



**TRAFFIC SAFETY**

**COMMISSION**

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

**MINUTES OF MEETING ON JANUARY 21, 2009**

Commission members & staff present:

Terry Allen	Carl Nightengale
Beau Horn	Kie Cottam
Tim Hinds	Vern Wells

Absent: Jennifer Lippert  
Lonnie Sanner  
Shawn Irvine

Visitors: None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:**

Unanimous approval.

**VISITOR BUSINESS:**

None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**1.** 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 when weather permits.  
*Reflective dots have been installed. No further action.*

2. Resident request to replace road bumps on Gun Club with rumble grooves. The claim is the bumps are dangerous to motorcycles.  
*Kie is investigating whether grooves are practical, and will advise at the next meeting.***3.**

3. Marquis Spa requested action regarding the crosswalk on Polk St. near Stryker. The crosswalk is from the company parking lot to the factory.

Items discussed at the 09/17/2008 meeting:

- Blinking lights on crosswalk sign may not be bright enough in daytime.
- City planted trees, and the school bus-yard fence block vision when traveling west.
- Crosswalk bumps and painted warnings on street in both directions may be too close to the crosswalk, not affording enough time to slow down.
- Street light is close by the cross walk but may not be bright enough.
- Vehicles turning left from Hoffman to Stryker are ignoring the No-Left-Turn sign. Most come from the rental yard. A suggestion for another sign to be placed near the rental business, and/or talk with the owner.

At the 11/19 meeting:

A “blinker-sign” was examined by all present to see if this would be a possible improvement. The sign is very visible at all hours, would be solar powered, and big visual improvement. Cost is \$1,500 each, and Ms. Blunk will see what Marquis Spa will contribute to this and other safety measures. Public Works would install the signs if the purchase cost could be covered by Marquis.

Kie will add “crosswalk ahead” signs further back in both directions, giving vehicles more time to react. The street warning paint and bumps are starting to deteriorate, and Kie will investigate speed grooves cut in the pavement when it’s time to repaint. He will also determine if the warning paint can be located further back on both sides, again giving vehicles more reaction time to pedestrians.

A possible, inexpensive, solution might be an Adopt-A-Flag program, details provided at the meeting, and on the following web sites:

<http://crossingflags.googlepages.com/home>

<http://www.pedinroads.org/flags>

The idea was discussed, and decided that pedestrians wouldn’t take advantage of the flags.

*This item will be continued to be investigated and kept on our agenda.*

*Action Kie – re-locate old signs, add new. Maddy – Marquis Spa funding for blinker signs, and Carl – determine power for current blinking lights, look for brighter lights..*

4. 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 to the Polk County Commissioners requesting a fix for this problem, who sympathized. There have been small improvements by the City of Independence.

Possible solutions:

- Straightening the culverts and sidewalks
- Stop light on-demand, push button activated.
- Overhead pedestrian bridge.
- Three-way stop light.

Another formal letter was drafted and sent to the City Planner, Polk County Commissioners, and the City Manager by Chief Wells.

This letter was sent on October 10, 2008.

As a result improvements have been started on this intersection in a cooperative effort between Independence City, the School District, and Polk County.

*This item will be continued in the minutes as we keep track of progress. Chief Wells will update.*

**5.** Gun Club Road, in the Colonia Amistad area. Cars park along the curb. Can this be a designated bus pick-up zone? The current bus pickup is on the east side.

It is reported that children don't use the crosswalk, are darting out between cars parked in front of Colonia Amistad, and there's no adult supervision most times. Also, bus's coming from the south to pick children up park on the crosswalk.

Ms. Chevez, a manager of Colonia Amistad, will have classes for their residents to explain what's needed to be done for children's safety, and will insure having adult supervision during bus times.

Mr. Horn will talk with Central's transportation director to find better ways for the busses to manage this area.

*No further complaints on these items; Colonia Amistad appears to have held training classes. This matter will be removed from our addenda as no additional work is needed.*

**6.** Request, via IPW, for a street light on the Monmouth Street at the bridge by 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

There is a longer than usual stretch between street lights here, and is dark. Public Works and the Police Department are working on a city-wide review of street light issues, and this request will be considered. This new light could be mounted on the existing pole.

*This item will be continued in the minutes as we track the progress. IPW has requested the light. We are awaiting installation by Pacific Power.*

**7.** Children walking down Pfaff alley to IES in the AM can't be seen when crossing B Street to school because vehicles park close to the alley on both sides. Resident complaint.

There are no curbs in the area available to paint.

Parking for the school is scarce so removing more parking will lead to double parking.

Asked IES staff monitor to see if the problem is significant – no report back.

*The committee voted not to pursue this any further.*

**8.** Speed zone reduction request for Corvallis Road.

Carl requesting ODOT and Polk County study.

Request was submitted to ODOT.

*No further action until report completed by ODOT.*

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**1.** Brian Poos, parent of a Henry Hill ES student, reported to us in the past that he continuously saw vehicles without handicap placards parking in the disable-parking slots. He has a disabled placard, but is not able to find a place to park in the designated area.

This concern was forwarded to the Police Department for extra enforcement, and HHES staff, who contacted the violators.

*The problem has been resolved to Mr. Poos's satisfaction, and he wanted to thank everyone concerned for the great job - no further action required.*

**2.** Marisela Avila of Marigold Street requests the city to consider a stop sign at the corner of Morning Glory and Marigold streets. This is an "L" style corner. Southbound on Morning Glory curves turning right (west) where it turns to Marigold. Ms. Avila is concerned of being hit by vehicles coming around the corner as she is backing out of her driveway. She reports that many vehicles are coming too fast.

*The city doesn't install stop signs at corners without cross traffic. Carl will contact Ms. Avila. No further action.*

**3.** Colonia Amistad, Gun Club road, has set up a lunch program during spring break and for the summer. They are concerned about speeding on Gun Club, especially during these times.

*Request for extra enforcement forwarded to IPD supervisors. No further action.*

4. At the next meeting, Beau will present the new school maps for Monmouth St. and 16<sup>th</sup> Streets.

5. Lonnie Sanner has agreed to continue his membership with the Traffic Safety committee.

6. It has been reported that southbound on Hoffman Road between Rte. 51 and Stryker, there is no speed-limit sign.

Kie will check and advise.

#### **SAFE ROUTES AND CITY TRANSPORTATION:**

1. OSU students, including Tim Brass, who was our SR2S coordinator, did a study of accessibility and obstacles of our City streets and sidewalks. The City will use this information for future sidewalk improvement projects.

They used GIS to map the areas needing attention, which is shown on the IPD web site at:

[http://www.uoregon.edu/~giscat/audit\\_independence.html](http://www.uoregon.edu/~giscat/audit_independence.html)

Very nice work.

2. If there are any suggestions for the TSC web site,  
[www.independencepolice.org/tsc.html](http://www.independencepolice.org/tsc.html)

Please forward them to Carl

[cnightengale@ci.independence.or.us](mailto:cnightengale@ci.independence.or.us)

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

**[NOTE CHANGE OF DATE FROM 3<sup>rd</sup> Weds.]**

**MARCH 12, 2009**