

CLACKAMAS COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES

April 4, 2018

MISSION: To give the citizens of Clackamas County a forum to voice traffic safety concerns, evaluate related issues, provide a liaison with County agencies and promote traffic safety.

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Present:

Steve Adams
Nathan McCarty
Chris Larsen
Kate Stinson
Robert Ludwick
Jim Rough
Brian Hitchcock
Bob Karl
Mike Wilson
Nathaniel Adams
Jessica Harris
Carol Vonderheit

Absent:

Austin Brown
Brian Burke

CALL TO ORDER: 7:01pm

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES: Approval of March meeting minutes with corrections.

INTRODUCTIONS: Around table introductions for new member Jessica (Jessie) Harris

CALL FOR ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

Bylaws Review

CITIZEN CONCERNS:

Traffic Hotspot- SW Stafford and Johnson continues to have issues, especially related to left turning vehicles during peak hours. The group reviewed the area and suggested ideas for improvement. The recent Stafford Road Safety Audit evaluated this intersection. A left turn lane would help but such a project would be expensive and funding has not yet been identified.

Congestion at the intersection of Willamette Drive and Highway 43. TSC discussed submitting a letter and looking to add to the public forum. However, there is a major ODOT project coming up that will widen the freeway between West Linn and Stafford Rd. The project is expected to improve this interchange area including the intersection.

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS:

March 2018 and YTD fatal crashes- There have been 11 fatalities in Clackamas County year to date, which is the same number as 2017 at this time of year. Five fatalities have been

pedestrians. There were three fatal crashes in March. Fatalities in Clackamas County are below where they were at this time in 2016.

SE Johnson and Hood update- There is a hedge that is encroaching onto the roadway and obstructing the intersection stop sign. An investigation is in process and traffic cameras were put up for 24 hours. The cameras tracked traffic patterns and volumes were low. The traffic engineering department will be going out to evaluate the area and may notify code compliance if needed.

Vote on reinstatement of Carol, Bob, and Chris- Unanimous vote to reinstate Carol, Bob and Chris for another four years.

Discuss changing our recruitment, once a year process interviews- Group discussion on recruitment. Because recruiting takes a significant amount of time and effort, Christian suggested that we recruit only once every year to fill any vacancies that have opened up during the previous year.

Bylaws: Discussion on the TSC bylaws and how they line up with the public meeting laws. Discussed what our mission is and how can we incorporate that in our bylaws. Reviewed how we publish the TSC information online: calendar, agenda, meeting mins and other useful information. Discussed how we can better serve the county and its citizens with the commission. Discussed what our authority is and how to enhance the effectiveness of the commission in the community.

Around table ideas on how we can get our message out on safety and safety concerns: Put an article in the citizen news for TSC comments and citizen concerns; reach out to public radio and outreach in other social media sites. Also, discussed how we can update the TSC website and add more helpful information for citizens.

Add additional agenda item- article quarterly publication and getting more involved.

We did talk about our past successes and how we can reach out to citizens in our day-to-day lives to better the program.

TSAP Interviews- a couple members were involved. Kate discussed her involvement in her interview and Jim discussed how we create a safety culture. Chris mentioned that he supports having people retake the state driving test when its time to renew their licenses. Discussed how chevrons, curve signs and new driving laws are not properly educated to the public.

2018 TSC Budget- Discussed the radar sign idea and program. TSC voted to proceed with the radar sign program. The TSC now has a dedicated radar speed feedback sign, and they may direct where it will be installed. The sign will be periodically moved to different locations.

Posters and coasters safe driving media contest: TSC members had the opportunity to vote on their top three posters. The winners for the posters and coasters will be awarded and presented next meeting.

Additional agenda item for next meeting. - Article for quarterly publication and getting more involved.

Next Meeting on May 2nd will be a field trip. We were out of time so did not have time to discuss. Christian will provide details in the coming weeks.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:05pm.

After meeting follow up:

Christian did some research and wrote a follow up email on 4/6:

The I-205 widening project is currently in the preliminary design phase, and it is expected to include improvements to the interchange area including the Willamette Falls Drive intersection. The information on the web is limited, but please monitor the project website for future developments. I have not seen any of the preliminary design concepts yet, but I can tell you that this area is a significant focus of the design team. I think that the best way for TSC members to affect change at this point is to engage in the public process and attend public meetings, which are expected to begin next month. I will pass meeting information along to you as I learn about it. That said, my hope and expectation is that the preliminary designs being developed for the I-205/OR 43 interchange area will sufficiently address a lot of the operational and safety issues.

4/25 update: the winners have been announced. Press release here:
<http://www.clackamas.us/pressreleases/pr20180425a.html>