

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission
Minutes
January 10, 2008

Those present: Mike Sullivan, Rob Storm, Ron Withers, Dennis Pullin, Aaron Wert, Don Hall, Bill Kyle, Jackie Field, Dave Snelson.

Meeting called to order 9:08 - Dave

Minutes of December 13, 2007 approved.

Mike – Speed Studies

1. **Washington St. North** (between North College and Pole Line and north of Pole Line near Federation development) already approved. Preparing to **present to the City Council**.
2. **Stadium Blvd. Eastland to Hankins**. Median speed from study – 35 MPH. Prior recommendation to post speed at 35 (currently posted at 30). Other similar roads are posted at 30 (Filer). Rob recommends the consistent posting of 30 MPH for all of Stadium (Eastland to Hankins). Bill expressed concern of 30 MPH for minor collectors and would like to propose 35 MPH from Carriage to Hankins. Motion to propose 35 MPH from Carriage to Hankins dies. **Motion for 30 MPH from Eastland to Hankins passed.**

Discussion of **“Intersection Control Plan for Future Development.”**

Discussion of attached maps of current signage and proposed signage (black signs are current and red signs and roads are proposed). Four-way stop at Filer and Carriage and two-way stop at Stadium and Carriage. No signs will be placed in the next month. **Commission voted to recommend this proposal as written.**

We need to write a letter to respond to signage request (Stan Visser).

Jackie will sit down with Stan to review the plan.

3. **Stadium Blvd and Meadowview Ln.** – two-way stop for Meadowview Ln. traffic. **Commission voted to recommend this proposal as written.**
4. Stop sign request for Eden St. and 7th Ave. North. – No discussion. – Tabled until the next meeting.

Dennis – Filer and Maurice crosswalk. Will Kezele (Council member) concern presented in a past meeting. Dennis has received some additional calls (concerns) since then. Further discussion needed on traffic, lanes, right-turn-only from high school parking lot on Filer, etc. Agenda item for future meeting. Bill suggested a diagram (map) for future discussion. Dennis offered to provide that.

Dennis – Magic Valley Builders Association meeting regarding trailer parking in the city. Current Code and Proposed Change sheet presented to commission members. MVBA

indicated that they would write a letter to support this change. **Motion to support recommendation to City Council – Passed.**

Dennis – James A. Mildon award nominations – call for nominations – deadline end of next week (1/18). Rebecca emailed the forms within the past week or two and Dennis has additional copies. Nominations open to police department and traffic safety commission. Bill suggested Rebecca Duke for consideration for her ongoing work in school and community traffic safety.

Jackie reminded the commission that some members may be up for expiration or termination in March. Members may be able to express interest in consideration for another term. Bill notes that this committee really needs certain kinds of people (position, knowledge, expertise, etc.).

Meeting adjourned at 10:09.

Next meeting: February 14, 2008

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission
Minutes
February 14, 2008

Those present: Rebecca Duke, Rob Storm, Bill Kyle, Dennis Pullin, Mike Sullivan, Page Geske and Dave Snelson.

Mike – Speed Studies

Orchard Ave: Speed Study indicates a need to change the speed limit on Orchard Ave on both sides of Washington. Bill moved that the speed limit be changed to 35 mph for approximately ¼ mile on Orchard both east and west bound. The speed limit will resume to 50 mph after that ¼ mile. Rob seconded the motion.

Dennis – James A. Mildon award

Rebecca Duke was nominated and voted to receive the James Mildon Traffic Safety Award. Dennis will keep all members updated as to when the presentation will take place at the city council meeting.

Commission members terms of office: Members have expressed concerns regarding too many valued members leaving at once. Dennis is going to try and get some resolution with the city council.

High school improvement project – After extensive discussion the decision was tabled to allow Mike and Dennis to approach the fire department regarding laws and accessibility needs.

Rob motioned to approve the January minutes and Bill seconded.

Rob had some concerns about speed limit posting on Grandview Dr. Southbound on Grandview from Pole line Rd, there isn't a speed limit sign. Mike will research why there isn't and have the problem corrected.

Rob suggested that another speed limit sign should be posted just west of Bridgeview Rd heading westbound. Mike will research what the rules are as to how often signs can/should be posted.

