

TRAFFIC CONTROL BOARD MINUTES

June 24th, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pierre Jomini, Gene Wade, Jerry Dunning, Trina White, Sondra Baker

MEMBERS ABSENT: Todd Cormier, Capt. Harper

STAFF SUPPORT: Terry Smith, Aaron Lebsack, Lora Mattox, Erin Claunch

GUESTS: None

BUSINESS MEETING:

Call to order: Gene Wade called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm in the conference room of the Public Works Building, 2224 Montana Avenue.

Minutes: Motion for approval of the May minutes by Pierre Jomini. Seconded by Trina White. Motion carried on a voice vote.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT: None

STAFF REPORTS:

- **Major 2015 Construction Projects:** Terry updated the Board on major projects for the 2015 construction season.
 - East End storm drain. A large storm drain will be installed in N 15th St from Montana Avenue to 4th Ave N, and then west in 4th Avenue to North 23rd Street. Several sections of water main have to be replaced with the project to avoid conflicts with the new storm drain.
 - On 17th St W there will be a water main replacement from Poly Drive to Avenue D.
 - Colton Blvd will be constructed from Zimmerman Trail to 38th St West, including water & sewer main installation.
 - Calhoun Lane is being fully reconstructed from Underpass Ave to King Ave E.
 - The Expo Gateway area (from North 10th Street to Main St and 1st Ave N to 4th Ave N) will see new sewer lines, water lines, curb & gutter, sidewalk and street lighting. This will include an 18 hour closure for southbound traffic on Main Street for waterline work.
 - 2015 pavement overlays will be on Broadwater Ave from 16th St W to 24th St W; 19th St W from Broadwater Ave to Lewis Ave; and Poly Dr from Virginia Ln to 13th St W.
 - Poly Drive/Virginia Lane/Grandview Blvd intersection. The intersection will be reconstructed, including new traffic signal equipment and ADA improvements.
 - Poly Drive from 32nd St W to 38th St W, full reconstruction including street widening, curb, gutter and sidewalks.

- Bench Boulevard. The Montana Department of Transportation will be reconstructing Bench Blvd from Highway 312 to Hilltop Road, including a new traffic signal at the Roundup turnoff (Bench & Main).
- **Traffic Signal Warrants including left turn signals:** Terry made a presentation to the Board explaining the MUTCD warrants for determining the potential need for a traffic signal. These warrants include; Eight-hour vehicular volume, Four-hour vehicular volume, peak hour volume and delay, pedestrian volume, school crossings, coordinated signal system, crash history, roadway network and intersections near a railroad grade crossing. He also provided a handout with guidelines for determining when a protected left turn phase may be needed. Evaluation of protected lefts looks at factors such as approach speed, conflicting volumes (left turn vs. opposing thru traffic) and crash history.

BOARD REPORTS:

- **Lockwood Non-Motorized Transportation Plan:** The Lockwood community worked with the County Commissioners to create a special district to fund the installation of pedestrian and non-motorized vehicle safety improvements. They recently completed a “Non-Motorized Transportation Plan” for the district and are now seeking funds to implement improvements identified in the Plan. The district will raise some money through special assessments, but is also seeking grant funding.
- **West End Traffic Study & Model:** This is a modeling project that will look more in depth at how development is impacting transportation needs in the far west end. The study will look at an area bounded roughly by Shiloh & 62nd St. West, and Rimrock Road & Hesper Road. Sanderson Stewart has been hired to complete the study and will be looking at land use, development density and increased traffic volumes.
- **Rims to Valley Bike/Ped Study:** This is a planning study which will focus primarily on Bike-Pedestrian access from the rims into town, or from town up to the rims. Interviews for consultants are underway with the two finalists being HDR and Sanderson Stewart. This is the last large segment of the “Marathon Loop” that has not been at least studied and a trail corridor identified.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **62nd St W, Molt Rd & Rimrock Rd:** Pierre proposed the Board recommend this intersection to the City Council for inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Lora noted that all urban funding in the current Five Year TIP is dedicated to the Billings Bypass project. Gene asked Pierre to draft a formal motion that the Board can consider at their next meeting. Staff was asked to determine how much funding is available from developer contributions.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Kari Lane:** Pierre stated that vehicles have to drive in the two way left turn lane because vehicles are parking along on the side of the street. Terry stated that Kari Lane is a private street and the City has no jurisdiction over parking on the street.

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