



**TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

[www.independencepolice.org/tsc.html](http://www.independencepolice.org/tsc.html)

**MINUTES OF MEETING ON 09/17/2008**

Commission members & staff present:

Terry Allen                      Tim Hinds

Carl Nightengale              Vern Wells

And welcome to **Jennifer Lippert**, our new student representative.

Absent:

Kie Cottam

Beau Horn

Shawn Irvine

Visitors: Maddy Blunck, Marquis Spa

Rick Gydesen, Amphitheater Event Coordinator

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:**

Approved as written.

**VISITOR BUSINESS:**

Maddy Blunk, regarding Marquis Spa crosswalk.

see New Biz #4.

Rick Gydesen, regarding parking for Amphitheater events set up.

See New Biz #5.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**1.** The crosswalk in front of Colonia Amistad is in mid-block and will be more difficult for drivers to observe. Warning signs have been erected near the crosswalk. Vehicles from C-A are still parking in the turn-out, blocking sight to oncoming traffic.

Carl will initiate a work order to stripe the crosswalk, and will see if 3M Corporation will donate reflective striping tape.

The Committee will determine if a flashing crosswalk light is required; cost is the issue.

Flashing lighted installed.

Kie and Carl will work out crosswalk striping.

Striping can wait until the Ash Creek Trail is finished.

*Complete.*

**2.** In place of the denied grant funding for a SR2S Coordinator, ACTS may provide us with \$1,100. We need to come up with traffic safety ideas for funding.

Purchased helmets and gave a stipend to 3 cadet/reserve officers for helmet distribution and fitting at National Night Out on August 5.

*No further action.*

3. Resident request: S. Main near D has a jog in the street, and they request reflectors on the center-line to highlight the perceived problem.  
Kie will have reflective dots installed.
4. Greystone Apt. resident says signs and landscaping block view of traffic from the south.  
She's right. The built-up landscaping mound obstructs.  
Note: the forest restoration company is no longer there.  
Carl requested that ODOT handle this Rte. 51 problem.
5. Report of students driving across Pfaff Park to the basketball courts.  
Carl notified Public Works. Jill notified PD.  
Public Works to install bumpers.  
*Complete.*
6. People park in disabled parking slots at HHES to pick up children.  
This also emailed by Jill to PD.  
IPD to perform extra enforcement.  
*Complete.*
7. Lyle Berg of the airpark, has problems with the TSC not taking action on the complaint about truck traffic on Stryker Rd. He'd like to know:
  - a. "What was the main objection to not designating Hwy 51 as the truck route, since it is? I'm sure there is a good reason.  
I'd just like to know what is."
  - b. "Who on the board has the problem with that?"
  - c. "Are the members of the board volunteers, and how many are there?""As you know, I realize trucks need access to Marquis Spas and a few other business on Stryker and have no problem with them."  
"I intend to pursue this matter as far up and along as I can."  
Note: this street if fully developed for truck traffic.  
*No further action – waiting Mr. Berg's next step.*
8. Resident request: S. Main near D has a jog in the street, and they request reflectors on the center-line to highlight the perceived problem.  
Kie will have reflective dots installed.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Resident request to replace road bumps on Gun Club with rumble grooves. The claim is that the bumps are dangerous to motorcycles.  
Kie – grooves practical? If so, wait for current bumps to deteriorate?
2. Yellow curb striping on Monmouth St. and the IPD alley requested. Vehicles sometimes park very close to the alley causing vehicles turning west on Monmouth to enter the oncoming traffic lane.  
*Complete.*

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**3. Request for 15-minute-parking signs removal in front of 260 Monmouth St.**  
*Complete.*

**4. Marquis Spa requested action by the crosswalk on Polk St. near Stryker. The crosswalk is from the company parking lot to the factory. The following is from them:**

“I did talk to John Schrenk (our President) about our discussions and he wanted to add one issue to the traffic situation. There's a cross walk for our employees to get from the plant to the parking lot (crosses Hoffman Road). We've had several close calls, especially in the fall when it gets dark early. There's a slight curve on one end (for people coming from 51 and going towards the airport) and excessive speed tends to be an issue. Add a fall evening with no light to the mix and it becomes a real hazard. Many times a person on the cross walk isn't discovered until the last minute. It's honestly only a matter of time before there's an accident there and we actually had a really close one this week, during daylight hours. With two businesses moving in soon, there will be additional traffic coming and going on that road. Is there anything the city can do to call attention to that cross walk better? Something that could be seen in the dark too? Lights? Warning signs?”  
Maddy Blunck, Corporate Communications Director.

**Problems:**

Blinking lights on crosswalk sign are not bright enough in daytime.

City planted bushes and school bus yard fence block vision when traveling west.

Crosswalk bumps and painted warnings on street in both directions are too close to the crosswalk, not affording enough time to slow down.

Street light is close by the CW, but not bright enough.

Vehicles turning left from Hoffman to Stryker, ignoring the No-Left-Turn sign.

Most come from the rental yard. A suggestion for another sign to be placed near the rental place, and/or talk with the owner.

Carl will check costs for brighter or different flashing lights, and cost of a push-button activated sign which will blink “PEDESTRIAN IN CORSSWALK AHEAD”, or works to that effect.

Kie can check for additional NO-LEFT-TURN sign, and the cost of moving or adding bumps and road signage further back in both directions.

Ms. Blunck will meet with Marquis Spa owner to see if they'll share in crosswalk safety improvements.

**5. The Amphitheater committee complained of lack of parking space to set up the stage for their events. People, especially businesses, park on C Street in the slots by Main St, in the spaces the set-up people would like.**

Suggestions were:

Using the old service station, but that is a hazard because they have to back out into Main St traffic.

Cones from public works to mark loading zone spaces early. That can't be done because the business across the street parks there all of their business day with their vehicles.

Removing the bollards by the restroom, and using that access road for a loading one.

Because movie and music events at the Amphitheater are winding down for the season, this is tables until the next TSC meeting, giving us all time to think of possible solutions.

6. Neighbors on Laurelridge St. request for speed-bumps on Marigold Drive east of Gun Club Road. They are concerned with potential problems on the new development in the Marigold extension, which will cross to 16<sup>th</sup> Street.

There will be a 25 mph speed zone and stop signs in the area.

The Committee suggests revisiting this request after the development is completed.

An additional (potential) problem in this area will be traffic near new crosswalks on 16<sup>th</sup> and Gun Club for the new school. This will be on the agenda for the next TSC meeting.

7. New old business is the Gun Club Road & Hoffman Road intersection.

Vehicles turning from Gun Club have to enter the crosswalk to see oncoming traffic, especially from the east. This puts people trying to cross the intersection at risk.

In addition, the sidewalks and culverts on Hoffman are not aligned, which makes it even harder to solve the crosswalk problem. On November 13, 2006, Chief Wells sent a letter (attached) to the Polk County Commissioners requesting a fix for this problem, who sympathized, but wouldn't fund improvements, even with the City of Independence offering to share expenses.

Possible solutions:

Straightening the culverts and sidewalks

Stop light on-demand, push button activated.

Overhead pedestrian bridge.

Three-way stop light.

The new Marigold Street extension may relieve some traffic, but it will always be dangerous until fixed.

A formal letter will be drafted and sent to the City Planner, Polk County Commissioners, and the City Manager.

Action: Chief Wells and Carl.

## **NEXT MEETING:**

**NOVEMBER 19, 2008**