



TRAFFIC SAFETY AND SIGNAGE COMMITTEE

Monday, September 13, 2021 – 2:00pm

MINUTES

Chief Jon Simpson absent Tony Davis called the meeting of the Traffic Safety & Signage Committee to order.

I. OLD BUSINESS/TABLED ITEMS:

- A. **Daniel Hupp – 801 SW 14th Street, Bentonville, AR – Phone: (612-718-9355**
Email: headsetter@climbbentonville.com

Climb Bentonville is planning a race that will involve some street crossings and signage. The event primarily takes place on private property, but movement between properties is required. The *attached map* shows the intended route. Signage would be limited to arrows pointing participants in the right direction.

Due Covid and Routing issues, this has been cancelled and will bring back before the Committee next year.

- B. **Allison and David Deere – 600 Piccadilly Street, Bentonville – Phone: (870) 688-0511**
Email: apevy1980@gmail.com

Requesting a crosswalk on the corner of Elm Tree and 8th Street. Traffic is very heavy at this intersection, and has no assistance with crossing the Street. School starts on the 20th. Requesting that the City make it safer for children and families to cross.

After review of the counts and the area, Cindy Acree made a motion to approve the install of new RRFB w/stripping and advance warning signs as needed. Motion seconded by David Mills. Motion passed.

II. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **Laura Gheen – 505 SE “C” Street, Bentonville – Phone: (479) 715-6053 – Email:**
lgheen9598@gmail.com

Requesting stop signs on either side of the Greenway Trail crossing “C” Street. People are using our street as a cut-through now that 3rd Street is closed. There are many people, children, bikes, and pet walkers on this part of the trail and I feel it is unsafe for them when cars and trucks speed through. I have seen many “almost” accidents. *See Map on the application.*

Applicant not on Zoom, will table for October meeting.

**B. Gerald Pevey – 1900 NE Steinbeck Drive, Bentonville – Phone: (479) 250-7273
Email: geraldpevey@yahoo.com**

There is not enough room for cross traffic while allowing cars to park on the shoulder. This is very dangerous; as we have seen, multiple commercial vehicles come through without every slowing down. Before “Rice Road” had been changed due to the recent development, there was a sign that clearly states no parking on shoulder. It just needs to be moved now to the area applicable.

After discussion, Camille stated that to install No Parking Signs, the City would need to get public feedback from the residents in the area. After discussion, Cindy Acree made a motion to approve trimming the brush at fence line to assist with visibility. Motion seconded by Brent Boydston. Motion passed.

**C. Nathan Becknell – 217 E. Dickson St., Ste. 106, Fayetteville, AR 72701 –
Phone: (479) 790-2899 Email: nbecknell@tecusa.com**

Requesting installation of new mid-block bicycle crossing of NE Park Street between Fillmore Street and NE “A” Street. *Documents attached.*

This NWA Trailblazers funded project would require a Right of Way permit for review by the City Departments. The City must insure that the MUTCD regulations are being followed and maybe a warrant analysis of the area. Item will be tabled until the October meeting.

**D. Meghan Wilcox – the Momentary 507 SE “E” Street, Bentonville, AR 72712 –
Phone: (918) 713-1641 Email: meghan.wilcox@theMomentary.org**

Requesting closure of SE “E” Street between 8th Street and 5th Street, and closing 7th Street between SE “E” Street and SE “D” Street for the Fresh Grass Music Festival on October 1 – 2. Will use moveable fence panels and every entry to the streets will be staffed. Closures requested for Friday, October 1, at 8 am through 12 pm on Sunday, October 3. At the end of event each night, they would remove the fence on SE “E” Street until 8 am the next morning.

Ms. Wilcox has worked with Police Department and has verified that Fire would have access. Brent Boydston made a motion to approve as submitted. Motion seconded by David Mills. Motion passed.

**E. Matthew Howell, O.D. and Katherine Howell – 107 S. Main Street, Bentonville –
Phone: (903) 306-8704 Email: katherine@eyesonthesquare.com, matt@eyesonthesquare.com**

Requesting permission to reserve 1 – 2 parking spaces directly in front of their office on the square, every Saturday from 5:00 am to 2:00 pm for their scheduled patient eye exams between 8 am and 1:00 pm. This due to Farmers Market traffic/attendance.

