

Brookings Traffic Safety Committee

2016 Annual Report

PURPOSE

The current Traffic Safety Committee was formed by Resolution 58-79 dated December 18, 1979 with its stated “duties and responsibilities” of “developing and implementing coordinated traffic safety programs that meet local needs; acting in an advisory capacity to the City Commission (Council) in the coordination of traffic safety activities of the official agencies and departments of the City of Brookings; establishing safety priorities for the city; reviewing and approving project applications for funding; serving in a liaison capacity between the City of Brookings and the South Dakota Highway Safety Program in developing the State Highway Safety Program and in meeting the National Highway Safety Program Standards; promoting public acceptance of official programs proposed or instigated by the city; fostering public knowledge and support of traffic law enforcement and traffic engineering problems; cooperating with city schools in promoting educational traffic safety aids; educating the public in traffic safety and generally aiding the overall reduction of traffic accidents, injuries and deaths on the city streets.”

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The Traffic Safety Committee serves as a sounding board for concerns and issues that arise having to do with vehicle or pedestrian safety in and around the City of Brookings. From testimony and investigation, the Committee makes recommendations on actions needed to enhance and preserve traffic and pedestrian safety. These recommendations are forwarded to the appropriate agency for action. The committee members also identify problems and formulate plans to rectify traffic issues.

MEMBERSHIP

The members of the Traffic Safety Committee fill specific slots representing groups so that the concerns of the following groups can be heard:

POLICE	Tony Sonnenburg is a Sergeant with the Brookings Police Department Jeff Miller is Police Chief and serves as an ex-officio member Chris Larson is an Office Manager with the Police Department and serves the TSC as secretary
TRAFFIC ENGINEER	Jackie Lanning, City Engineer, serves in this position
SCHOOL DISTRICT	Brian Lueders, as Business Manager, represents the Brookings School System
SDSU	Tim Heaton, SDSU Chief of Safety and Security, represents SDSU

SENIOR CITIZENS	Gary Gramm is retired from Education and Sales Management at Daktronics
AUTO INSURANCE	Skip Webster is retired from State Farm Insurance and has provided insight since the Committee was formed in 1979
JOGGERS/BICYCLISTS	Shayn Damm represents pedestrian and bike safety
INDUSTRY	James Weiss is the SDSU Building Maintenance Coordinator
CITIZEN AT LARGE	Rebecca Schmieding is an adjunct instructor at SDSU John Howard is an instructional designer at SDSU Gregg Jorgenson is an engineer with Banner Associates, Inc.
STREET DEPARTMENT	Matt Bartley is the Street Superintendent
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	Carol Rettkowski is co-owner at Dakota Service and Repair

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

Seven meetings were held in 2016. The meetings were held on the second Thursday of each month at 12:10 PM at City & County Government Center.

Highlights of actions taken during 2016 are as follows:

- **January** – No meeting this month due to no new discussion items.
- **February** – The committee continued the discussion of removing parking on the east side of Jackrabbit Avenue (previous 16th Avenue) between 6th Street and 8th Street. The committee agreed the area could be monitored and no motion was made. The committee discussed the removal of parking on both sides of Pactola Cove from Christine Avenue to the driveways 40 feet west of Christine Avenue to improve visibility near the intersection. A motion was made to install no parking signs on both sides of Pactola Cove from Christine Avenue to the driveways 40 feet west of Christine Avenue, which passed unanimously. The committee discussed the removal of parking on the east side of Brooklawn Drive, east of the driveways for 704/712 Brooklawn Drive. A motion was made to table the discussion until BETA gave their input on the matter. The committee reviewed and approved the 2015 Traffic Safety Annual Report.
- **March** – No meeting this month due to no new discussion items.
- **April** – The committee discussed a stop sign request at the intersection of 5th Street and 13th Avenue. A motion was made to look at the accident data and invite the property

owners to next month's meeting for further discussion. The motion passed unanimously. The committee discussed pedestrian access from Dakota Prairie elementary school to Indian Hills Addition, which was tabled to the next meeting so the principal of Dakota Prairie could attend. The committee discussed a stop sign request at the intersection of 9th Street and 8th Avenue. A motion was made to postpone this until May meeting, and invite the property owners and do further studying which passed unanimously. The committee discussed the removal of parking on the north side of 2nd Street from the northeast corner of 2nd Street and 6th Avenue to 90' east. A motion was made to postpone the topic until the May meeting for more information and to invite the property owners, which passed unanimously. The committee discussed traffic congestion at 6th Street and I-29 on SDSU graduation day. The committee decided to have Lanning talk to the Police Chief to see if they could have staff available to assist in controlling the signal light on 6th Street.

