



City of Blaine

Anoka County, Minnesota

Minutes

Blaine City Hall
10801 Town Sq Dr NE
Blaine MN 55449

Traffic Commission

The Traffic Commission is an advisory body to the City Council. The Commission's function is to review neighborhood traffic concerns on local streets, define issues, review alternatives and cost, hold neighborhood informational/public hearings and make recommendations to the City Council. For each item the Commission will receive reports prepared by City staff, hold neighborhood information hearings and take comment as needed and discuss and act on each issue/concern. The City Council will make all final decisions on these matters.

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

1. Call To Order

The Blaine Traffic Commission met in the City Hall Chambers on Tuesday, May 7, 2019. Chair Haas called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Staff Present: City Engineer Dan Schluender, Sergeant Nate Hatanpa, Project Coordinator Tom Scott

Present: 5 - Haas, Wold, Hill, Skarich, and Anderson

Absent: 1 - Chmielewski

3. Approval of Minutes

3.-1

APRIL 2, 2019 TRAFFIC COMMISSION MINUTES

Attachments: [04-02-19TC.doc](#)

Commissioner Anderson requested the following correction to the April 2, 2019 minutes:

-Page 1, paragraph 1, line 3: replace "Roseville" with "Anoka-Hennepin"

Motion by Commissioner Wold to approve the minutes of April 2, 2019, as amended. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hill. Chair Haas abstained. The motion passed 4-0.

Aye: 5 - Haas, Wold, Hill, Skarich, and Anderson

4. Open Forum for Citizen Input

There were no comments.

There were no comments.

5. Adoption of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Skarich to adopt the May 7, 2019, Traffic Commission Meeting Agenda, as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5 - Haas, Wold, Hill, Skarich, and Anderson

6. Public Hearings/Comments

-None.

-None.

7. Previous Business**7.-1 REVIEW OF TRAFFIC DATA ON MARMON STREET**

Attachments: [2013 Counts](#)
[2014 Counts](#)
[2015 Counts](#)
[2016 Counts](#)

City Engineer Dan Schluender reviewed a traffic study for the 10500 block of Marmon Street, as recommended by the Traffic Commission at their December 4, 2018, meeting. He stated the Traffic Unit collected data via tube counters at 10605 Marmon Street from April 16-18, 2019. He added the 85th percentile of traffic speed was 30 miles per hour (mph) northbound and 28 mph southbound. He noted the tube counters recorded 1130 cars per day going through this neighborhood.

Mr. Schluender stated the City has been collecting traffic data at this location since 2013, due to concern from neighborhood residents regarding increased traffic. He added 1130 cars per day is consistent with what has been recorded in the past. He reviewed traffic counts from previous years, which were recorded mid-block near Marmon Street NE and Ball Road NE: 1143 cars in 2013; 1250 cars in 2014; 1263 cars in 2015; and 1900 cars in 2016.

Mr. Schluender stated this issue was raised by Commissioner Chmielewski at the December 4, 2018, meeting, who noted that there is a traffic influx in this

neighborhood when I-35W has traffic changes or construction. He added there is currently a lane shift on I-35W, which may or may not have had an impact on traffic counts in April 2019.

Mr. Schluender stated City Staff recommends that the Traffic Unit should continue to monitor the area and coordinate enforcement with traffic patterns on I-35W. He added speeds as recorded in April 2019 are not an issue at this time.

Motion by Commissioner Wold to direct City Staff to continue to monitor traffic speeds on Marmon Street and coordinate enforcement with I-35W construction and traffic patterns. Motion seconded by Commissioner Anderson. The motion passed 5-0.

7.-2

REVIEW OF TRAFFIC DATA ON WEST I35W SERVICE DRIVE

Attachments: [I35W Service Drive](#)

Mr. Schluender stated City Staff received a complaint from a local business owner on West 35W Service Drive NE between 85th Avenue and 95th Avenue. He added the business owner is concerned about traffic speeds and their effect on safety and parking lot access for customers and employees. He noted the tube counters were placed on the Service Drive from April 16-18, 2019, and data showed the 85th percentile for speed at 54 mph in both directions.

