

City of Canby

Traffic Safety Commission

Sub Committee Minutes of the meeting of January 29, 2021

Note: Due to the COVID-19 this meeting was held using Zoom

Commission members present: Bob Cambra, Clint Coleman, Tom Rushton, Chris Wadsworth,

City members present: Eric Forsell, Canby Planning Department; Jerry Nelzen, Canby Public Works; Spencer Polack, Canby Public Works

Others present: none

Approval of Minutes: This was the Sub Committee's first meeting.

Introduction: Everyone present introduced themselves.

Citizen Input:

None

Old Business:

New Business:

Bob Cambra discussed the hope to have three to four meetings of the sub committee to explore the options (including a 4 way stop) for the N Redwood/ Territorial intersection.

He started the meeting by having each participant take a few minutes to share their thoughts about the mission of the sub committee.

Bob shared the following points:

- The N Redwood /Territorial intersection has been a point of discussion for years. Now is the time to take action to really study this issue.
- It has a busy, important vehicle traffic roadway on Territorial. Any action at this intersection will have support and contention. We must study the problem and be prepared to defend the recommendation.
- The intersection is governed by two jurisdictions –the City and County. Any recommendation will have to be approved by both entities.
- Any change will require funding. This intersection is not listed in the Canby Transportation System Plan as needing change. Question: Does the CTSP need to be amended for a change to occur?
- He shared the list of options to consider including: 1) after examination deciding to accept the present circumstance unchanged, 2) implement a 4 way stop, 3) install a lighted traffic signal, 4) build a roundabout, 5) other.
- He felt, we need to be prepared for a slow process of change.

Clint Coleman asked Jerry to provide a rough estimate cost of the options being considered. Jerry provided the following rough estimates: 4 way stop - \$100,000; lighted signal \$600,000; a roundabout - \$600,000. Clint then provided a lengthy list of approved developments within this intersections area. He highlighted a significant projected traffic “trip” increase because of these developments. He also indicated how roundabouts keep traffic moving and pointed out numerous examples here in Oregon and in the local area. He expressed he believes Pedestrian Safety needs to be an important element to consider in this decision process. He also inquired if it was possible for the allocated funds could be redirected to a roundabout. Jerry will explore.

Chris Wadsworth explained she has reached out to friends who live in the N. Redwood area and all are supportive of having “something” done to help this intersection. She is concerned about a roundabout because of the required space needed and the cost for implementing. She also described

traffic as getting “crazier and constant”. She explained she supports a 4 way stop because it would be less expensive in cost in comparison with a roundabout and it would probably be quicker to implement sooner.

Tom Rushton expressed his observation of both traffic going faster and felt this intersection is right at the breaking point. He explained how over the next year project developments will be even busier. He felt a four way stop would be quicker to implement.

Eric Forsell, Liaison from the Canby Planning Department, shared philosophically he agrees in improving travel safety. He also reminded everyone of the difficulties that are ahead as you move forward such as property right away issues and the cross jurisdiction situation adding layers of complexity. He spoke about the need to review traffic counts and speeding behaviors while being mindful of the effect of the pandemic. He shared their new Director will be helping to improve their process, information gather system, and arriving at better informed decisions.

Jerry Nelzen, Canby Public Works, shared the City of Canby’s Capital Improvement Project list currently has \$100,000 targeted for NE Territorial / N Redwood Intersection Improvement for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. It was also noted two Traffic Circles (roundabouts) are noted. They are targeted for SE1st & S. Walnut and S. Ivy & 18th. He also shared the City is having a work session with the County regarding the County Roads in the City. These include S & N Redwood, N. Locus, N Maple, and Pine Street.

Spencer Polack, Canby Public Works, expressed his investment in contributing to addressing the needs of the community and staff. Looking forward, he believes the intersection will need to be relined. He will be gathering new traffic counts to help with this evaluation.

Jerry Nelzen, Canby Public Works, further shared some information regarding roundabouts. On a another traffic safety issue, he informed committee members there has been a recent restriction placed on Knight’s Bridge. It is presently restricted to 8 tons vehicles.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be February 26th, 2021 at 8:30am.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Cambra
Secretary