

TRAFFIC CONTROL BOARD MINUTES
March 22, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT: Todd Cormier, Brent Krueger, Walt Willett, Steve Zeier, Capt Bedford

MEMBERS ABSENT: James Knox (*excused*), Sondra Baker

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

GUESTS: None

BUSINESS MEETING

Chair Steve Zeier called the meeting to order at 12:32 pm in the 4th floor conference room of the Library, 510 North Broadway. The business meeting followed a presentation to the *Traffic Control Board* and the *Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee* by Riverstone Health on the proposed Complete Streets Policy that is being drafted for City Council approval.

Minutes: Motion for approval of the February minutes by Steve Zeier, seconded by Todd Cormier. Motion was approved on a voice vote.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT: None

STAFF REPORTS

Terry reported a Special Improvement District (SID) for the reconstruction of Moore Lane between Central Avenue and Monad Road has been approved by City Council. The design phase has started and construction is expected to begin in July of 2011.

BOARD REPORTS

Lora Mattox reported a workshop on infill development will be held in late April. The City is sponsoring the workshop in conjunction with other local groups including the Billings Association of Realtors, the Chamber of Commerce and the Home Builders Association. The workshop will be held in April 2011. The workshop will provide an overview of infill development, as well as discussion of specific issues such as economic development, transportation, and private sector involvement.

Lora also reported that final adoption of the trail plan update has been delayed. The County Commissioners want to adopt the trail asset management plan at the same time and some details of the asset management plan are still being worked out.

OLD BUSINESS

Terry reported traffic impacts related to opening of the Sonic Drive-in on Main Street have eased substantially. The management of Sonic has cooperated well with City staff in coordinating traffic issues. They have employees directing traffic within the site and are using a portion of the storage unit property to the east to queue additional vehicles waiting to get into the drive thru.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lane Rental Policy: Terry provided a draft policy for a "Right of Way Rental Fee" that is being considered by Public Works. Terry emphasized that the goal of the policy is to shorten the time contractors have streets closed, rather than revenue generation. One change from the written draft is the policy will probably be changed to a fine type of structure where contractors only pay a fee if they do not get the street re-opened within the agreed upon amount of time for the work. They would not be charged a "rental fee" up front. Todd asked if modifications to the noise ordinance would be needed to allow longer work hours. Terry responded he didn't feel that would be necessary since the allowable work time per day would be taken into account when staff reviews the application and agrees to an allowed time. Waivers from the noise ordinance could still be granted on an individual project basis just as they are now if they were determined to be needed. This item will be placed on the April meeting agenda for further discussion.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 1:18 pm