

**Traffic Safety Advisory Committee
City of Apple Valley
November 12, 2014
7:00 p.m. Municipal Center**

Minutes

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Arthur Zimmerman

Members Present: John Bermel, Todd Blomstrom, Linda Dolan, Charles Grawe, Arthur Zimmerman

Members Absent: Joe Shaw, Laura Turek

Consultants/Alternates Present: Dave Bennett

Others Present: Jennifer Brustad, Ben Glaser, Glen Glaser, Laura Glaser, Marty Glaser, Christine Heilman, Kelly Kausel

2. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Bennett asked that Request for Parking Prohibitions on 146th Street Near Galaxie Avenue be added to the agenda. He also requested that Item 5E be addressed second on the regular agenda.

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

3. Approval of September 10, 2014 Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Bermel moved, second by Mr. Grawe, to approve the Minutes of September 10, 2014 as presented. Motion passed 6-0.

4. Audience Items

The Glasers expressed their appreciation for the modifications to the fence line that improved visibility at Johnny Cake Ridge Road and 144th Street.

An unidentified resident expressed concern over lighting and visibility of a crosswalk at Garden View Drive and Baldwin Drive. There were also

concerns about crosswalk violation. Mr. Blomstrom said he would evaluate the street lighting at the site. Mr. Bermel said the Police Department Special Enforcement Team would conduct some enforcement efforts.

5A. Resident Concern about Cut-Through Traffic on 144th Street and Everest Way

Mr. Bennett reviewed the traffic data collected when studying the earlier concerns about possible cut-through traffic on 144th Street and Everest Way. The traffic volumes in the study area were all under 300 ADT, which is a very low volume for a residential street. The 85th percentile speeds were between 29 and 32 miles per hours, which is very typical for a residential street. Ms. Kausel urged the Committee to look at other ways to help ensure the safety of children along that stretch of roadway.

5B. Southview Elementary Traffic Concerns

Principal Heilman described concerns for the crosswalk at Whitney Drive and Garden View Drive. The issue is caused by parents coming to pick up students after school. The school parking lot is limited in size and there is a long stack of vehicles trying to make right turns into the parking lot. As a result, exiting traffic generally turns to the south, causing stacking at the crosswalk at Whitney Drive and Garden View Drive.

The Committee encouraged the School to consider modifications to its parking lot to better accommodate waiting parents within the School site and eliminate the stacking on the public street.

5C. Request for Right Turn Lane Markings on Eastbound 155th Street at Embry Path

Mr. Bennett reported on the study of the intersection. Staff found that the current confusion of the lane transition can be eliminated by moving the transition out of the intersection and moving the lane merge further east by a few hundred yards.

MOTION: Mr. Grawe moved, second by Ms. Dolan, to recommend staff add markings for a right turn lane and extend the lane markings to the east as recommended by staff. Motion passed 6 – 0.

5D. Request for “Cross Traffic Does Not Stop” Sign at Cobblestone Lake Parkway and Elmhurst Lane

Mr. Bennett said a resident expressed concern about the intersection because the marked crosswalks create the visual impression that it is a four-way stop. Staff noted that there have been similar concerns at other similar intersections with the marked crosswalks. The Committee consensus was to add the “Cross Traffic Does Not Stop” signs at these types of intersections.

5E. Request for Signs on Garden View Drive

Mr. Bennett reported that a resident requested “Check Speed” signs in association with the speed advisory signs. Staff noted that such signage was intended to be used with the advisory signs and will verify that the intended signage is still in place.

5F. Adopt 2015 Meeting Schedule

Regular meetings are scheduled for January 14th, March 11th, May 13th, July 8th, and September 9th. Since the Veteran’s Day Holiday falls on the normal meeting date for the November meeting, a special meeting date will need to be scheduled for a November meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Blomstrom moved, second by Ms. Dolan, to approve the 2015 meeting schedule as presented. Motion passed 6-0.

5G. Request for Parking Restrictions on the North Side of 146th Street North of the Apple Valley Medical Center

Mr. Bennett said there have been parking issues on 146th Street from Medical Center staff choosing not to park on the Medical Center site. He recommended extending the parking prohibitions a few hundred feet west of the intersection, subject to the agreement by the neighboring townhome properties.

MOTION: Mr. Bermel moved, second by Mr. Blomstrom, to recommend installation of parking prohibitions as recommended subject to agreement by the adjoining townhome properties.

6A. Other Traffic Concerns Communicated to the City of Apple Valley

Police Concerns

Mr. Bermel reported no new concerns.

Public Works Concerns

Mr. Blomstrom reported that Dakota County is currently studying the intersections on County Road 42 and has proposed potentially closing the median at Redwood Drive and removing the signal at Elm Drive. He noted on a related issue, residents in Burnsville continue to request re-installation of a “No Through Traffic” sign along Kelley Lake Drive to discourage cut-through traffic into Burnsville. Staff is currently working with the County to model traffic impacts to the proposed intersection changes and will report back to the Committee.

6B. Educational Issues

Ms. Dolan summarized the Toward Zero Deaths Conference. She also noted a new law requiring parents of student drivers to attend a class or increase required behind the wheel time for students.

7. Adjourn

MOTION: Mr. Grawe moved, second by Mr. Blomstrom, to adjourn. Motion passed 6- 0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.