Currently the City does not have a permit to reserve Public Right of Way for a particular business. Ms. Howell will work with Cindy Acree on a solution outside the Committee. Will bring back before the Committee if needed.

- F. Lauren Hildreth – Bike NWA and Jon Raney, Runway – Bentonville – Phone: 262-308-6542
Email: Lauren@bikenwa.org**

Proposing the “Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan”, which includes traffic-calming features that also act as wayfinding for pedestrians and cyclists, building from the Slow Streets program. This due to pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles being displaced outside of their regular and often “safe” routes due to the expansive and ongoing construction in downtown Bentonville. Will provide letters of support from the community at the meeting.

This is a busy area with lots of construction. The Committee would like public feedback from the residents in the area. Item will be tabled until the October meeting.

- G. Bryan Beeson – Benton County Facilities Administrator – 215 E. Central, Bentonville, AR
Phone: (479) 270-8626 Email: bryan.beeson@bentoncountyar.gov**

Requesting better solution to help protect individuals using the crosswalk on NE 2nd between the Courthouse and Division 2 Courthouse. There have been several “close calls” with traffic not stopping or slowing for pedestrians in the crosswalk.

Tony Davis to meet with Bran onsite to discuss options. Item will be tabled until the October meeting.

- H. Enrique Ramos – 2511 NW Linebarger, Bentonville, AR – Phone: (832) 353-5835
Email: earamos118@gmail.com**

Requesting a flashing light at the intersection of Genesis and “A” Street. Many kids ride to school and have to cross over “A” Street, and more that have to cross the street to access their bus stop. Also, many cyclist frequent this crossing often. They are concerned about the younger kids’ safety. Along with more riders, they also see more traffic in this area. *(See pictures attached).*

Committee will collect traffic counts at the intersection and review options at next meeting. Item will be tabled until the October meeting.

- I. Josh Stacey – Parks & Recreation, 1101 SW Citizens Circle – Phone: (479) 696-0204
Email: jstacey@bentonvillear.com**

- a) Bentonville Parks and Recreation is requesting race date approval for the 2022 Run Bentonville Half Marathon taking place on April 2, 2022 from 7:00 am – 11:00 am. Currently the route is being adjusted to accommodate multiple changes due to planned construction projects. *Attached is a confirmed list of road closures needed for race approval.* Our team is working with our race director, police, fire, and transportation departments to find the safest route for our participants that minimizes, to our best ability, the impact our local traffic. An official route will be brought to the committee at a later meeting for approval.

Route not 100% complete due to construction, Josh will finalize and bring back before the Committee. Cindy Acree made a motion to approve the date and time, seconded by Brent Boydston. Motion passed.

- b) Bentonville Parks and Recreation requests street closure approvals for the following upcoming events:
1. Goblin Run 5K (October 30, 2022)
 2. Frosty 5K (December 4)

All routes have been reviewed and approved by Bentonville Police. *Maps attached.*

- c) Bentonville Parks and Recreation is requesting approval of the attached court for the Fall 2021 Square 2 Square Bike Ride on October 2, 2021. The only hard road closure will be on SW “B” Street between SW 2nd and SW 3rd. This has been approved by the First Baptist Church. Bentonville will assist riders across busy intersections along the route. *Maps attached.*

Cindy Acree made a motion to approve Ib and Ic as submitted, seconded by David Mills. Motion passed.

**J. Thaden School (CSSO Robert McKinney) – 800 SE “C” Street – Phone: (479) 268-5321
Email: rmckinney@thadenschool.org**

Requesting school zone signs along SE Main Street adjacent to the campus between 8th Street and 10th Street. With the completion of our Performing Arts building, which includes three classrooms and outdoor classroom space, the presence of student pedestrian traffic on the sidewalk along SE Main Street will greatly increase. There will be regular intervals where students will be utilizing outdoor areas adjacent to the sidewalk as a classroom. The building is now being used daily. *Map attached.*

The current signage onsite does not comply with the State Statue. The signs were not installed by the City. Tony will meet with Mr. McKinney to work out what needs to be installed or changed. Item will be tabled until the October meeting.

**The next proposed meeting date is:
Monday, October 4, 2021 at 2:00 pm**

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