

TRAFFIC CONTROL BOARD MINUTES

October 25, 2017

APPROVED AS AMENDED

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sondra Baker, Gene Wade

STAFF SUPPORT: Dakota Martonen, 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 Jerry Dunning for approval of the September 2017 minutes, as amended. Seconded by Ron Alles. Motion carried on a voice vote.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT: None

STAFF REPORTS:

- **Traffic Capacity Projects:** Todd gave a PowerPoint presentation updating the Board on the Billings Bypass Project. The following questions were asked during the presentation. The outline of the presentation is also attached.
 - a. **Q. (Pierre)** What will be the separation between northbound and southbound lanes? **A.** Todd stated that there will be no separation between northbound and southbound lanes.
 - b. **Q. (Pierre)** Was the Bypass connection into Pine Hills interchange considered? **A.** Todd stated that this connection was thrown out during the Environmental Impact Study.
 - c. **Q. (Pierre)** Will the Bypass have access control? **A.** Todd stated that the current design has limited access control.

BOARD REPORTS: The draft for the Household Travel Survey has been received and is currently in review. Lora provided the Board with a copy of the Survey. This survey will be used for the development of the Traffic Demand Model. The consultants chosen for model project, as well as the Long Range Transportation Plan, are Kittleson and DOWL.

RESPONSES TO BOARD INQUIRIES:

1. **62nd Street West & Rimrock Road land purchase:** The southwest corner of the intersection has been purchased while the State is handling negotiations for the northeast corner. Pierre indicated that there are sight obstructions at the intersection as well.
2. **City practice for establishing posted speed limits with new projects:** Speed limits are dependent on a number of criteria (both planned and established), including: functional classification, number of accesses, accident history, horizontal/vertical alignment, adjacent land uses, etc. The City also relies on discussion with the design engineer that is hired for the project.

3. **Broadwater Avenue & 24th Street West emergency pre-emption:** The pre-emption for eastbound and westbound traffic at Broadwater Avenue & 24th Street West is operational.
4. **Ben Steele pavement markings:** Pierre expressed concern regarding yellow striping dividing lanes on a one-way road internal to Ben Steele Middle School. Because it is outside public right-of-way, the City Engineering has no authority to this matter.
5. **Cover Creek Drive & Golden Acres Drive stop sign:** The stop sign had been put in with initial construction of the subdivision around 2006.
6. **Grand Avenue & Rehberg Lane-westbound right turn:** Pierre stated that the raised median east of the intersection causes difficulty for accessing business on the south side of Grand Avenue. He recommended re-designing the raised median to incorporate a left turn lane into the businesses on the south side of the intersection. City staff indicated that the signal pole had been hit several times. Pierre stated that there are available safety funds that could be applied for to fund a project such as this.
7. **Monad Road/19th-20th Street West realignment:** The current CIP has design money set aside in fiscal year 2020 and construction money for the following year. Pierre inquired if the striping on 20th Street West, South of Monad Road could be modified next spring from 2 lanes to one lane for southbound traffic to eliminate the merge conflict.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Elysian Road & Mallowney Lane curb alignment – westbound right:** Ron expressed concern at a previous meeting that due to lane width restrictions, making a westbound right-turn from Elysian Road to Mallowney Lane can often cause vehicles to drift into oncoming southbound traffic. Erin replied that a future solution may be to pull the southbound left-turn lane west to free up more space.
- **Colton Boulevard & 24th Street West – eastbound left:** Ron inquired as to why an eastbound left-turn lane was added at Colton Boulevard & 24th Street West. Erin stated that due to MUTCD (Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices) lane taper designs, a left turn-lane with a thru lane was designed instead of a right-turn lane with a thru lane.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Traffic Control Board Schedule:
 - a. **Frequency of Meetings:** This item was discussed; however action will be taken on the December meeting.
 - b. **November-December meeting date:** The combined November and December meeting date will be December 13th, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 pm.