

**Caldwell Traffic Commission  
Minutes  
November 1, 2023 @ 2:00**

**Present:** Robb MacDonald (RM), Morgan Bessaw (MB), Jake Clinger (CPD), Paul Alsip (PA), Guests: Bob Nelson, Jacob Witucki, Eric Phillips, Secretary: Tammy Frans (TF)

\* MUTCD (Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices) \* ROW (Right-of-Way) \* TC (Traffic Commission)  
\* MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) \* ITD (Idaho Transportation Department)

**Old Business – No Items**

**1. Dangerous U-turns on Kimball between Blaine and the railroad tracks – Tammy Dittenber**

Follow-up to request for No U-turn signs. I'm wondering about getting NO U-TURN signage for that entire stretch of Kimball. **Upon TC first reply** – Tammy Dittenber replied that she knows it is legal to make a U-turn she is wanting to see if the area can be posted as NO U-TURN  
**Officer Clinger Findings**- Looking at state traffic codes a vehicle can do a U-turn in an intersection unless there is a sign posted saying otherwise.

Crossing double yellow lines to park: You can legally cross a double yellow line to enter an alley, driveway, or parking lot. Speaking to other officers about this, we would interpret this to include parking in a parking stall as being allowed.

**Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> TC meeting**- Traffic Commission revisited the request for “No U-turn” signs on Kimball between Blaine and the Railroad tracks.

People drive at low speeds in the downtown area and it is legal to cross a double yellow line to enter an alley, driveway, or parking lot/ parking space. For those reasons, it is Traffic Commission's opinion that adding “No U-turn” signs will likely not deter drivers from making those actions. The Traffic Commission agreed unanimously to deny the request for “No U-turn” signs in the requested location.

**ACTION: Tammy Frans** sent correspondence to Tammy Dittenber sharing the TC's determination.

**New Business –**

**2. Homedale and 10th Avenue why we have a center Island when we should have turnouts – Ron Bean**

Traffic Commission Mr. Beans request for changes at the 10<sup>th</sup> avenue and Homedale intersection. Canyon Highway District #4 made improvements to that intersection approximately 4 years ago to help traffic navigate because there was a high crash rate at that intersection. Initially it was helpful but now crash rates are back up. A large development is coming in on the southwest corner of that subdivision and will be required to put in a roundabout as part of the development agreement.

The 10<sup>th</sup> avenue and Homedale intersection is shared jurisdiction between City of Caldwell and Highway District #4. Traffic Commission agrees adding a turn lane could be helpful.

A motion was made and Traffic Commission agreed unanimously to ask the City Engineering department to reach out to Highway District #4 and see if something can be done to improve the intersection until the roundabout is in place.

**Action: Jacob Witucki** will take TC's request to the Engineering department and report at February 2024 meeting.

### 3. **18th & Cleveland for Traffic Commission – Mayor Wagoner**

I believe a few cars have been running that intersection and getting hit.

CPD Officer Clinger, a member of the TC, agreed there were more crashes at that intersection than surrounding ones. Incidents occur most often with northbound traffic. On review of the intersection, possible contributors could be the following;

- A large tree on the SE corner.
- On the SW corner is a house that is often rented to college students and at times there are multiple cars parked in front of and to the side of the residence, possibly blocking line of site for drivers pulling on to Cleveland.
- South Montana Ave is a collector road that feeds into 18<sup>th</sup> street; as a collector, there are no stop signs on this section of roadway from Linden to Cleveland Blvd. Drivers may not expect the stop sign at Cleveland Blvd.

A motion was made and TC agreed unanimously to review the area for “Stop Sign Ahead” signage. If there is none, put one up. Officer Clinger will deliver crash data at the February meeting for further discussion.

**ACTION: Street dept.** to review intersection signage. **Officer Clinger** to provide crash data at February meeting.

### 4. **Request Lighting on Marble Front – Eric Phillips, Tyler Harding – Van Buren School**

As previously offered: if the school district is willing to cost share by paying for the material, the City will install. Material is approximately 15K.

A motion was made and TC agreed unanimously to the following:

- City will review existing street lights for adjustments and tree trimming
- City will send quote to school to see if they are interested in cost sharing – school pays for material and City installs
- Engineering will look at intersection and do study counts

**ACTION: Jacob Witucki** will take Engineering assignments to Engineering. **Bob(electrical dept.)** will review and adjust existing lighting and provide quote for school review.

### 5. **Request School Zone Speed Signs on Ustick between Middleton & Midland– Samantha Black**

I am wondering how and if it is possible to put school zone speed signs up on Ustick between Middleton & Midland.

TC-Schools are not allowed to build on a principal arterial road without a Special Use Permit. Ustick road is a principal arterial roadway. On principal arterials, the speed limit does not change in a school zone. Desert Sage fronts Santa Anna. A school zone is posted on Santa Anna and the speed does lower in the school zone.

When the roundabout was built at Santa Anna and Ustick road, considerable effort was taken in stating the crossing. The Ustick/ Santa Anna RAB has flashing beacons. There are "School Zone Ahead" signs on Ustick and the speed limit is clearly posted at 35 Mph.

TC's determination is that speeding on Ustick is an enforcement issue. Not controllable with signage.

