



TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA Monday, February 27, 2023, 6:00 PM In Person/Virtual Via Zoom

The City of Gladstone is abiding by guidelines set forth in House Bill 2560, which requires the governing body of the public body, to extent reasonably possible, to make all meetings accessible remotely through technological means and provide opportunity for members of general public to remotely submit oral and written testimony during meetings to extent in-person oral and written testimony is allowed. Therefore, this meeting will be open to the public both in person and virtually using the Zoom platform.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

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If members of the public would like to comment on an agenda item, (either virtually or in person) please email your comments to kwalls@gladstoneoregon.us prior to 12:00 p.m. (noon) on January 23, 2023.

The Traffic Safety Advisory Board will also have *Community Input* at the end of the meeting. To speak during this time, (either virtually or in person) please email kwalls@gladstoneoregon.us prior to 12:00 p.m. (noon) on January 23, 2023 with your topic of discussion.

(For Zoom participants, speaking instructions will be emailed to persons who request to speak and posted on the city's website)

Members of the Committee: Andrew Labonte, – Chair, Yvonne McNeil – Vice-Chair, Nathan Page, Mindy Proski, Alexandra Hernandez and new member, Karlene Cox.

1. Call to Order- Chair - Andrew Labonte

Roll Call- Executive Assistant Kristi Walls

a. Present:

b. Absent:

2. Introduction of New Member – Karlene Cox

3. Elect Chair and Vice Chair – Andrew Labonte

4. Approval of January 23, 2023 minutes –Chair – Andrew Labonte

5. Business from the Board – Chair – Andrew Labonte

6. Roundtable Discussion – Board

7. Police Department Updates – Chief Schmerber

8. Community Input – Visitors: This is an opportunity for members of the audience to bring to the Commission’s attention any item not otherwise listed on the Agenda. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per person. Speakers may not yield their time to others and must email kwalls@gladstoneoregon.us prior to 12:00 p.m. (noon) on January 23rd, 2023 with your topic of discussion.

9. Adjourn

GLADSTONE TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 23, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM (Conducted electronically via Zoom and in person).

ROLL CALL:

Chair Andrew Labonte, Yvonne McNeil, Mindy Proski

ABSENT:

Nathan Page, Alexandra Hernandez

STAFF:

Kristi Walls, Executive Assistant; John Schmerber, Chief of Police

1. Call to Order – Roll Call:

2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair:

This will be held over until the next meeting.

3. Approval of October 24, 2022 Meeting Minutes:

Yvonne McNeil made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Mindy Proski. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

4. Business from the Board:

a) Attending Traffic Safety Meetings from surrounding cities:

This will be discussed at the next meeting.

b) Email regarding traffic safety/angled parking on Dartmouth/Portland Avenue:

There was a complaint regarding a vehicle blocking/obstructing. The email said: "Hello Traffic Safety Advisors. I am writing about the angled parking on Dartmouth at Portland Avenue. Today a truck was parked in the first stall and had its tail sticking into the road. I was opposite the way, watching my kids using the north/south crosswalk when I realized this corner is inherently dangerous due to the angled parking and lack of a bump out curb. Now that the building has come down there isn't a current need for angled parking, and I am inclined to request the road be restriped for parallel parking. However, I realize the future library will benefit from angled parking to allow more people to visit, especially families with small children like mine, so maybe adding the bump out is a better permanent solution. Yet this is a larger, more expensive project and really, when will the library be built? Is the parking plan finalized? Will improvements done now just be destroyed by heavy construction equipment? So my request is please can you discuss this crosswalk issue at a future meeting and identify the most expedient solution to improve safety?" Chief Schmerber said that this issue is being addressed through the Downtown Revitalization project. He doesn't have a timeline regarding the construction of the new library.

c) Round Table Discussion:

Yvonne McNeil asked the status of getting a high school student representative on the Board. Chair Labonte did not know. Yvonne McNeil and Chief Schmerber will work on this.

Chair Labonte said he has noticed that vehicles parked in the lot next to High Rocks get towed frequently (Sergeant's Towing). He said the "No Parking" signs are only in English. He asked if there is a way to encourage whoever is responsible for that lot to add a symbol/picture for no parking/cars will be towed. Chief Schmerber said it is private property and as long as it is signed legally the owner has authority over it. He said the Traffic Board could do some outreach and contact the owner/management.

Chair Labonte said the Clackamas Traffic Safety Board is taking suggestions for speed reductions on roads throughout the county. He suggested the Board or the City send a letter regarding Oatfield Road. Yvonne McNeil suggested reductions on Webster Road and River Road as well. Everyone agreed.

5. Police Department Updates:

Chief Schmerber went over the goals for the next biennium:

- Reduce the speed on Oatfield Road from 35 MPH to 30 MPH within the City limits.
- Reduce the speed on Webster Road from 35 MPH to 30 MPH from Oatfield Road east to the City limits.
- Add crosswalk at Jennings Avenue/Valley View Road.
- Remain involved in community events such as a bike rodeo, Community Festival, and all other traffic-related opportunities.
- Select a student from Gladstone High School to act as a liaison and participate with the Traffic Safety Advisory Board.
- Develop and provide safety educational information to Gladstone High School.
- Strategy development for tolling.
- Prepping for 2025.

Chief Schmerber provided some stats from November and December:

November – officers made 227 traffic stops, 137 citations were issued, and 4 DUII arrests.

December – 347 traffic stops, 152 citations were issued, and 5 DUII arrests.

For 2022: 2,748 traffic stops were made, which was approximately a 12% decline from 2021. They issued 1,589 citations, which was a 26% decline. 128 parking citations were issued. They made 44 DUII arrests, which is an increase of more than 37%. During 2021 they experienced severe staffing issues and critical incidents that required a lot of back-filling of shifts. He is very proud of the P.D. – they still met a lot of their goals and impacted traffic safety throughout the year. He said that only 50% or less of the people in traffic stops are issued citations. They are not here to punish the community – they are all about changing behavior. He added that if they hadn't received grants from ODOT they could not perform at this level.

Arlington/McLoughlin: The City Administrator is communicating with staff at ODOT to determine where we are in the funding cycle in the State-wide Transportation Improvement Plan. He, along with the City Administrator and Public Works Director will be attending a meeting in late February to discuss the intersection and next steps. Representative Hartman is requesting funding for this project.

Webster Road/Cason crosswalk project – the City Administrator included this in her plan/update to the new City Council. The project would include an enhanced pedestrian crossing with raised

median island, high visibility pavement markings, signs, and rapid flash beacons. The City expects the project to be completed in Spring of 2023.

Chair Labonte asked about DUII's involving other intoxicants – Chief Schmerber didn't have the numbers on that, but they have experienced a lot of incidents involving a combination of alcohol and other intoxicants.

6. **Community Input:**

Nancy Eichsteadt said it's been a year since she came to a meeting and asked for two crosswalks. She knows the Oatfield/Cason crosswalk is being completed. She wanted to renew her request for a crosswalk on the opposite side of the Nature Park as well. She said it is the number one most accident prone street in Gladstone, besides McLoughlin Boulevard. She supports speed reduction there as well. She has 101 signatures from citizens who would like to be able to use that crosswalk.

7. **Adjourn:**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:31 P.M.

