

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

RANDALL	PAUL	CARL	DENNIS	TED	DAVE
WATSON	DUTY	VOIGT	MAGILL	WARREN	BENEFIEL

Chairman

Co-Chairman



Minutes

Meeting of the Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission

October 09, 2014

City Council Chambers

305 3rd Avenue East Twin Falls, Idaho

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: 9:00 A.M.

AGENDA ITEMS	Purpose	By:
I. <u>CONSENT CALENDAR:</u> 1. Consideration of the Minutes for August 14, 2014 and September 11, 2014.		Randall Watson
II. <u>ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:</u> 1. Discuss Proposed Bicycle Safety Improvements.	Discussion	Staff Sergeant Ron Fustos
III. <u>PUBLIC HEARINGS</u>		
IV. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u> 9:32 A.M.		

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Randall Watson, Paul Duty, Dave Benefiel, and Ted Warren

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Brady Dickinson and Dennis Magill

STAFF PRESENT: Captain Matt Hicks, Staff Sergeant Fustos, Traffic Engineering Tech Mike Sullivan, Staff Engineer Joshua Baird, and Recording City Secretary Tina Kelley

STAFF ABSENT: City Councilman Greg Lanting

Chairman Randall Watson started the meeting at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

I. CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Consideration of the Minutes for August 14, 2014 and September 11, 2014.

MOTION:

Commissioner Ted Warren made the motion to approve both the August 14, 2014 and the September 11, 2014 minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dave Benefiel, all members present voted in favor of approving both August 14, 2014 and September 11, 2014 minutes.

II. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. Discuss Proposed Bicycle Safety Improvements.

Staff Sergeant Ron Fustos brought in a map showing all the bike paths in Twin Falls City. The map shows approximately 15 to 20 miles of bike paths. He was asked to talk about a meeting on October 1st that was held with some city officials about some complaints from both bike users and people receiving citations for parking in bike lanes around the schools. The problem that was happening is school officials were upset people were getting citations and the people getting the citations were upset.

Ideas were brought up to change the bike route around the schools; however that was met with skepticism because all the bike paths are federally funded. Without following their criteria to change them we run certain risks. As far as enforcing the bike paths law enforcement does not go out looking for people parked in the bike lane unless there is a complaint called in.

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There were no solutions, so tonight at 7:00 p.m. there will be a meeting about the Bike Route Connectivity process, where ideas will be discussed with the public and what they would like to see happen.

Captain Matt Hicks advised the City had their first forum last year on the Connectivity meeting. The room was filled with bicycle enthusiast and safety advocates from across the community. Captain Hicks wanted to know if the Safety Commission had any involvement in the meeting. If not he would like to start with one of the commission members going to the meeting tonight. Captain Matt Hicks vision of the Traffic Safety Commission was for issues like this one brought forwards. He would like to have city staff analyze issues that are brought forward and have the Traffic Safety Commission make a recommendation to City Council on how to proceed if they have any safety concerns.

Captain Matt Hicks also briefly discussed the Twin Falls Strategic Plan that contains traffic safety issues. The bicycle lanes are one of the issues that are included in the document.

Josh Baird, one of the Staff Engineers has been working on the Draft Bike Facilities map for the last year; he has been working in conjunction with Parks & Rec. as well as the City Manager. They came up with a draft map of the entire city showing proposed bicycle facilities. The map shows three different types of facilities which are bike lanes, shared lane markings (new type of facility the City of Twin Falls currently does not have), and paths (10 ft. wide sidewalks or trails that connect the entire city together). The plan for the meeting tonight is to show the maps and discuss the different types of facilities and showing where and why they are used. They want feedback from the community before they start implementing the plan. The meeting will be in the Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. and the presentation will last approximately 15-20 minutes and there will be maps that citizens can look at.

Traffic Safety Commission has concerns where accidents may occur that are caused by bike lanes. Josh advised he is not familiar where the accidents may occur, that may be something the police department can address. Josh advised they are looking at putting the major routes for bicycles on the routes that are least traveled by motorist. Captain Matt Hicks advised the police department doesn't currently have anything listed showing crashes caused by bike lanes; it will be something they will have to look into.

Mike Sullivan discussed the issue of the bike lane on Madrona St. between Falls Ave. and Stadium Blvd. Mike Sullivan advised there were bike lanes on both sides. Mike suggested restriping the road and leaving a 12 ft. north bound lane

which would be a shared use lane, and have a standard south bound travel lane, maintain a 5 ft. bike lane and widen the existing parking lane on the west side to 14 ft. It would eliminate the north bound traffic from parking and dropping their kids off which would improve safety. With the south bound parking lane being wider will make is safer to drop the kids off in the area.

OLD BUSINESS:

Captain Matt Hicks discussed the open chair on the Traffic Safety Commission. He advised Human Recourses will be announcing the open position soon. There are also two members on the commission with expired terms. Captain Hicks will be working with the City Manager to renew their terms.

NEW BUSINESS: None

III. PUBLIC INPUT/QUESTIONS:

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

V. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Paul Duty motioned to adjourn the meeting and Ted Warren 2nd the motion. All were in favor. Chairman Randall Watson adjourned the meeting at 09:46 a.m.

Tina Kelley
Recording Secretary