Mr. Schluender stated the corridor is posted at 50 mph. He added recorded speeds are at the level at which City Staff would ask the Police Department to provide enforcement and education. He noted the tube counter recorded 3250 cars per day, which is not unusual as this road is a frontage road with access to Interstate 35.

Mr. Schluender stated the Police Department employed the City's Jamar Tech radar device from March 18-22, 2019, which showed an 85th percentile for speed at 55 mph in both directions. He added City Staff requested Police Department involvement including education and enforcement. He invited Sergeant Nate Hatampa to address the Traffic Commission.

Sergeant Nate Hatampa stated the Blaine Police Department's Traffic Unit conducted 11 hours of enforcement at this location in April and May 2019, with heaviest traffic noted at 8:00 a.m. He added 16 traffic stops were made, with 15 citations issued. He added the Traffic Unit will continue to monitor the I-35W frontage road corridor.

Mr. Schluender stated City Staff reviewed signage along the frontage road and

noted that there is no southbound speed limit sign posted. He added City Staff recommends installation of a 50-mph speed limit sign on the southbound side of West 35W Service Road NE, south of 93rd Avenue

Chair Haas asked whether this road would technically be 50 mph by default, since the speed limit is not posted. Mr. Schluender agreed.

Motion by Commissioner Anderson to recommend installation of 50 mph speed limit signs on the west side of West 35W Service Drive NE south of 93rd Avenue, and instruct the Traffic Unit to continue education and enforcement efforts. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hill. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5 - Haas, Wold, Hill, Skarich, and Anderson

7.-3

REVIEW OF TRAFFIC DATA ON OLD RADISSON ROAD

Attachments: [Radisson Rd](#)

Mr. Schluender stated the Traffic Commission reviewed a resident complaint regarding traffic speeds on Old Radisson Road. He added the Traffic Commission recommended a traffic study and collection of speed data, to determine whether the area meets the criteria for Urban District. He noted the posted speed limit is 35 mph.

Mr. Schluender stated tube counters were placed at this location from April 23-25, 2019. He added the 85th percentile for southbound traffic was 36 mph, and northbound traffic was 39 mph. He noted City Staff have asked the Traffic Unit to conduct enforcement and education.

Mr. Schluender stated City Staff recommends leaving the posted speed limit at 35 mph and not declare an Urban District, and determine whether enforcement and education are effective in reducing traffic speeds. He added the Urban District would be posted at 30 mph, and it would be difficult to reduce current speeds to 30 mph.

Commissioner Anderson stated the roadway shoulder is fairly wide there for pedestrians and bikers. Mr. Schluender agreed.

Motion by Commissioner Hill to recommend that the speed limit on Old Radisson Road shall remain at 35 mph with continued Traffic Unit education and enforcement. Motion seconded by Commissioner Wold. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5 - Haas, Wold, Hill, Skarich, and Anderson

8. New Business

8.-1

REVIEW ADA TRANSITION PLAN PROCESS

Attachments: [ADA Transition Process](#)

Mr. Schluender stated metro area communities, including the City of Blaine, are required to prepare an ADA Compliance Transition Plan, to review and evaluate all walks, trails and infrastructure within the public right of way. He noted the purpose of this Plan is to identify and remove barriers.

Mr. Schluender recommended that all phases of the ADA Compliance Transition Plan will be reviewed and approved by the Traffic Commission. He added there will be several public open houses, at which residents can notify City Staff of areas that are not in compliance. He noted the Traffic Commission will be asked to make a recommendation on the Compliance Plan and forward to the City Council for adoption and implementation.

Mr. Schluender stated a consultant will be engaged to prepare the Compliance Plan. He added the process can take up to a year due to the necessity of preparing an inventory of the City's ADA system. He noted this issue will come before the Traffic Commission at an upcoming meeting.