- **May** – The committee discussed the stop sign request at the intersection of 5th Street and 13th Avenue. The committee discussed that stop signs may cause traffic to back up. A motion was made to get advice from HDR, the City's traffic consultant, which passed unanimously. The committee discussed a two-way stop sign at the intersection of 9th Street and 8th Avenue. Lueders/Schmieding made a motion to table the discussion, which passed unanimously. The committee discussed the removal of parking on the north side of 2nd Street from 6th Avenue to approximately 90' east to the driveway at 603 2nd Street. A motion was made to remove parking on the north side of 2nd Street from 6th Avenue to approximately 65 feet east, which passed unanimously. The Committee discussed pedestrian access from Dakota Prairie elementary school to Indian Hills Addition and a motion was made to support the implementation of sidewalks on 26th Street South to the west. The committee discussed the traffic signals at the intersection of 5th Street and 5th Avenue. The traffic signals would flash on the weekends, making it hard for pedestrians to cross 5th Avenue. A motion was made to table the item and continue studying the area and the motion was amended to turn the traffic signals back on and table the parking issues, and the motion passed.
- **June** – No meeting this month due to no new discussion items.
- **July** – The committee discussed a request for 2-way stop signs at the intersection of Hunters Ridge Road and 7th Avenue South. A motion was made to monitor the intersection until the 7th Avenue South and 15th Street South project was constructed, which passed unanimously. The committee discussed a request for a 2-way stop sign at the intersection of 15th Street South and Christine Avenue. Since there was an existing stop sign on the north side of the intersection, and a motion was made to recommend the speed trailer to be used on 15th Street South and to install a stop sign on Christine Avenue on the south side of 15th Street South, which passed unanimously. The Committee discussed a request for a stop sign on Folsom Street at the intersection of Division Avenue. After discussion, a motion was made to recommend a stop sign on

Folsom Street on the northeast corner of the intersection. The motion passed unanimously.

- **August** – The committee was updated on the traffic signal study for the intersection of 12th Street South and 22nd Avenue South. Lanning described the memo received from HDR to say that the traffic signal was not warranted. The committee discussed the removal of parking from the north side of 2nd Street South from Medary Avenue South to the west approximately 500 feet. A motion was made to monitor the area, which passed unanimously. The committee discussed the traffic speed and crosswalks on Western Avenue near Timberline Addition. Chief Miller suggested putting the speed trailer or speed signs in the area temporarily and no motion was made for this item.
- **September** – The committee discussed the removal of parking from the south side of Telluride Lane between Western Avenue and Copper Mountain Road. After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made to remove parking from the south side of Telluride Lane between Copper Mountain Road and Western Avenue. The motion failed due to lack of a second. Another motion was made to remove parking on the south side of Telluride Lane from the east side of the driveway at 405 Telluride Lane to Western Avenue. The motion passed unanimously. The committee discussed the removal of parking from the east side of Elm Avenue from 5th Street South to the south approximately 300 feet. The residents in the area had concerns of lack of visibility due to people parking too close to their driveways. The committee agreed to start with an increase in enforcement.
- **October** – No meeting this month due to no new discussion items.
- **November** – No meeting this month due to no new discussion items.
- **December** – The committee discussed the removal of parking near the driveway at 301 Sunrise Ridge Road at Quality Tool for visibility of vehicles and trucks exiting the business. A motion was made to remove 30 feet of parking on the east side of Sunrise Ridge Road on the north and south sides of the driveway and the from the west side of Sunrise Ridge Road equal to the east side, which passed unanimously. The committee discussed a request for yield signs or stop signs at the intersection of 4th Street and 11th Avenue. A motion was made for no action on this topic, which passed unanimously. The committee also discussed a request for yield signs or stop signs at the intersection of 4th Street and 13th Avenue. After discussion, a motion was made to table the item to the next meeting and invite the property owners, which passed unanimously.

On average, there were between 7 and 11 members present at seven (7) meetings for one hour resulting in sixty-six (66) volunteer hours spent in meetings. Each member also had to inspect the area being studied before the meeting, which resulted in additional volunteer time being spent.

EXPENDITURE REPORT

No direct funds were expended to accomplish the activities of the Brookings Traffic Safety Committee. Staff time from the Police Department and the Engineering Department was used and is budgeted under each of these departments.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2017

- Hold at least ten monthly meetings.
- Have an average of eight members attend each meeting.
- Make a recommendation on each item of sustenance on the agenda within one or two meetings from the time it is placed on the agenda.

UNMET NEEDS

None