No motion was made nor action taken by the TC. Officer Clinger will take this request to the Caldwell Police Department.

**ACTION: Officer Clinger** will take this request to the Caldwell Police Department.

**6. Request for an additional lane at the intersection of Lake Ave and Karcher – Angela Cairns**

I am emailing with a request for an additional lane at the intersection of Lake Ave and Karcher. TC replied- ITD is about to start a large project on Hwy 55. Part of that project will address this intersection. The south side of this intersection falls in Hwy District #4 jurisdiction. The City will pass this request on to Hwy District #4.

No Action taken. Request forward to Highway District #4

**7. Request crosswalk at Montana & Laster Lane – Eric Phillips**

Traffic Commission found this to be a reasonable request. A motion was made and TC agreed unanimously to install a crosswalk and applicable signage. Additionally, the electrical department will review the lighting.

**ACTION: Street department** will install a crosswalk when weather permits for paint condition.

**8. Request red curb on Oak Street near College of Idaho – Kristina McDaniel**

I work at the College of Idaho, and I have had several close calls nearly getting hit coming out of Wisconsin Street onto Oak Street due to people parking illegally all the way up to the corner. TC found this request reasonable. A motion was made and TC agreed unanimously to implement one of the following

- Paint red curbing along Oak street
- Put up "No Parking" signs to restrict parking back 40' from the intersection

Street department will review the intersection and determine which option to implement.

**ACTION: Street department** to decide which of the above to implement and move forward with that decision

**9. Request Crosswalk S. 10<sup>th</sup> & Laster Lane – Joey Hoadley**

I am reaching out regarding my hopes for a new crosswalk to be placed at S. 10th Ave and Laster in Caldwell.

TC-This is a wide intersection and more information is needed to understand how to best address this request. A motion was made and TC agreed unanimously to have Engineering review the area, get pedestrian counts and bring a recommendation back to the TC in February.

**ACTION: Jacob Witucki** will communicate with Engineering to review the area, get pedestrian counts and bring a recommendation back to the TC in February.

**10. Speeding and racing on Skyway between KCID and Ward – Cpl Eldridge, August Medellin**

Cpl Eldridge - Received complaint about vehicles speeding on Skyway between KCID and Ward.

A motion was made and TC agreed unanimously to install a speed limit sign eastbound on Skyway in front of or in the near proximity of the fire station. The rest would be an enforcement issue for the CPD.

**ACTION: Street department** to install speed limit sign on Skyway.

#### 11. Cross Walk Survey Letter to Chris Ramos- Eric Phillips

We have the results of the crosswalk survey that Caldwell School District posted online. We had over 500 responses and there are many concerns that respondents identified that are also in the survey answers.

- *Caldwell High School:*

- o Crosswalks at Larch and S. Indiana Ave. & Fair Oaks and S. Indiana Ave. are both somewhat dark during the winter months. The area has lighting, but it's challenging to see the kids standing on the side and the crosswalks themselves.
- o The city and I have talked about putting a crosswalk indicator light at S. Indiana Ave. & Larch in the past when Brent was there and more recently with Rob. Unsure of the status or what steps need to be taken next.

**TC Response:** CHS already has lighting on both sides of Indiana. A motion was made and TC agreed unanimously to send quote to school to see if they are interested in cost sharing - school pays for material and City installs.

**ACTION: Electrical department** will prepare cost quote for school

- ❖ **Informational statement on current project that may pertain to the next request;** The City of This work includes intermittent placement of curb, gutter and sidewalk as well as two pedestrian crossings across Montana Avenue that include a hybrid type HAWK/Rapid Flashing Beacon (RFB) to be located at the intersections of Spruce Street as well as Locust Street. Streetlights will be added or improved at the locations of the pedestrian crossings. The work also includes upgrading driveway approaches and pedestrian ramps to meet current ADA standards along the pedestrian access route. This project is federally funded and construction is currently scheduled for FY2026.

- *Syringa Middle School:* Various pedestrian enhancement along Montana

**TC Response:** Wayne Herbal will engage with ITD to see if the City installs a HAWK as shown on ITD plans if ITD will entertain reimbursing the City from their project funds. The City does not want to install something that will be pulled out in the near future. The City will look at installing enhanced signage in the interim such as LED "Crosswalk Ahead"

**ACTION: Wayne** will correspond with ITD regarding HAWK installation. **Electrical department** will look into enhanced signage for the interim.

- *Lincoln:* request 4-way Stop on Everett

**TC Response:** A motion was made and TC agreed unanimously to have Engineering perform a warrant study on Everett to place stop signs on Everett at 12<sup>th</sup> street intersection then proceed with the outcome of the warrant study.

**ACTION: Jacob Witucki** will follow up with Engineering regarding a warrant study. **Street department** will proceed with warrant study determination.

12. Discuss what items should come before the Traffic Commission and which should go directly to CPD to be addressed.

**ACTION: Robb MacDonald** will further research this item for discussion at the February meeting.

**Resource/ Weather Pending Business:**

1. A signal is planned at 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Blaine Street in front of the Simplot Stadium. The signal currently installed at Santa Anna and Ustick Road midblock will be repurposed for this project once the Ustick/Santa Anna RAB is complete.