Commissioner Hill asked whether the Compliance Plan is mandated for all cities, and whether there is a deadline to have the plan in place. Mr. Schluender confirmed the ADA Compliance Plan is mandated for all cities.

Commissioner Hill asked whether there will be a high cost associated with implementing this project. Mr. Schluender stated it is difficult to predict cost until an inventory can be completed and ADA-compliance issues identified.

Mr. Schluender stated this item will come before the Traffic Commission for review and consideration many times before the process is complete.

Discussed.

Introduction of Drew Brown, Liaison

Mr. Schluender introduced Drew Brown, recently appointed by the City Council to serve as Liaison to all the City's Commissions. He added he is a non-voting participant and will attend all meetings, and can request additional information for review.

Informational; no action required.

Traffic Unit Update

Sergeant Hatampa stated the Traffic Unit has received complaints regarding traffic speeds at several areas, including the four-way stop at 113th Avenue and Ulysses Street; Harper Street south of 125th Avenue; and Jefferson Street from 113th Avenue to 117th Avenue. He added this is often an issue of perception and not enforcement, and education is usually helpful.

Sergeant Hatampa stated a public safety grant is being sought from Center Point Energy to obtain a mobile battery-powered speed limit sign with internal radar for education purposes. He added this grant has been awarded to the Blaine Police Department in the past. He noted the sign can be mounted on any type of post and can be moved to address issues and obtain feedback.

Informational; no action required.

3M Tour Golf Tournament

Mr. Schluender stated the City of Blaine and Police Department are preparing for the 3M Tour PGA golf tournament to be held at TPC Twin Cities on July 1-7, 2019. He welcomed Tom Scott, Project Coordinator, and invited him to address the Traffic Commission.

Mr. Scott stated City Staff have been working for months on coordination of various issues related to safety and security during the 3M Open. He added the tournament will culminate with a concert and fireworks on Friday July 4, 2019. He noted tournament parking and shuttles will be available at the National Sports Center, and City Staff will post “no parking” signs in residential areas. He presented a map depicting parking zones, bus routes, and access roads.

Mr. Scott stated the City Council has directed City Staff to extend “no parking” areas if deemed necessary. He added on-street parking in specified areas will be allowed during tournament times of 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Commissioner Anderson asked whether it is anticipated that tournament-goers will park on the east side of Radisson Road. Mr. Scott stated this has been an issue in the past. He added “no parking” signs will be posted in those neighborhoods.

Chair Haas asked whether temporary signage will be used to reduce traffic speeds on Radisson Road. Mr. Scott stated there are no plans to signalize the intersections at this time, but City Staff are working with Anoka County representatives to prepare for this possibility. He added temporary signals for shuttle buses are planned on Radisson Road at Tournament Players Parkway and 109th Avenue. He added a temporary signal and officer presence may be necessary at Arnold

Palmer Drive and Radisson Road.

Commissioner Wold asked whether this information is available on the City's website. Mr. Scott confirmed this.

Mr. Schluender stated City Staff are planning several community open houses to provide information and answer questions. He added the residents of this neighborhood are familiar with the golf tournament logistics. He noted it is expected that this tournament will draw 35,000 fans per day.

Commissioner Hill asked how foot traffic will be monitored. Mr. Scott stated there will be 2 pedestrian security access points with hand metal detectors, and the entire area will be fenced.

Liaison Drew Brown requested clarification regarding the amount of on-street parking that will be available. Mr. Scott stated it is difficult to estimate how many people will park on City streets to avoid paying for parking and shuttle.

Commissioner Anderson thanked Police Officer Zach Johnson for taking him on a recent ride-along.

Informational; no action required.

9 Next Meeting - Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 6:30 PM

10. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Wold to adjourn the Traffic Commission meeting.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Skarich. The motion passed 5-0.

Adjournment time was 7:08 p.m.

Aye: 5 - Haas, Wold, Hill, Skarich, and Anderson