Meeting adjourned 9:58am. Next meeting March 13, 2008.

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission
Minutes
March 13, 2008

Those present: Dave Snelson, Rob Storm, Dennis Pullin, Mike Sullivan, Jackie Fields, Bill Kyle, Ron Withers and Rebecca Duke

Meeting called to order 9:03 am

Rob motioned to accept the minutes of February 14 2008. Bill seconded. Motion carried.

Commission member terms – Dennis

Those expiring in March 2008 – Dave, Page & Rob. Dennis relayed that Gretchen Scott said that members are allotted 2 full terms. And since Dave, Page and Rob had volunteered a short one-year term they will be allowed another full two-year term. Reappointment would need to be done by the City Council. Jackie volunteered to present it to council because Dennis will be out of town for a short time. In an Email from Mayor Lance Clow, he suggests the possibility of lengthening the term amounts. Dennis said he needs to do some research regarding that.

Pole Line & Locust St - Dennis

Magic Valley mall has concerns regarding the collisions at Locust and Pole Line. Their concern is that the speed limit of 45 is too high for the intersection. Collision statistics show one so far in 2008, four in 2007, six in 2006 and six in 2005. Commission recommends that according to stats, the amount of collisions is decreasing and that we should leave it be for now and watch it carefully.

There is a city of Twin Falls sign noting “when not posted speed limit is 25 mph” a short distance from a 45 mph sign. The green city of Twin Falls sign will be removed.

The speed limit signs discussed last month at Pole Line and Bridgeview as well as Grandview and Pole Line are in place.

Extensive discussion regarding the long term project at Twin Falls High School resulted in a need for an on site meeting. Commission will meet near the intersection of Locust St and Filer Ave at 9am on **April 10 2008**.

Meeting Adjourned at 10.09am

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission
Minutes
April 10, 2008

Those present: Rebecca Duke, Aaron Wert, Jackie Fields, Bill Kyle, Ron Withers, Michael Sullivan, Rob Storm, Dennis Pullin, Page Geske, Brian Maughn, Don Hall, Ben Allen.

Those present met at The Twin Falls High School to discuss possible solutions for traffic control on Filer Ave and Locust St. There were several concerns regarding parking and traffic flow.

Presented solution:

- Re-stripe Filer Ave from Locust Street to Madrona. Currently it is 4 lanes, re-stripe to 3 lanes with a center turn lane.
- The pedestrian island located at Maurice and Filer Ave to be enlarged.
- Remove the crosswalk located on the east side of the intersection of Filer Ave and Maurice.
- Paint a stripe just inside “the cage” parking lot on the Filer Ave entrance to show clarification of lanes and permitted turning.
- Place “NO LEFT TURN” signs at The Bruin Loop exiting onto Filer Ave as well as the exits of “the cage” on Filer Ave and Locust St.

Rebecca motioned to have city engineering present this possible solution to City Council and the Twin Falls School District Board. Aaron Wert seconded. All in Favor.

Meeting Adjourned 9:45am

Next meeting May 8, 2008 at the City Council Chamber overflow room.

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission
Minutes
May 8, 2008

Those present: Rebecca Duke, Dave Snelson, Bill Kyle and Mike Sullivan.

There was not a quorum present.

Discussion regarding A Power Plant employee almost hit in the parking lot (Power Plant lot) by a Twin Falls police officer. Dave will extend an invitation to the owner of the Power Plant to attend our next meeting. Discussion will consist of possible remedies of people driving through his parking lot to avoid the red light at Addison Ave and Blue Lakes Blvd.

Next meeting will be June 12th at the city engineers building located on Hansen street between 3rd Ave east and 4th Ave east.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37am.

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission
Minutes
July 10, 2008

Those present: Rebecca Duke, Dave Snelson, Mike Sullivan, Kirk Brower, Dennis Pullin and Bill Kyle.

Dave called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

Introductions were made to our new member Kirk Brower.

Mike stated the intersection at Blue Lakes Ave South and Orchard warrants a four way stop. Mike will discuss with Jackie the proper procedure to have one installed because both the City of Twin Falls and the Highway District maintain the intersection.

