NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING & AGENDA

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
7:00 p.m., Monday, October 11, 2010
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."

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**
   - **A)** Review and approve minutes of September 13, 2010

2. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR:**

3. **PUBLIC HEARING:**
   - A) Review the limited parking restrictions in the 700 and 800 blocks of E. Sheridan Street (TSC-10-016).

4. **NEW BUSINESS:**

5. **OLD BUSINESS:**
   - **A)** TSC-10-003: Creekside at Emma – to rescind an approved motion made on 9/13/2010 in lieu of the proposed "stop" sign, to limit parking at the corner of Emma and Creekside. The September motion requires painting the existing curb yellow for 20 feet on the north side of Emma and east side of Creekside.

6. **STAFF REPORTS - GENERAL INFORMATION:**
   - **A)** Police Update
   - **B)** Engineering update
     - TSC-10-011: Stop sign request on south side of Newberg
     - TSC-10-012: Signal Warrant inquiry @ Foothills & College
     - TSC-10-013: Stop sign request at Buckley @ Mountianview

7. **ADJOURN TO NEXT MEETING:** November 8, 2010

ACCOMMODATION OF PHYSICAL IMPAIRMENTS:
In order to accommodate persons with physical impairments, please notify the City Recorder's office of any special physical accommodations you may need as far in advance of the meeting as possible, and no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. To request these arrangements, please contact the city recorder, at (503) 537-1283.
For TTY service please call (503) 554-7793

Posted: October 5, 2010

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES
7:00 p.m., Monday, September 13, 2010
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."

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Members Present: Neal Klein, Dianna Cotter, Lesley Woodruff, James Oravetz, Doris Brandt, Ronald Sult

Members Absent: Ron Johns (unexcused)

Staff Present: Brian Casey, Police Chief (arrived at 7:25 PM); Paul Chiu, Senior Engineer; Jennifer Nelson, Recording Secretary

Ex Officio Present: Mayor Bob Andrews (arrived at 7:11 PM)

Others Present: Dione Kappa, Jonathan Francis, Laurie Hunter, Joan Feliciano, Dan Brown, Craig Ewing, Janell Almquist, and Tim Camp

CHAIR NEAL KLEIN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:01 PM.

A) Review and approve minutes of August 9, 2010.

MOTION #1: Brandt/Woodruff to approve the Traffic Safety Commission Minutes for August 9, 2010 as amended. (7 Yes/0 No/2 Vacant) Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A) Request for stop signs in the south side of Newberg at uncontrolled intersections

TIME – 7:04 PM

Mr. Paul Chiu, Senior Engineer, said a letter was received from a Ms. Kappa but he is unsure if staff has made contact with her or not. He suggested tabling the item until next month in order to make contact and narrow the vision.

Ms. Dione Kappa stated she was here and her intention for writing the letter was because there is a huge problem in her neighborhood with uncontrolled intersections; she did not know how to narrow it down. She counted thirty-five just driving down the whole south side around Wynooski Road to past Blaine Street.

Commissioner James Oravetz said he understands her concern for the uncontrolled intersections are there are a lot, but the main through streets do have adequate signage and maybe the difference is that those unmarked intersections are not arterial streets. The basic rules of right-of-way are to be followed and the speed limit is 25 mph through there.

Ms. Kappa replied most people do not know the right-of-way rule, just ask them and they do not even slow down enough to follow the rule since they need to come to almost a stop. She noticed that all the streets on the north side have some sort of control and hoped that could be provided for the south side as well.

Commissioner Oravetz agreed controls would be nice and noted there are a few intersections on the north side similar to this. Ms. Kappa felt there were not nearly as many.

Chair Klein replied they cannot put stop signs at every intersection due to budget crunches and it would be cost prohibitive to other things that need to be done. He asked her to narrow the scope down to specific intersections she sees as highly problematic and staff will be in contact with her within the month. Chair Klein also requested accident reports and statistics from the police department from the south end of town.

Mr. Chiu said he will work with Ms. Kappa and perform some speed data analysis to see if any situations warrant stop sign installation.

Mr. Jonathan Francis added he agreed with what Ms. Kappa said and there are a lot of intersections posing risks to children like 6th Street and Columbia Drive which is by a school zone. He said he sees a lot of people speeding there and has almost been hit a few times just walking down the street; he did not think there should be any uncontrolled intersections in a school zone.

Chair Klein stated staff will come back next month with recommendations and he encouraged the two speakers to attend for further discussions on how to solve this problem.

B) Request for review of limited parking restrictions in the 700 and 800 blocks of E. Sheridan Street

TIME – 7:19 PM

Mr. Chiu presented the staff report and gave background on the situation here as it comes up now and again. The main concerns are for those pulling out on to College Street from E. Sheridan Street and a request for limited parking would affect a large area so a date would need to be set for a public hearing. Before a hearing he would like to complete more traffic data collection for the current situations of speed and volume as well as review crash data (see official meeting packet for full report).

