

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

RANDALL	PAUL	BRADY	DENNIS	TED	DAVE
WATSON	DUTY	DICKINSON	MAGILL	WARREN	BENEFIEL

Chairman

Co-Chairman



Minutes

Meeting of the Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission

November 13, 2014

City Council Chambers

305 3rd Avenue East Twin Falls, Idaho

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

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

CONSIDERATION OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

AGENDA ITEMS	Purpose	By:
I. <u>CONSENT CALENDAR:</u> 1. Consideration of the Minutes for October 9, 2014.		Randall Watson
II. <u>ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:</u> None. 1. Discussion on the Local Highway Safety Improvement Program (LHSIP) project submittals. 2. Discussion on traffic coming and going from Denny's on Pole Line Rd. 3. Discussion on the City's Bicycle Connectivity Plan.	Discussion Discussion Discussion	Jackie Fields Ted Warren Ted Warren
III. <u>PUBLIC HEARINGS</u> None.		
IV. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>		

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Randall Watson, Paul Duty, Brady Dickinson, Dennis Magill, Ted Warren, and Dave Benefiel.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Captain Matt Hicks, Traffic Engineering Tech Mike Sullivan, City Engineer Jackie Fields, Sgt. Ron Fustos, City Councilman Greg Lanting, and Recording City Secretary Katy Touchette

Chairman Randall Watson called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. A quorum was present. There were no amendments to the agenda.

I. CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Consideration of the minutes for October 9, 2014.

MOTION:

Commissioner Dave Benefiel made the motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ted Warren, and all members present voted in favor of approving the consent calendar.

II. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. Discussion on the Local Highway Safety Improvement Program (LHSIP) project submittals.

City Engineer Jackie Fields handed the commission members a copy of an email she had written which talked about several problem areas in Twin Falls with respect to accidents, the possible need for new signals, etc., which are possible areas that could be included in submitting projects for the LHSIP. In going through the different areas mentioned in her email, Jackie talked about the need to prioritize projects and how this could best be accomplished. She explained which projects were State projects and which were under the City's control. She asked the commission members how much they wanted to be involved in the process of selecting the projects for the LHSIP.

Discussion followed on what areas should be chosen first and what ideas the police department might have regarding problem traffic areas.

Captain Matt Hicks addressed the commission, first talking about the problems on Blue Lakes Boulevard and how they have been the subject of past conversations. He said that there has not been much community support for the idea of medians on or no left turns on Blue Lakes Boulevard. Matt felt that this commission should educate the public about the problems on Blue Lakes as well as other problem traffic areas in Twin Falls. He said that the police department could work on prioritizing possible projects for the Traffic Safety Commission.

Jackie Fields said that this commission could also work on developing a plan for both long-term and short-term projects. In her opinion, installing a traffic signal at Hankins Road and Addison Avenue was a good place to start, as it would be something that the Highway District and the City of Twin Falls could accomplish together. She said that the intersection of Blue Lakes Boulevard and Orchard Drive is also in the Highway District's jurisdiction.

Randall Watson asked Jackie if she could make a list of projects (both long term and short term), prioritize the projects, and get that list to the commission. Jackie agreed to do this, and in the meantime told the commission members to go to the website she cited in her email, <http://gis.lhtac.org/safety>, to get more information on where accidents are occurring. Matt and Jackie will have this list of projects for the commission at their next meeting. Jackie did say that time is running short, as she needs to submit paperwork for LHSIP project submittals at the beginning of January.

2. Discussion on traffic coming and going from Denny's on Pole Line Rd.

Ted Warren discussed the problem of traffic entering and exiting the Denny's parking lot on Pole Line Rd. A general discussion followed, with various causes and solutions mentioned. The commission discussed the following: making the Denny's exit right-turn only; eliminating median shrubs so that traffic coming from the west could be better seen; extending the median island in front of Denny's; making the Denny's exit ONLY behind the restaurant; moving the U-turn access further west, etc. Matt Hicks mentioned that more businesses will inevitably be built on Pole Line Road, on the south side as well, and perhaps this is a problem that should be dealt with now rather than waiting until more businesses are built. Traffic Engineer Mike Sullivan said he will look into the various solutions discussed and see what can be done to make this section of Pole Line Rd. safer.

3. Discussion on the City's Bicycle Connectivity Plan.

Ted Warren discussed the proposed bicycle connectivity plan and wanted to know where the project stands at this time. He had questions about the map showing the proposed bike paths. Councilmember Greg Lanting stated that Parks and Recreation Director Dennis Bowyer should explain the project. Matt Hicks then stated that the new bike paths will be a multi-phase project, and he felt that the Traffic Safety Commission should be involved in the process. Josh Baird of the City's Engineering Department also spoke to the commission about the project, saying that shared lane markers are scheduled to be laid down in the spring or summer of 2015. He stated that Phase I of the project is ready to go and has been approved by City Council.

There was further discussion about the problem of car parking and bike lanes at Perrine and Sawtooth Schools.

III. **PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.**

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no new business, Ted Warren motioned to adjourn the meeting and Paul Duty seconded the motion. All were in favor. Chairman Randall Watson adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Katy Touchette
Recording Secretary