Bridgeview Estates – possible crosswalk: Employees are parking in the back mall parking lot and walking across Bridgeview Blvd to the retirement community. Mike will continue to discuss the ideas and traffic study results with Jackie and then he will present findings and possible solutions to this commission.

Kirk stated the high school improvement project did not go to school board on the 25th. There was no meeting. They will meet on July 14 and it is on the agenda.

Mike stated that the signs for the Twin Falls High School improvement project stating no left turn could be supplied by the city. Either city maintenance personnel or school district personnel can install them. Dennis will email Fritz on whether it is legally enforced by law enforcement officers if installed by school district employees.

Bill motioned to accept June 2008 minutes. Rebecca seconded. All in favor.

Kirk asked about the Washington St North project and what the status is considering school opening next year. At this time the project is scheduled for 2011. Cheney Dr. and the light at Washington St and Cheney Dr. will be erected approximately fall of 2008. Possible solution to student traffic would be to force student drivers to exit to Sparks or Cheney Dr and use the light to access Washington St. That would alleviate the traffic on North College, keeping residential traffic to a minimum as well as the dangerous intersection of North College and Washington St.

Bill stated for our information only that the Long Range Transportation Committee has given a recommendation regarding speed limits on city roads. That recommendation states that all arterial roads be 45 mph, all collector roads be 35 mph and local (residential) roads be 25 mph. Again, at this time, it is only a recommendation but it will help this commission make consistent decisions in the future.

Dennis had concerns regarding the broken beacon signs on Second Ave near Lincoln Elementary. At this time they are showing two different speeds. The beacons are in disrepair and parts are not available anymore. Mike will contact the electricians maintaining the signs and ask they fix them temporarily until other arrangements can be made. Mike will ask Jackie if a more permanent solution can be made a priority for safety reasons.

Adjourned 10:06, next meeting August 14th.

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission
Minutes
August 14, 2008

Those present: Dave Snelson, Bill Kyle, Rob Storm, Dennis Pullin, Mike Sullivan, Aaron Wert and Rebecca Duke.

Dave called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

Bill motioned to accept the July 2008 minutes, Rebecca seconded. Motioned carried.

Mike briefly discussed the speed study regarding 2nd Ave. E. between Maurice & Sycamore Streets. Results were typical of any residential neighborhood therefore there is no need for action at this time.

Dennis informed the commission members that police officers will focus on school zones with a no tolerance policy.

The Principal at Perrine Elementary asked for a crosswalk at Shoup and Washington St. There is a bike lane on Shoup that runs east and west but there is no signal at the intersection therefore it would be even more dangerous. Dennis will discuss things further with the principal.

The Twin Falls School Board approved the striping project at the Twin Falls High School. According to a relayed message through Dennis Pullin from Fritz Wonderlich, Twin Falls City Attorney, the signs installed at the high school that read "right turn only" are enforceable by police officers.

In November 2007 a speed study was conducted at the intersection of Eden St. and 7th Ave North. Commission members needed to see the site for themselves and the issue was tabled until the next meeting. Unfortunately the item was not revisited. Mike will find the speed study so that we can correct the issue

The beacons for O' Leary Junior High were installed by the city electricians and should be working very soon.

Meeting adjourned at 9:52 am.

Next meeting is September 11 at the city council overflow room.

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission

Minutes

September 11, 2008

Those Present; Dennis Pullin, Aaron Wert, Rob Storm, Rebecca Duke, Page Geske, Jackie Fields, Michael Sullivan and Bill Kyle.

Bill Kyle called the meeting to order at 9:10 am.

Rob motioned to approve the minutes from August 14, 2008. Aaron seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

Speed study - Intersection at 7th Ave north and Eden St. – A resident was concerned with the amount of close calls in the intersection and requested a stop sign be installed. With the consideration of 4 minor accidents in 10 years, members agreed with the recommendation from engineering, no action be taken at this time. Aaron motioned to accept the recommendation, Bill seconded. Motioned carried.

Speed study - Filer Ave west of Grandview – Resident is concerned with speeders and wanted resolution. There was an old speed sign posted but the signage has since been corrected. City engineering recommends that at this time no action be taken. Aaron motioned to follow city recommendations. Rob seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Jackie Fields gave an abbreviated presentation of the City of Twin Falls Master Transportation plan.