Chair Klein stated he would like to review past minutes and records of when this issue was discussed since solutions like staggered parking and even creating one-way traffic patterns have been brought up in the past. He would like to hear from the fire department as well as to their concerns with fire engines getting through this area. The narrow width of Sheridan Street and the parking on both sides was discussed. Chair Klein asked if any school buses drove on Sheridan Street. Mr. Chiu stated there was a school bus turning right onto Sheridan

Street from College Street last Friday as he was taking pictures of the area and traffic was congested for at least two blocks. Chair Klein requested staff complete a traffic study next month to have data for a hearing.

Mr. Brian Casey, Police Chief, mentioned the statistics from the last ten years in that area consisted of most accidents being unrelated to parking; 90% were caused by congestion along College Street and cars turning north onto College Street from Sheridan Street are getting hit by vehicles on College Street. There is an average of zero to three accidents annually at this location.

Chair Klein asked it the police are receiving complaints about the parking on Sheridan Street. Chief Casey replied they are sporadic and mostly from the people who live there; but, there are worse parking complaints than Sheridan Street around the city.

Mayor Bob Andrews asked if staff plans to discuss one-way or split-parking as one package. Mr. Chiu replied he would. Mayor Andrews suggested extending the area to the west side of College Street on Sheridan Street because of Chief Casey's report.

OLD BUSINESS

A) TSC-10-003: Creekside at Emma – Stop Sign Reconsideration

TIME – 7:30 PM

Mr. Chiu presented the staff report offering background on the reconsideration because of a need to remove a tree to install the stop sign already approved on Creekside Lane at Emma Lane. Neighbors suggested installing the sign at the same intersection on westbound Emma Lane, but the three conditions for installing a stop sign there cannot be met and it is not warranted. Staff suggested painting yellow curbing on the north and east for twenty feet to prevent vehicles from parking there, improving the vision of drivers coming into that intersection (see official meeting packet for full report).

Mr. Dan Brown said he likes the recommendation and it makes sense stop signs cannot be used to control speed, but with just curb painting, wondered what will be done about the issue of speeding down Emma Lane.

Mr. Craig Ewing said he initiated the stop sign installation and believes it is still necessary at Creekside Lane for safety and he felt safety takes precedence over a tree. He spoke of incidents he witnessed there and the danger of the speeding as well as the visual impairment created by the wall and fence. He also noted the problem is not being cause by the people living in his neighborhood. He does not agree with the curb painting solution because he believes it is just a band-aid; since the stop sign installation has already been approved he does not understand why it needs to be changed and this matter has already been time consuming enough. He is okay with the tree going to have a stop sign because he does not feel safe there.

Ms. Janell Almquist expressed concerns for the speeding and understood the staff's explanation for a stop sign not being a solution for speeding. She felt a parking restriction would greatly help the situation and noted there is lots of intersections in Newberg and many more urgent then this one. She understands budget restraints and that stop signs cannot be installed each time someone needs drivers to slow down.

Mr. Tim Camp agreed with Mr. Brown and was greatly concerned for the safety of his young son with living in the area. His family does a lot of walking in the area and he suggested a crosswalk would also be very useful in

this area. He said his son was almost hit twice and an unusual solution may be needed since it is an unusual intersection.

Commissioner Lesley Woodruff asked staff if it would be possible to paint a stop bar in the road without installing the stop sign or extending a double yellow line to drivers turning left would not go into the other traffic lanes. Mr. Chiu did not suggest stop bars because they are not really legal stops without the signs and the solutions for lane separation are limited to turtle shells or candlesticks, but create problems for larger vehicles to maneuver.

Ms. Almquist asked if speed bumps were a possible solution. Chair Klein replied the cost is approximately $10,000.00 per bump to install, so it is too costly to pursue.

Commissioner Oravetz asked if rubber free standing stop signs in the middle of the road were still possible solutions. Mr. Chiu stated the City has standardized there stop signs and are not used for practical reasons.

Mayor Andrews asked about other stop signs in the general area. Mr. Chiu replied there is one on Levi Way at Creekside Lane.

Chair Klein asked what residents and staff thought of making a one-way street on Emma Lane to create a loop up Creekside Lane to reduce people speeding up with the natural slope of the road. Mr. Chiu said it would solve the problem and create more parking, but it would be forcing the entire neighborhood to be forced to go around which may be inconvenient. The impact on the neighborhood would be larger and would require another, more extensive hearing. Mr. Camp liked the one-way idea, but he imagined it would come from Creekside Lane going the opposite direction. Ms. Almquist added when she first moved to the neighborhood, there was not Emma Lane and this is how the community naturally drove through in order to stop at the mailboxes first, so she saw some logic in that traffic pattern. She also suggested a crosswalk on Main Street at Emma Lane to get to the park.

