

TRAFFIC CONTROL BOARD MINUTES

May 27, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: Todd Cormier, Gene Wade, Trina White, Sgt Shane Winden (substituting for Capt. Harper)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sondra Baker

STAFF SUPPORT: Terry Smith, Erin Claunch

GUESTS: None

BUSINESS MEETING:

Call to order: Todd Cormier 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 Gene Wade, seconded by Todd Cormier. Motion carried on a voice vote.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT: None

STAFF REPORTS:

Pedestrian bridge over RR. Bids came in high. Council action on award has been delayed until June 9th to explore options.

N. 27th St. water main replacement. The City Council is scheduled to award a \$2.7 Million construction contract to COP Construction at tonight's (May 27) Council meeting for replacement of the water main in N. 27th Street between Montana Ave and 6th Avenue North.

MDT Overlay Projects. Work is wrapping up on the Laurel Road/Montana Avenue overlay. Some striping work remains. Milling is completed on King Avenue between 20th & 24th Streets West, with paving scheduled to start soon.

Inner Belt Loop. The first phase of the inner belt loop roadway between Wicks Lane and Alkali Creek road is nearly complete and is expected to be open to traffic by mid-June.

BOARD REPORTS:

Terry passed out a sheet from Lora Mattox giving updates on the Long Range Transportation Plan, the Highway 3 Corridor Study, and the Zoo Montana to Riverfront Park Trail feasibility Study. He noted the correct date for the public meeting on the Trail Feasibility study is June 18.

Gene asked about the status of the proposed Molt Road-Highway 3 connector roadway. Terry noted this is not part of the Highway 3 Corridor Study, but is a new roadway connection being carried forward in the Transportation Plan. No funding or schedule has been proposed for the connector.

Todd noted a Record of Decision (ROD) is expected next week from the Federal Highway Administration for the Billings Bypass project. Detailed design on the project should start in the fall.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Special Events in Public Rights-of-Way: Todd initiated discussion by stating he felt the policy should include a list of streets that won't be closed for events, and a list indicating streets with conditional requirements (for example you can't close Street "B" if Street "A" is closed). There was discussion of the fact that events like the Women's Run impact a large area. It was noted that north-south travel is effectively cut off between 8th Street West and Main Street during the Women's Run. Shane noted that this can be very frustrating for drivers as they try to find an open street. The police have had to deal with some very angry drivers. Gene asked if the Board's role was more to support the ad hoc committee's work, than to draft specific requirements. Todd asked if higher fees should be charged for closing roadways. He also asked if more detailed traffic control plans should be required from event organizers. No formal action was taken on the item.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 pm.