

TRAFFIC CONTROL BOARD MINUTES
December 14, 2016

APPROVED AS AMENDED

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jerry Dunning, Pierre Jomini, Ron Alles, Capt. Harper, Todd Cormier, Gene Wade

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sondra Baker

STAFF SUPPORT: Aaron Lebsack, Erin Claunch, Lora Mattox

GUESTS: None

BUSINESS MEETING:

Call to order: Todd Cormier called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm in the conference room of the Public Works Building, 2224 Montana Avenue.

Minutes: Motion by Gene Wade for approval of the October 2016 minutes as amended. Seconded by Pierre Jomini. Motion carried on a voice vote.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT: None

STAFF REPORTS:

- **HAWK Signals at Roundabouts:** Erin gave a presentation to the Board regarding HAWK Signals at roundabouts following the installation of two new roundabouts along Grand Ave. HAWK stands for **H**igh-intensity **A**ctivated cross**W**alk. A federal document was published by the United States Access Board titled "*Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guide (PROWAG)*" which ensures facilities are accessible to everybody, handicap and non-handicap. The first draft was published on June 17, 2002 and has had multiple revisions since its original publication. The latest revision of the PROWAG states that pedestrian activated signals, including HAWK signals, are required at roundabouts containing multi-lane street crossings. The signal looks like an inverted triangle, with two red lights above a single yellow light. Once the HAWK signal is activated, drivers will see the flashing yellow light cautioning drivers to slow down followed by a solid yellow light cautioning drivers to stop. Following that, the two red lights will **BOTH** be solid telling drivers to stop. The pedestrian head will show a "walking man" indicating the pedestrian is allowed to cross. Next, the two red lights will alternate flashing allowing drivers to proceed if clear, while the pedestrian head counts down still allowing time for the pedestrian to cross. It was emphasized that while the signal is flashing red, the drivers must first stop and may proceed through the crosswalk if it is clear. In addition to the new HAWK signals along Grand Ave, the City currently has two signals operating at 4th Ave N and 6th Ave N.

BOARD REPORTS:

- Lora informed the Board that the second public meeting for the Bike Plan Update will be held on December 15 from 4:30-6:30.
- The consultant chosen for the household survey is Westat. This is one of the first steps in developing the City's in-house traffic modeling program. MDT has agreed to help fund the survey to increase the scope of the survey.

- The Transportation Alternative Grant was opened in December to solicit new applications. The state wide total will be around 7 million dollars. Applications are due by March 31, 2017.
- The Community Transportation Safety Plan (CTSP) goes to PCC next week and will start to look for some implementation strategies. The Billings Police Department is overseeing the speeding and distracted driving emphasis areas, City Planning will look at unrestrained occupant, and Montana Highway Patrol will manage the impaired emphasis area.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Five non-signalized intersections with most injury/fatal accidents for 2014-2016:** *Nothing to report at this time.*
- **Local Option Gas Tax:** *Nothing to report at this time.*
- **Standing Water on Virginia Ln north of BBWA:** The citizen who requested that the standing water on Virginia Ln north of the BBWA to be addressed would like to thank City staff for following up.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Central Ave Speed Limits; 32nd St W-Shiloh Rd:** Pierre informed the Board on inconsistency of posted speed limits along Central Ave from 32nd St W to Shiloh Rd. City staff will follow up.
- **Raised Median and Street Lighting:** Pierre asked what the City policy is regarding street lighting with raised medians. Erin said that there is no official City policy, however the City has used the presence of raised median as a determining factor for street lights.
- **Holiday Gas Station Egress:** Ron stated that he is concerned with the traffic exiting the Holiday Gas Station along Gabel Rd, by Zoo Dr. He stated that traffic will generally turn right, due to the raised medians, onto Gabel road or Broso Park Dr and then U-turn to get to the signal at Zoo Dr to be able to get to the interstate. Erin said that the medians were placed there due to the future plans for development in the area in order to contain lane capacity, as well as to reduce left turn conflicts.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 pm.