

**Traffic Safety Advisory Committee  
City of Apple Valley  
January 13, 2010  
7:00 p.m. Municipal Center**

**Minutes**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chair Arthur Zimmerman

Members Present: Dick Asleson, Todd Blomstrom, Harald Eriksen, Charles Grawe, Jon Rechtzigel, Arthur Zimmerman

Members Absent: Linda Dolan

Consultants/Alternates Present: Tom Sohrweide

Others Present:

2. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Grawe requested that the Election of Officers for 2010 be added at the end of the agenda.

MOTION: Ms. Rechtzigel moved, second by Mr. Blomstrom, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed 6-0.

3. Approval of November 10, 2009 Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Asleson moved, second by Mr. Grawe, to approve the Minutes of November 10, 2009. Motion passed 6-0.

4. Audience Items

There were no audience items.

5. Resident Request for 4-Way Stop at Pennock Avenue and Palomino Drive

Mr. Blomstrom said the City received a request for the installation of a four-way stop at Pennock Avenue and Palomino Drive. The Public Works Department took traffic counts in December of 2009 during a non-holiday week, and found an increase in traffic volume of about nine percent over volumes recorded in 2004. However, the counts remained below the threshold required to meet the warrants for the installation of a stop sign. Mr. Blomstrom said the City will continue to monitor the area. He also noted that

the proposed improvements to the Cedar Avenue Corridor, including the Bus Rapid Transit service, may alter the location of bus facilities, including the existing park and ride located at Pennock Avenue and Palomino Drive. Changes to the location of the park and ride could greatly impact traffic counts at this intersection.

6. Discussion of Draft Pedestrian Crosswalk Policy

At the previous meeting, the Committee directed staff to draft a policy with guidelines as to what conditions warrant a crosswalk and how the crosswalk would be configured. Mr. Blomstrom also noted that at the direction of the Committee, two requests for crosswalks have been tabled for consideration until the policy has been adopted. He said the City receives frequent requests for painted crosswalks and there is a substantial cost to install and maintain them over time.

Mr. Blomstrom said that staff reviewed the scenes of recent severe pedestrian accidents to determine if painted crosswalks might have prevented the accident. In one instance, the accident involved a four-lane roadway where the vehicle on the inside lane yielded to a crossing pedestrian and inadvertently shielded the pedestrian from the view of a driver in the outside lane. A marked crosswalk would not have prevented this type of accident. In the other instance, the pedestrian was in a lit crosswalk. The presence of the crosswalk did not prevent this from being a fatal accident.

Mr. Sohrweide distributed a draft policy for the Committee's review and discussion. There were minor modification suggestions. Mr. Blomstrom said that staff would make the edits and bring the policy back to the Committee.

7. Other Traffic Concerns Communicated to the City of Apple Valley

Police Concerns

There were no additional Police concerns.

Public Works' Concerns

Mr. Blomstrom distributed a news release from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety indicating a recent reduction in annual traffic deaths within the state. He also distributed an email correspondence from a resident requesting information regarding speed limits and traffic volume along Pennock Avenue, Garden View Drive and 157th Street.

8. Education Issues

There were no new educational items.

9. Election of Officers for 2010

MOTION: Mr. Eriksen moved, second by Mr. Asleson, to appoint Mr. Zimmerman as Chair and Mr. Eriksen as Vice-Chair. Motion passed 6-0.

10. Adjourn

MOTION: Mr. Eriksen moved, second by Mr. Rechtzigel, to adjourn. Motion passed 6- 0. Meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.