

Public Safety and Transportation Committee Minutes for February 5, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 6:32PM February 5, 2004, in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following in attendance:

Councilmembers

Scott Thomasson, Chairman
Gary Petersen
Dan Sherman (arrived 6:47PM)

Public Works Staff

Maiya Andrews
Mike Holmes

Other Staff

Tony Piasecki
Linda Marousek
Roger Baker
Kevin Tucker
Scott Romano

There were also 13 citizens in attendance.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss two major issues:

1. Possible closure of South 212th Street between Des Moines Memorial Drive and 7th Place South as a result of a slide/washout due to a broken water line.
2. Speed limits in various areas within City Limits, i.e., South 216th Street, 16th Avenue South, and school zones.

1. Closure of South 212th Street

A presentation was given by Michael Holmes, which included 1) roadway background, 2) options available i.e., reconstruct, re-open in previous condition, re-open as a one-way road, or to close the road permanently, 3) arguments for reconstruction, 4) current road deficiencies, 5) legal issues, 6) other considerations peculiar to that area, and 7) Engineering's recommendation to close the road.

Mr. Holmes also furnished a Draft Memorandum entitled, "Field Inspection/Preliminary Recommendation for South 212th Street Washout", developed by CH2MHill engineering consultants for presentation to committee members to further clarify the roadway situation.

A copy of Mike Holmes' detailed presentation and CH2M Hill's memo are attached for reference.

City Attorney Linda Marousek explained that the MRSC (Municipal Research & Services Center) does not indicate that an ordinance and public hearing are required to permanently close a road; however, it is highly recommended that they are done to give the public as much notice as possible.

Councilmember Thomasson requested that the citizens along 7th Place South up to South 209th Street be notified about the public hearing. Staff was also requested to check with SeaTac Disposal and the local utilities. Also requested was a sketch detailing what the road end would look like after the closure. Staff was also asked to again verify what effect the closure would have on emergency services.

Recommendation:

Hold a public hearing at the next Council meeting which will be February 12, 2004. At the same meeting, staff will bring a Draft Ordinance to close the road for Council's consideration and approval.

2. Speed Limits:

- ◆ S. 216th Street: Presentation and recommendation to raise speed limit to 35mph on the lower portion of S. 216th based on a study that was done by Mike Holmes. Road curves and geometric design may preclude raising speed limit above 25 from Marine View Drive east to 11th. Copy attached for reference.
- ◆ S272nd – 16th – MVD: Councilmember Thomasson indicated that the posted 40 mph speed limit on 16th Avenue South between Pacific Highway South and S. 272nd is not in the City Code. He indicated that a speed study would not be necessary but City Code should be revised to reflect the 40mph speed limit. Mike Holmes indicated there is a similar situation on Marine View Drive. Councilmember Thomasson stated that any speed limit locations that are not listed properly in the Code should be included in an Ordinance to correct the Code.

3. Bicycle Lane Striping

Councilmember Thomasson would like to have the bike lane striping at 22nd Ave S. and S. 252nd Street investigated and reported findings back to the Committee.

4. School Zone Speed Limits

Councilmember Thomasson requested that Legal, Police, and Public Works work together to clarify the legalities of what it means with regard to a school zone speed limit with “when children are present” added to the signage, speeding ticket procedures in those areas, etc. Report back in one month along with any information that would need to be put into the speed limit ordinance.

Recommendation:

Speed Limit Ordinance to be brought to PS&T Committee and to Council as soon as possible.

Next PS&T Committee meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2004, at 6:30PM. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30PM.

Submitted by:

Maiya I. Andrews
Asst. City Engineer

w/attachments:

Mike Holmes S. 212th Presentation
CH2MHill's Draft Memo re S. 212th
S. 216th Street Speed Limit Memo and Study

NOTE AS INFORMATION: During the regular Council meeting on February 5, 2004, Councilmember Thomasson requested an updated status report for the Kent-Des Moines Road Project be made to the PS&T Committee at the meeting on March 11, 2004. Staff is unprepared to make a comprehensive report of the Kent-Des Moines Road Project at this time and may have to defer this report until the next scheduled PS&T meeting.