Jackie confirmed the school zone speed beacons are in the budget. We need to look at the list and prioritize the zones that are in need of beacons.

At the October meeting, the commission must agree and form a letter of support regarding the transportation plan to city council.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.

Next meeting, October 9, 2008.

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission

Minutes

October 9, 2008

Those present: Dave Snelson, Rebecca Duke, Aaron Wert, Dennis Pullin, Nicole Bishop, Mike Sullivan, Jackie Fields, Brady Dickinson, Kirk Brower, Bill Kyle, and Don Hall.

Bill motioned to approve September 11, 2008 minutes. Rebecca seconded, motion carried.

Nicole Bishop, a parent of a Perrine Elementary student, brought concerns to the commission regarding the lack of crosswalks on Caswell Ave. Currently there is a crosswalk located at the intersection of Wendell St and Caswell as well as Sparks St and Caswell. There is a mid-block crosswalk at an opening in the fence at Perrine on Caswell. There is no crosswalk mid-block near Robert Stuart Jr. High. Jackie said that a crosswalk would be appropriate there and would have the work started as soon as possible to install the appropriate signs and thermal strips. The crosswalk will be installed at the entrance of the Robert Stuart parking lot. Accurate speed signage is already in place for the school zone. **Aaron motioned to support Jackie on her decision to install the crosswalk. Bill seconded and the motion carried.**

In addition to the crosswalk at Robert Stuart, Kirk informed the commission that a crosswalk would also be necessary at Oregon Trail Elementary. Jackie said her department will determine whether a crosswalk would need be installed.

Canyon Ridge High School – Brady Dickinson approached the commission with concerns regarding the multiple parking lots at the new high school. After extensive discussion and viewing of school maps, it seems that educating students will be the key to smooth traffic flow.

School Beacons – Dennis needs to speak with Fritz Wonderlich, the city attorney, regarding speed enforcement on Elizabeth as well as Eastland near O’Leary Jr. High. Dennis will bring the school zone prioritized list to the next meeting and the commission will reprioritize the zones due to change in needs.

The hearing to review the City of Twin Falls Transportation Master Plan will be moved to November 12 due to additional information needed. Commission members asked Jackie to form a letter of support from the commission and we will endorse it before the next meeting.

Dennis informed the commission that there is a possibility a law will be passed to allow ATVs, UTVs, and motor bikes on public roadways. At this point it is just information.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:35am

Next meeting November 13, 2008

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission

Minutes

November 13, 2008

Those present: Dave Snelson, Rebecca Duke, Dennis Pullin, Mike Sullivan, Kirk Brower, Don Hall, Bill Kyle, and Page Geske.

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 am.

Kirk Brower stated that there was an omission on October 9th minutes. There was discussion regarding the installation of a crosswalk at Oregon Trail Elementary. With that information added Bill motioned to accept the minutes. Kirk seconded, all were in favor and the motion carried.

There have been four pedestrian accidents, mainly in school zones. Our focus is to look at each school zone and prioritize their needs for flashing beacons. At this time Bickel is a main concern on Blue Lakes Blvd proper, just north of the intersection of 2nd Ave East and Blue Lakes Blvd. Approximately 25 children cross Blue Lakes Blvd to attend Bickel Elementary. Mike is going to research whether this area of Blue Lakes Blvd is state highway.

One additional beacon is needed just south of the intersection of Elizabeth Blvd and Eastland. The problem lies with enforcement. Because the flashing beacons are only activated, changing the speed limit from 35 to 20, during certain hours of the day (i.e. before school and as school releases) it is difficult to enforce the speed limit. Motorists turning south onto Eastland from Elizabeth are unaware the speed limit is different. At this time, this is for informational purposes only.

Kirk informed the commission that the school district bus company is doing a safety study for Sawtooth Elementary. The results will indicate whether additional buses are needed to transport children across Falls Ave East.

Kirk passed on information from an email between Dale Thornsberry (Twin Falls School District) and Nathan Jerke at ITD. The email from Mr. Thornsberry inquired about the Washington Street North project and who to contact for information. Mr. Jerke responded with appropriate local contact information (Jackie Fields, City Engineer and Aaron Wert, Project Manager at Riedesel Engineering). Although the funds are provided by the federal government, the City of Twin Falls is responsible for design and planning. Don Hall elaborated on small details such as right of way processes and time frames.

