

Traffic Control Board Minutes
April 28th, 2009

Members Present: Keith Lang, Walt Willett, Steve Zeier, Capt John Bedford, Brent Krueger, Sondra Baker, Doug Kary

Members Absent: Judge Knisely

Staff Support: Debi Meling, Terry Smith, Erin Claunch, John Gibson

Guests: None

BUSINESS MEETING

Call to Order: Doug Kary called the meeting to order at 12:16 pm in the conference room of the Public Works offices at 2224 Montana Avenue.

Minutes: Motion for approval of the March 2009 minutes by Walt Willet, 2nd by Steve Zeier.
Motion carried on voice vote.

STAFF REPORTS:

Erin reported on the Shiloh Road project. The State has split construction into three separate projects. A contract has been awarded to Knife River for the segment between Poly Drive and just north of Central. Knife River currently has Shiloh closed between Grand & Broadwater. A separate City project is replacing water valves at the intersection of Shiloh & Broadwater. Mid-November is the expected completion date for Knife River's work on this northern portion of the work. Riverside Construction was low bidder on the "Canyon Creek North" portion of Shiloh, which runs from south of Zoo Drive, north to King Avenue. The "middle" portion from King to Central is scheduled for bidding in September 2009.

Terry reported on two legislative bills. HB 531, which effectively prohibits use of red light cameras passed both the house and senate, and has been forwarded to the Governor for his approval. Terry stated that given the large margins it passed by in both the house & the Senate, he does not expect the governor to veto the bill. Terry noted that SB 88 regarding school speed zones was passed and signed by the Governor. The new law will require changes in school zone signing, including "fines double" signing and "end school zone" signing. City staff will have to review all existing school speed zones for compliance with the new law.

The Engineering Division is working with Street-Traffic to implement new timing plans for the traffic signals along 32nd Street West between King and Grand. Increased traffic is expected along 32nd due to the construction on Shiloh, and a waterline project at 24th & Central scheduled for this summer.

BOARD REPORTS:

Planning Board. Steve Zeier reported that he is on a committee that has been appointed to work with the Planning Department and their consultant on the Transportation Plan update. The committee has met once to become familiar with the project. Keith reported there is a meeting Thursday evening, April

30th, from 5 to 7 pm at Metra to discuss the development masterplan for the East End Tax Increment District.

OLD BUISNESS:

Terry reported that there has been no further development regarding use of civilian traffic control for events. The City is looking at requiring that any civilians actually controlling traffic for fun runs and similar events be required to complete the flagger training course required by MDT for flaggers on construction projects.

NEW BUISNESS:

Erin reported the Street-Traffic Division is installing temporary rubber speed humps on 38th Street West south of Poly Drive. Installation of one speed hump was completed last week north of Colin Drive. A second speed hump will be placed south of Poly Drive.

Residents along 38th, south of Poly have been concerned with the speeds of vehicle during activities at Poly Vista Park. As an experimental project, the City agreed to place temporary speed humps on 38th West. Traffic volume and speed data were collected prior to the project. Additional data will be collected after the humps are installed to determine the effect on speeds and to help determine if there has been any traffic diversion through the neighborhood east of 38th. Capt. Bedford asked if anything was planned north of Poly. At this time there are no plans for speed humps, or other traffic calming installations, on 38th North of Poly. The speed humps south of Poly are being installed on a trial basis and will only be made permanent if the neighborhood agrees to pay for the installation of permanent humps.

Terry reported on several major street projects included in a “Request for Proposals” for engineering design recently advertised by the Engineering Division.

1. Rimrock Road from 17th Street West to Shiloh Road
2. Inner Belt Loop from Alkali Creek Road around the airport to a connection with Highway 3
3. Intersection of Grand Avenue and 54th Street West

Terry added that several complaints have been received regarding the lack of striping at Moore Lane and Monad Road. The State has had temporary striping placed at least twice on this project since it was completed late last fall. Permanent striping is scheduled to be placed in early May, as weather conditions allow.

Doug asked about closure of Montana Avenue for the “Thomas the Train” event scheduled for this summer. Erin reported that based on initial meetings with event organizers, they are not requesting complete closure of Montana Avenue. The south lane of Montana may be closed to provide parking for event staff and vendors, and to provide a drop-off area, where families can unload close to the depot and then take their car to one of the planned parking areas.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:12 PM