

# **Oregon Traffic Control Devices Committee**

November 18, 2005

## **Meeting Minutes**

Marion County Public Works  
Salem, Oregon

Members Present: [Eric Niemeyer](#), Chair, Jackson County; [Joseph Marek](#), Clackamas County; [Joel McCarroll](#), Vice-Chair, ODOT Region 4; [Ed Fischer](#), Secretary, ODOT State Traffic Engineer; [Alan Hageman](#), OSP; [Charles Radosta](#), ITE/Kittelton & Associates; [Cynthia Schmitt](#), Marion County; [Randall Wooley](#), City of Beaverton

*Members Absent:* [Rob Burchfield](#), City of Portland; [Robin Lewis](#), City of Bend

Others Present: Doug Bish, Paul Davis, Kevin Haas, Massoud Saberian, Greg Stellmach, Katie Johnson, ODOT Traffic Engineering & Operations Section; Sheila Lyons, ODOT Technical Services (Bike-Ped Program); Brian Barnett, City of Springfield; Ed Chastain, Lain County; Orville Gaylor, Retired ODOT; Kevin Hottmann, City of Salem; Tom Larsen, City of Eugene.

### **Introduction – Approval of Minutes – Additional Agenda Items**

Chairperson Eric Niemeyer called the meeting to order. Attendees introduced themselves. Joe Marek and Randy Wooley had additional agenda items. Randy Wooley had a change to the September 19 meeting minutes. Eric Niemeyer moved and Randy seconded approving the minutes as amended. The committee approved.

### **New OTCDC Officers**

Ed Fischer nominated Joel McCarroll to serve as the next OTCDC Chairperson. Charles Radosta seconded and the committee approved. Ed then nominated Randy Wooley to serve as the next OTCDC Vice Chairperson. Cynthia Schmitt seconded and the committee approved. Both will begin their service at the January meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

In a change to the agenda order, the committee agreed to go ahead with new business while copies were made for old business.

### **Temporary Traffic Control Handbook Errata**

Doug Bish explained to the committee the background on presenting errata to the subject [publication](#). Doug indicated some people were having a hard time interpreting the handbook. Doug also said there were some errors in the wording and diagrams. The proposed errata would be followed up with a reprinting of the handbook next year. Some committee members felt many corrections didn't warrant errata and that perhaps ODOT should reconsider. Some of the proposed changes were such that the original committee of shareholders will want to be consulted. Local road authorities have spent a lot of money on the new manuals and training material. Cynthia Schmitt will contact stakeholder committee members and run the proposed changes by them. Cynthia will also contact Doug Tindall. The committee felt the size of the errata should be reduced. If errata are to be put out, we want to have it completed in time for the December 17th [Oregon Transportation Commission](#) meeting. The OTC would need to approve a temporary administrative rule adopting the errata.

### **Legislative Concepts**

- Ed Fischer went over a handout regarding a possible legislative concepts that ODOT Traffic Engineering and Operations is looking at regarding flashing yellow arrows in ORS 811.260 and on changing "flashing yellow signal" to "flashing circular yellow signal" in ORS 811.260 (9).

- Ed also indicated that in response to concerns expressed by the City of Bend, ODOT has discussed a legislative concept regarding vehicles moving out of the way of emergency vehicles in roundabouts. Ed indicated there hasn't been a lot of interest around this issue and most persons contacted felt there are other solutions that should be pursued before legislation.
- Other concepts discussed were:
  - Allowing the use of two-way turn lanes to go around stopped traffic to get in to left turn lanes.
  - Allowing more cities and possibly counties the ability to use red light running cameras.
  - How to treat traffic signals during power outages (treat as 4-way stop).

Ed indicated ODOT will not be pursuing any of these and suggested that if there is local interest, cities and counties could seek [AOC](#) & [LOC](#) sponsorship of these legislative concepts.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Sign Policy & Guidelines Update**

Greg Stellmach continued to outline the package of changes to the [Sign Policy and Guidelines](#) that was reviewed at the October OTCDC meeting. He will make PDF's for revisions to provide members as soon as possible.

The following sign policy & guidelines revisions were approved by the committee:

- Signing agreement with the US Forest Service
- Standard signing for slow moving vehicles (Sheet #1-9)
- Standard Signing for Passing Lanes (Sheet #1-8)
- Section 2A.10 deleted
- Delete 2A.16 Standardization of Location
- 2A.17 approved as presented, will be revised in future for clarity
- Delete 2A.18 Mounting Height approved as presented
- Delete 2A.19 approved with addition of information indicating lateral clearance are "minimum" distances
- 2A.25 Position of Signs - deleted
- 2A.28 Posts and Mounting approved with notation that 4x4 wood post dimensions are "nominal"

Items that need to go back to the committee for further review/discussion include:

- Chapter 3: Regulatory Signs.
- 2B.12
- 2B.13 Speed Limit Sign
- 2B.14 Deleted
- 2B.18 Use reduced speed ahead signing on interstate
- 2B.21 Not proposed to be deleted - Committee wanted further clarified use of interior illuminated signs vs. signs with prismatic sheeting
- Standard Speed Zone Signing (Sheet #1-10)

## **School Days Signing**

Greg showed mockups of the SCHOOL DAYS with Times of Day sign – two font sizes for AM/PM. The committee liked the larger font better.

- ✓ Action Item – Greg will return to the committee on deferred issues; bring back further proposed revisions in subsequent committee meetings.

## **Guidelines for Protected Only Left Turn Operations**

Eric made a PowerPoint presentation regarding protected left turns. He also provided draft changes to ODOT's [Traffic Signal Policy and Guidelines](#) (Left-Turn Signal Phasing). Ed suggested that Massoud, with the help of any volunteers, look over the proposals in conjunction with his rewrite of guidelines.

- ✓ Action Item – Massoud Saberian will put draft guidelines on web and send out information to members and interested parties.

## **Meeting Dates for 2006**

The Committee decided on the following meeting dates:

- January 27, 2006 -- (*Marion Co. Public Works*)
- March 17, 2006 -- (*Either Marion Co. Public Works or Bend*)
- May 19, 2006 -- (*Joint OTCDC/ITE Meeting Portland Area*)
- July 21, 2006 -- (*Marion County Public Works*)
- September 25, 2006 -- (*Joint OTCDC/OTSC Meeting Eagle Crest*)
- November 17, 2006 -- (*Marion County Public Works*)

## **Non-Agenda Items**

Randy Wooley discussed policy on operating flashers in school zones, asked if anyone has an adopted policy they could share.

Joe Marek brought up the Oregon law prohibiting passing in an intersection. His agency is considering a suggestion to retrofit intersection striping to create no-passing zones. He was interested in committee experience with this. The committee has discussed it in the past ([March 2001](#) and [January 2004](#)). There is nothing preventing it but it rarely happens. Doug said there have been cases where the no-pass zoning has been extended through an intersection if they have an established need. Ed said that ODOT is not interested in pursuing a policy regarding the subject at this time.

Ed Fischer said that Rob Burchfield's term has expired and if anyone knows of interest from any cities to be Rob's replacement, they can send a letter of interest to the [LOC](#), attention [Willie Tiffany](#), Senior Staff Associate by December 15, 2005. We hope to have the new member appointed by the January 2006 meeting.

## **Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting is scheduled for January 27th, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. It will be held in Salem at [Marion County Public Works](#).

## **Meeting Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.