Next meeting December 11, 2008. Meeting Adjourned at 10:01 am.

Minutes provided by Rebecca Duke

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission Meeting

Agenda

December 11, 2008

9am-10am

1. November 2008 minutes
2. Busing/crosswalk at Madrona and Falls - Kirk
3. School zone prioritized list
4. New ATV, UTV law passing in January - Dennis

MEMBERS

PERMANENT AND AT LARGE

Dave Snelson, Chairman	Rob Storm
Bill Kyle, Co-Chairman	Aaron Wert
Page Geske	Kirk Brower
Rebecca Duke	

EX-OFFICIO

Tom Courtney	City Manager
Jackie Field	City Engineer
Don Hall	City Council
Mike Sullivan	Traffic Technician
Jim Munn	Chief of Police
Dennis Pullin	Staff Sergeant/Traffic

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission

Minutes

December 11, 2008

Those present: Dave Snelson, Rebecca Duke, Rob Storm, Mike Sullivan, Aaron Wert, Dennis Pullin, Kirk Brower and Page Geske.

Kirk motioned to accept the November 13, 2008 minutes. Rob seconded, all were in favor and the motion carried.

Kirk informed the commission that the Twin Falls School District board will be drafting a letter to the City of Twin Falls requesting appropriate action be taken for the intersection of North College Rd and Washington St. North. At this time, the intersection is a two way stop with vehicles on Washington St North having the right of way. The school district's concerns include Canyon Ridge High School, opening in the fall of 2009, and the hazardous situation of the intersection. Current statistics provided by the Twin Falls Police Department indicate that in the year 2007 twenty seven (27) accidents occurred at North College Rd and Washington St. North. As of December 10, 2008 eighteen (18) vehicles were involved in collisions at that intersection. Discussion amongst the commission included ideas such as police traffic control, or possibly contracting with a local company to do traffic control. Unfortunately, statistics have shown that accidents happen at all times at that intersection, not just when school is in session. Mike is researching the cost of placing temporary traffic lights on span wires until permanent fixtures can be installed in approximately two years. **Kirk motioned that the Traffic Safety Commission draft a letter to the City Council, requesting that the city make finding an adequate temporary solution a priority. Rob seconded the motion and all were in favor.** Aaron Wert will draft the letter on behalf of The Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission.

Kirk informed the commission that the Western States Bus Company is continuing their research regarding the need for a safety bus for students in the area of Falls Ave East and Madrona St. Kirk relayed that the crossing guard for Sawtooth Elementary counted 89 students that crossed the intersection in one afternoon. Records indicate that approximately 190 elementary students, as well as roughly 132 high school students, live north of Falls Ave East between Eastland Dr. and Locust St. Michele Dameron, supervisor of the Western States Bus Company, performed a count on Tuesday, November 4, 2008 of how many vehicles enter that intersection. Her results, from 2:30 pm to 4pm, were 1, 730 traveling east and west on Falls Ave East, and 524 traveling north and south on Madrona. The bus company must follow proper procedure to ensure the safety bus is needed and will act appropriately as soon as possible.

The Traffic Safety Commission is in the process of prioritizing the safety needs of school zones in Twin Falls. At this time, city police officers and school administration are trying to provide as much input as possible to allow the commission to make appropriate decisions. Dennis will put

together statistics as well as recommendations and will provide the information to the commission before the next meeting.

Dennis provided the commission with information regarding a new law effective January 1, 2009. The law will state that, with proper licensing and mechanical equipment, ATVs, UTVs and dirt bike style motorbikes will be legal to operate on city roadways. Individual cities in Idaho will have the power to ban the operation of these vehicles on city streets, within the city limits only. Members of the commission stated concerns that operating such a vehicle would be hazardous in a city the size of Twin Falls versus smaller rural communities where traffic is not a major issue. **Rob motioned that the Traffic Safety Commission support banning the operation of any ATVs, UTVs and dirt bike style motorbikes on city roadways. Page seconded and all were in favor.**

Next meeting is January 8, 2009 at 9am.

Meeting adjourned 9:58am.