Chair Klein asked staff if there would still be parking on the north side of Emma Lane if they did a one-way. Mr. Chiu said they could get away with that, but he would still allow a little space for no vehicles because it would be helpful to provide drivers with more confidence going through that area.

Commissioner Dianna Cotter said the biggest issue is the traffic coming down Creekside Lane to Emma Lane and a one-way might make this worse. She suggested posting signage for pedestrians or children in the intersection. Mr. Chiu did not feel signs would be effective for those already not following the posted speed limits.

Mr. Brown was not in favor of a one-way and felt it was too complex a solution for a problem that is not so complex; he did not see the sense in punishing everyone in the neighborhood, especially when the issues are with the renters and not the property owners.

Commissioner Cotter asked if this has been communicated with the property owners of those rental homes. Mr. Brown stated there have been other issues with partying communicated to the landlords and complaints issued, but the owner brushed them off. Chief Casey emphasized if there are problems with behavior and conduct they should continue to contact the police department.

Discussions followed about dealing with the issues of speed and parking separately since painting the curb does not prevent further actions to deal with the speeding. Chair Klein recessed briefly at 8:28 PM and reconvened at 8:40 PM.

MOTION #2: Oravetz/Sult to limit parking on the north side of Emma Lane including a parking setback of twenty feet on the east side of Creekside Lane. (6 Yes/0 No/1 Absent [Johns]/2 Vacant) Motion carried.

Chair Klein wished to revisit the matter in January, conducting a traffic study in late November or December for speed and traffic volume to see if this solution changes or helps the situation or if a stop sign on Emma Lane or Creekside Lane would be prudent.

B) TSC-10-012: Foothills at College – Signal Warrant Inquiry

TIME – 8:47 PM

Mr. Chiu indicated a signal was not warranted here. A crosswalk is also not being put in at this point and contacts have been made with a traffic engineer who is looking into the situation. Staff will present a report when they hear back from the engineer.

Chair Klein requested staff conduct another data collection during the school year as the previous data was collected in August.

C) TSC-10-013: Buckley at Mountainview – Stop Sign Request

TIME – 8:51 PM

Mr. Chiu stated this was not recommended at this time and follow-up with the resident requesting the sign will be completed.

D) ACTS Oregon grant recommendations

TIME – 8:56 PM

Councilor Ryan Howard reported an application has been submitted to implement a series of classes for next spring on bike maintenance and proper operation on streets. The plan is to hire bike mechanic and an instructor as well as develop and print a bike map of the area for finding bike lanes and routes in Newberg. Once the bike map is created updates can be given to Google and will be provided on Google Maps.

STAFF REPORTS - GENERAL INFORMATION

A) Police Update

Chief Brian Casey appreciated the grant application and felt it was good because they are seeing more pedestrian and bicycle related accidents. Last month there were twenty-three DUI's and five just last weekend. There were four hundred and ninety-eight driving citations last month and DUI's have increased to two hundred and twenty, which is more than ever. Traffic complaints are the number one issues he has been dealing with and they are doing well to address them with the resources available.

B) Engineering update

Mr. Chiu 2nd Street Project is complete except for some planting, which will be done in the spring. He received a letter from a cyclist who does not like being force to use the sidewalk but understands the compromise to create a shorter distance for crossing the street for the many elderly people in the area. He also spoke of a free workshop to be scheduled tentatively for January 22, 2011.

C) Items from Commissioners

Mayor Andrews encouraged recruiting for the Traffic Safety Student Commissioner at C.S. Lewis, Open Bible, and Veritas schools, not just the public schools. He also noted that if neighborhoods were interested in installing speed bumps there is an opportunity to do this through a Local Improvement District (LID) if a community desires to.

Commissioner Woodruff discussed commissioners signing up for police ride-alongs before January 1st.

Chair Klein stated there will be a formal inquiry into the suggestion of a Mayor's Cabinet as discussed during the work session.

ADJOURN TO NEXT MEETING

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM until October 11, 2010.

Approved by the Newberg Traffic Safety Commission this 11th day of October, 2010.

Jennifer L. Nelson	**Neal S. Klein**
Recording Secretary	**Traffic Safety Commission Chair**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a public hearing will be held by the Traffic Safety Commission for the City of Newberg on

Monday, October 11, 2010, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

at the Newberg Public Safety Building, 401 E. Third Street, Newberg, OR to consider the following traffic safety issue:

Review the limited parking restrictions in the 700 and 800 blocks of E. Sheridan Street.

The Traffic Safety Commission wants to hear from you in response to a request for review of the limited parking restrictions in the 700 and 800 blocks of E. Sheridan Streets.

TESTIMONY PROCEDURE:
Persons wishing to speak for or against the above proposal may do so in person at the hearing. Written testimony will be received prior to the hearing at the Newberg-Dundee Police Department, 401 E. Third Street, Newberg, OR.

Traffic Safety Commission
(503) 537-1221
Posted: September 30, 2010