-09-004: Villa Road – Hidden Driveway**

Mr. Chiu presented staff report (see official meeting packet for full report).

Mr. Brian Peterson stated he was invested in the property with his in-laws and the best-case scenario would be to have the road widened with a sidewalk. Another suggestion is to install a mirror around the corner or at least post a sign. He said they already removed a good deal of vegetation.

Mr. Chiu expressed concerns for vandalism with the glass material for a mirror but spoke of options of a highly polished steel mirror. He said there is only one possible location for installation on the utility pole on the east side; however, there are no formal guidelines for this type of installation. He was also unaware of costs. A sign would be a warranted solution to caution drivers of the hidden driveway and removing some of the arborvitae trees to allow some visibility to oncoming traffic.

Chair Simpson asked Mr. Peterson if he might be willing to share the costs with the City.

Mr. Peterson stated he could not commit to anything, as it was a joint investment with his in-laws.

Mr. Chiu said the Public Works Department recognizes the need for some kind of improvement in this area and he discussed some of the possible ideas when funds become available.

Chair Simpson asked staff if there were monies currently available to install a sign in the mean time. Staff replied that could be done.

Commissioner Neal Klein agreed it is an area for concern and felt the City needs to take some action before more problems develop in the future with higher traffic volumes.

Mr. Peterson stated they would be willing to be flexible if land is needed for improvements and since they planned to sell in the next year, the next homeowners may not be interested in giving up part of their yard.

**MOTION: Brandt/Meyer** to approve **TSC-09-004** installing a warning sign with language determined by staff in the southbound lane to alert drivers of a hidden driveway around a curve on the west side of Villa Road. (8 Yes/0 No/1 Absent [Cookson]) Motion carried.

Chair Simpson requested staff to return to the next meeting in June with a report regarding mirror installation.

### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

Mr. Steve Golden stated his concerns for vehicles running the red lights in town, especially at Hancock Street and Meridian Street. He offered several personal experiences and dangerous encounters as a driver and a pedestrian. He asked for more police enforcement.

Chair Simpson recommended calling the companies for any commercial vehicles running the light to address those types of infractions.

Mr. Tim Weaver, Police Sergeant, discussed being licensed for four photo red lights in town, but adding more would be cost beneficial.

Commissioner Klein suggested placing an empty police cruiser in the area to deter violators.

Sergeant Weaver said this tactic has been used before. He said he would instruct his officers to pay closer attention to this particular intersection for a while.

Councilor Bob Larson reminded the commission there will be a Town Hall meeting coming up to discuss hiring additional police officers by assessing a public safety fee on the utility bill.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## **STAFF REPORTS - GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **B) Engineering**

Mr. Chiu gave updates on the decision **TSC-08-002** to paint yellow curbs on Mission Drive at the school; no one has contested the decision so it will go into effect.

Councilor Larson agreed this would make an improvement that will be noticed next year and parents need to be reminded to stop first before turning.

Mr. Chiu continued with updates on **TSC-08-019** to install signs restricting parking in the 9<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial neighborhood as nothing has been received in dispute. **TSC-09-003** will also have yellow curbs painted at the Oaks at Springbrook if no disputes are received this week. Construction on sidewalks on College Street by the railroad tracks will begin on Monday. A traffic study will be conducted at Vittoria Way upon request of a homeowner there observing increased speeds and drivers running through the stop sign there; a report will come to the TSC when completed. So far, there has been good feedback about the stop signs installed at 4<sup>th</sup> Street and River Street; the upcoming Memorial Day holiday will test its effectiveness as increased traffic to the boat dock is expected.

### **A) Police**

Mr. Tim Weaver, Police Sergeant, reported on areas with traffic complaints and discussed countywide enforcement activities coming up around Memorial Day for impaired driving and volume/density issues. He discussed a DUII/Impaired driving task force and an annual motorcycle- officer training conference coming up. He spoke briefly on the public safety fee, a new hire in dispatch, and improvements the light at 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Dundee.

### **C) Items from Commissioners**

Chair Simpson discussed items from the TSC team building session.

Commissioner Dick Meyer asked about a fence coming out to a foot behind the curb on N. Villa Road without sidewalk.

Chair Simpson stated the City does not own the right of way in front of that house.

Commissioner Jennifer Dawson discussed the upcoming disaster training events at the hospital.

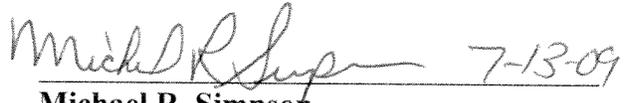
Commissioner Lesley Woodruff asked about the photo red light flashing for no reason periodically.

Sergeant Weaver stated this was a part of normal operations as it is programmed to reset periodically.

**ADJOURN TO NEXT MEETING**

**MOTION: Brandt/Klein** to adjourn at 8:30 PM until the next meeting on June 8, 2009. (8 Yes/0 No/1 Absent [Cookson]) Motion carried.

 7/8/09  
**Jennifer L. Nelson**  
Recording Secretary

 7-13-09  
**Michael R. Simpson**  
Traffic Safety Commission Chair