

**MINUTES
TRAFFIC AND SAFETY BOARD**

7:00 PM

Thursday

March 17, 2011

Chairperson McGowan called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Leppanen, McGowan, Reynolds, Schulz (ex-officio)

ABSENT: Chiara

PREVIOUS MINUTES:

A motion was made by Mr. Leppanen, seconded by Mr. Reynolds, to accept the minutes of the January 20, 2011. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

City Manager Pastue introduced Steve Deering from OHM Engineering to present a traffic study that was conducted on Farmington Road. The study is to evaluate parking on Farmington Road between Grand River and Alta Loma.

Mr. Deering first reviewed vehicle crash data that showed this section of roadway is way below the average of 2.88 MEV (Million Entering Vehicles at an intersection) in Oakland County. The only area of concern that was noted is left turns from State Street onto Farmington Road.

There is currently a study used to evaluate the movement of traffic referred to as "Level of Service, Control Delay/Vehicle." The study uses grading of "A" (best) to "F" (worst) to evaluate the time a vehicle is delayed passing through an intersection. Most cities strive to have at least a "D" rating. Currently Farmington Road/Grand River, and Farmington Road/Alta Loma are rated at "B".

The models used showed that reducing Farmington Road from four to three lanes will not affect this current rating. This involved modeling the road as two northbound lanes, one southbound lane (unbalanced) or one northbound, one center turn and one southbound lane (balanced).

The project, if approved, would call for parking on the west side of Farmington Road and allow for ten to eighteen parking spaces. The project would also call for a "No Left Turn" at State Street and Farmington Road. The time line is for sometime in 2013.

A roundabout was considered for Farmington Road and Alta Loma, but the cost would be too high. The city manager is looking for the Traffic and Safety Board to review the project and make a recommendation to city council in the next few months.

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The city manager will provide a copy of the study and power point presentation to the board.

Members of the DDA and Planning Commission also attended the meeting to view the presentation.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Crossing Guard

The director informed board members that this project is also currently being reviewed by the Road Commission of Oakland County and Farmington Hills. The director is waiting to hear from them on the direction they are looking to go.

B. Snow Removal

Board member Reynolds expressed his concern to DDA Director Knowles about the snow being piled up next to the parking spots on Grand River. Director Knowles noted that it was a bad year for the amount of snow, but they will look at ways to improve the situation.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Drake Road – Request for “Hidden Driveway” Sign

Director Schulz spoke to Mr. Deering (traffic engineer) about this request. Mr. Deering inquired as to the reason for the request. Upon learning it was due to roadway elevation he suggested we evaluate the stopping distance needed and, if warranted, use the appropriate warning sign.

The director will collect additional information as to the sight distances to determine stopping distances. This information will be provided to board members prior to the next meeting. At this time, no further action is needed.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Mr. McGowan noted it was St. Patrick’s Day and to drive safely.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Reynolds and seconded by Leppanen to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting concluded at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Schulz
Public Safety Director