

APPROVED

*Roger Flynn*  
~~UNAPPROVED~~

TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY BOARD  
Minutes  
September 20, 2016

The September meeting of the TSAB held at 7 pm on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 in the training room of the municipal building (room 104). Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Present were:

Marty Adler-Jasny, William Polfus, Jana Humphrey, Melissa McMahan, Ben Redmond, Roger Flynn, Ilona Kazocha, Jeremy Hunt

Hannah Oran, ORHS representative

Andy Marathe - visitor, with comments to bring to board

Absent were:

Andrew Howe

Jane Shelton

Halfen Hoyt

1) Minutes from the June 21, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously.

2) Issues, Comments and Questions

An OR resident shared with a board member that drivers are struggling with being in the left lane that turns onto the currently closed road near JMS. Roger shared that the closure ordinance is not finalized yet but that the turning lane issue would be resolved. He also shared that they're going to gate that road, leaving a panel open for pedestrians and bicyclists.

A recent pedestrian fatality occurred in the past month; there was not a lot known about the circumstances related to the death at this time but did not seem to be related to any pedestrian safety items.

They have redone the entrance to the Secret City car dealership on the turnpike; there is no longer access into the physical therapy location from the frontage road. The crosswalk button is not being redone at this time since it will be addressed in the intersection redo that is coming.

Progress is taking place on the old mall property; detour signs are in place for roads impacted. Wilson Street will close at least 2 more times for moves of utilities, storm drainage installation, etc.

We asked Roger if there is a current plan of what the drawings looked like; although he has seen a footprint for it, he has not seen recent architectural drawings. At this point we have been told that the project will have open retail by the holidays of 2017; then they will begin the work on the back part of the project. Residential is in the 2nd part of the project. The rubble from the project is being recycled, crushed for fill material, used for underneath the parking lot and even some earth being moved to a local soccer field. Lots of reuse.

We had a discussion about the location of stores in the new build; there are supposed to be 2 big stores sit behind Wal-Mart, where Sears used to be. There is a PDF out on the website, RealtyLink's site has one but it has older drawing

Dairy Queen is looking at another site in Oak Ridge. Panda Express is taking action on the old Ruby Tuesday site.

Our visitor, Andy Marathe, asked to speak to the board regarding sidewalks in the area that he is moving into in Oak Ridge. He has lived on Westbrook Circle for the past 15 years and is an avid walker. He routinely walks from his residence to the Civic Center for swimming.

At this time, he is purchasing property on Vermont. His concerns stem from the walk he would have from his new location on Vermont to the Civic Center.

For that walk, he has to cross at least 5 streets to get to the Civic Center if he uses existing sidewalks. It is not impossible, but awkward and not necessarily safe.

We talked about Mr Marathe's concerns at length; he asked that in our function as an advisory board that we pass to the council or he can take to the council, either way. We also discussed alternate walking routes he could take at this time, since several board members are avid walkers.

There was discussion on if this would go to the city council first, then us, or vice versa. Mr Marathe stated he would rather we bring it up versus going straight to the council.

Independence and Indian paving have been caught up in litigation. Roger shared that more than likely, nothing was getting paved this year. We can however patch a few things.

On Dimitri's memorial, the pedestrian that recently passed away, social media has been discussing that the memorial items have been routinely removed. No one is sure who is taking them down but the city works area has been instructed to leave them alone; they are not viewed as a hazard.

### 3) New business or future briefings

New layouts for the mall were requested; Roger shared that he would bring a copy for the next meeting.

Potholes behind the hospital, going West on Tennessee were brought up as well as those at Robertsville and Highland. Roger was going to share with the appropriate department.

There is still one section of tree/brush/bush growth on the sidewalks between Enterprise and Eddie Hair but it's been noticed that they are at least somewhat trimmed back.

The entrance to the new Sears location is going to require one of the existing entryways into that parking lot to be closed. Thought to have no impact. There's been some discussion of a cell tower in the land adjacent; given the tree coverage there that seems to be an optimal location.

There has been 2 site plans discussed for the outparcel near Kroger but nothing has materialized.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Melissa McMahan  
Representing TSAB Secretary