

**TRAFFIC CONTROL BOARD
MINUTES
May 24, 2011**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sondra Baker, Lt. Mark Cady, Steve Zeier, Walt Willett, Brent Krueger, James Knox, Todd Cormier

MEMBERS ABSENT: *None*

STAFF SUPPORT: Debi Meling, Terry Smith, Erin Claunch, Lora Mattox, John Gibson

GUESTS: None

BUSINESS MEETING

Call to order: Chair Steve Zeier called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm in the conference room of the Public Works Building, 2224 Montana Avenue.

Minutes: Motion for approval of the April minutes by Todd Cormier, seconded by James Knox. Motion approved on a voice vote.

Open Public Comment: None

STAFF REPORTS

Debi Meling reported that the Rimrock Road project from 17th St West to Forsythia has been awarded. Construction will require a full street closure with local access provided for property owners.

Terry reported on major streets to be impacted by the 2011 Water & Sewer Rehab projects. 1st Avenue North from N32nd St to Division St will be open for traffic with lane restrictions. On 4th Avenue North from N20th to N28th will remain open to traffic with lane closures; work in 4th & N. 27th will require detouring southbound 27th Street traffic west to North 30th. Terry also reported the following streets will have milling and overlay work this summer:

1. 1st Avenue North from N18th to Division Street
2. 24th Street West from Grand Avenue to Central
3. Grand Avenue from 24th St West to the canal.
- 4.

Steve Zeier reported the bid opening for the Moore Lane reconstruction project is today (May 24th).

Board Reports: Lora reported on the following activities related to the Planning Board:

- On April 26-27, 2011, Smart Growth America's Leadership partnered with the City, the Billings Association of Realtors, the Billings Home Builders Association, and several local firms and organizations to present an "introduction to infill" workshop to offer expert perspectives on development to the community in preparation for the City's goal of developing an Infill Policy.

- It is hoped that the Policy Coordinating Committee (PCC) will give final approval to the updated Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan at its June meeting as well as the Asset Management Plan.
- Project nominations for the next round of CTEP funding will be solicited starting July 1st with a deadline for applications of July 31st.
 - Lora also noted the project for a pedestrian bridge over the railroad at S. 25th was given final CTEP funding approval and design work is expected to start soon. There has not been date set for moving the old truss bridge from Joliet to Billings.

OLD BUSINESS:

Complete Streets. Terry gave a presentation on complete streets. He also handed out copies of the draft City Council Resolution and a draft letter of support for the proposed policy. Laura Holmland with Riverstone Health made a presentation to a joint meeting of the *Traffic Control Board* and the *Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee* in March on the proposed Complete Streets Policy. The Healthy Places Alliance (Riverstone Health, St. Vincent Healthcare and Billings Clinic) would like comments from the board on the draft policy, and a recommendation that the Policy be adopted by the City Council. Terry and Debi answered Board questions about the proposed policy. After discussion by the Board, Todd Cormier moved the Board make a recommendation for Council adoption of the proposed Complete Streets Policy. Motion seconded by James Knox and carried on voice vote. Todd Cormier made a motion that Board Chair Steve Zeier be allowed to edit the draft support letter and submit a final letter on behalf of the Board. Motion seconded by James Knox, and carried on voice vote. Steve asked Board members to get him any comments on the letter and he will circulate an updated draft for comment before finalizing it.

NEW BUSINESS:

19th Street West north of Grand. Erin presented a slide presentation on the history intersection control requests for 19th W from Grand Ave to Parkhill Drive and along Parkhill from 19th to 17th Streets West. Stop control for E/W traffic at 19th W and Avenue B has been in place for several years. The remaining intersections north of Avenue B are uncontrolled. The City's functional street classification plan identifies these segments of 19th & Parkhill as collector streets. Volume and speed data were collected and traffic accident records reviewed. Field observations indicate that most drivers on the east west avenues are already treating 19th as a "thru street" and are stopping or yielding to traffic on 19th. Based on the data collected and since 19th W is classified as a "collector street", Staff will be implementing stop control for east-west traffic along 19th St west. For consistency a stop sign will also be put up for northbound traffic on 18th at Parkhill Drive.

Discussion of 32nd Street West and Henesta was postponed until the June meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 1:36 PM