

APPROVED

TRAFFIC AND SAFETY ADVISORY BOARD
August 15, 2017
Meeting Minutes

Approved
10/17/17
Melissa McMahan

The August meeting of the TSAB was held at 7 PM on Tuesday, August 15, 2017, in the training room of the municipal building (room 104). Meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM

Present were:

William Polfus, Jane Shelton, Jana Humphrey, Hannah Oran, Melissa McMahan, Marty Adler-Jansy, Ilona Kazochà, Andrew Howe, Halfen Hoyt

Absent was:

Roger Flynn

Visitor: Ellen Smith, City Councilman

1. Minutes from the July 18, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously.
2. Issues or concerns

Discussion regarding potholes in and around the city; Lafayette, Michigan, New York streets. Newridge and West Outer, one layer of pavement off that was mentioned.

Questions for Roger regarding timing for pothole repair; at least temporary work to try and remediate the issues. Some roads seem to have that done and other do not.

Ellen shared that Tennessee Ave is getting little work due to the water main maintenance needed in that area. This budget will actually cover the repavement costs.

Mentioned about the lack of signage at the intersection near Golden Oak and TJ Maxx and vehicles taking their chances with the traffic flow; also, that the roundabout needed directional signage in place since it's new for Oak Ridge drivers and need some direction. Jane is going to share with the Planning Commission; we recommend that if there is anything that Roger can do in his capacity then we think that is a good idea.

3. City Blueprint

Several TSAB members attended the blueprint session at the country club on 7/27/17. It was shared that a resident had concerns about the lack of a turning lane near Southwood, preventing an easy turn left out of Southwood going West. This was shared with Roger via email so that we could discuss in depth during the TSAB meeting. Roger shared that he reviewed the intersection both on paper and on site to review how it was set up and why. It appears to technically be correct. They used the hatched area to transition from the shared use center turn lane to a divided highway with a grass median. Since there are no more neighborhoods past Southwood going west there does not seem to be a need for expanding the center turn lane. This saves asphalt and grass is easier to contend with. The shared turn lanes are actually for turning, but not for storage or acceleration. You actually are not supposed to pull into them and store.

There were items that come from the west end City Blueprint meeting; 12 items for TSAB discussion. 2 of the 12 dealt with putting in a red light at Wisconsin. 3 dealt with speeds. Other discussions were around trees and parking on the street.

A resident, Bill Wallace, sent a letter to Roger about the access road near Emory Valley/Fairbanks/Briarcliff that has been closed; he wants the city to consider redoing the intersection of

Briarcliff and Emory. Roger responded, explaining lack of funding, lack of right of way and the needed purchase of property to do that. Also, the right of way is small, a signal pole would have to be relocated with longer masts and a new signal head and controller. Overall costs would be around \$300,000.00.

This next listening session is for the Emory Valley, Melton Lake, area and will be held on 8/24/17.

We discussed the handouts they have at the meetings regarding demographics, how the meetings are going, etc. and in regards to what would be done with the information once it's compiled.

4. Additional business

TSAB was advised of a TDOT request. The information was sent to all board members via postal mail.

Per the mailing:

TDOT officials contacted Roger Flynn regarding lowering the speed limit on TN SR 95 between the SR 95/SR 58 interchange and the Melton Lake Dam Bridge. This stretch of roadway is a State route, not a City street.

The City was contacted by TDOT concerning the speed limit since this segment of SR 95 is located within City limits. COR has jurisdiction regarding the posted regulator speed limit for all streets within the City limits. The TDOT request is to lower the speed limit in that section of roadway from 55 mph to 50 mph.

Additional information regarding the analysis of the roadway is included in the mailing dated 8/4/17 from Roger Flynn to William Polfus, TSAB Chairman and is attached to these minutes.

Rogers recommendation to TSAB was to leave the speed limit postings as they currently exist and change the Ordinance to match the signage. The steps to implement this recommendation include:

1. Deleting item five in section 15-509 of the City Ordinance
2. Add a new item three to section 15-508 of the City Ordinance entitled 'Maximum limits on specific streets - fifty (50) miles per hour' to include White Wing Road from Oak Ridge Turnpike to a point approximately 950' south of Wipp Road
3. Add a new item nine to section 15-507 to be entitled 'Maximum limits on specific streets - forty five (45) miles per hour' to include White Wing Road from approximately 950' south of Wipp Road to White Wing Bridge.

ORPD endorses the recommendation; the net result to these changes will not affect the traveling public.

A motion was made by Marty Adler-Jasny to accept Roger's recommendations and forward to city council for their consideration. Halfen Hoyt seconded the motion; there was no further discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Request for new business items or future briefings

No requests were made.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 815PM.

Next meeting will be 9/19

Melissa McMahan
TSAB Secretary

CITY OF OAK RIDGE



POST OFFICE BOX 1 • OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE 37831-0001

August 4, 2017

Mr. William Polfus, Chairman
Traffic Safety Advisory Board
110 Victoria Road
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

Subject: SR-95 Speed Limit

Traffic Safety Advisory Board:

Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) officials recently contacted me regarding lowering the speed limit on TN SR-95 between the SR-95/SR-58 interchange and the Melton Lake Dam Bridge. This stretch of roadway is a State route, not a City street. The source of the request(s) and/or complaint(s) that precipitated TDOT to conduct a speed study and then contact the City are not known.

The City was contacted by TDOT concerning the speed limit since this segment of SR-95 is located within City limits. The City of Oak Ridge has jurisdiction regarding the posted regulator speed limit for all streets within the City limits. The TDOT request is to lower the speed limit in that section of roadway from 55mph to 50mph.

Following is a brief analysis of this stretch of roadway regarding the TDOT request:

1. Complaints have been received by the City concerning near collisions in which one vehicle slows down to turn into a driveway or patrol road, and the vehicle following does not slow. In some of these incidents, distracted or inattentive driving was likely a contributing factor. TDOT has provided warning signs at many of these locations; however, a reduction in speed might also provide more reaction time.
2. TDOT has provided the results from a speed study conducted which showed the 50 percentile speed was 43mph and the 85 percentile speed was 49mph (see attachment). This indicates the majority of the traffic is already traveling below the proposed speed limit. In addition, because of the number of curves and driveways, there are seven (7) different locations where advisory signs recommend reduction in speed varying from 35mph to 25mph.
3. After comparing existing signage to the City Ordinance, there are multiple discrepancies. It is my belief that existing conditions make any posted speed limit unenforceable.
 - a. City Ordinance 15-509 (5) SR-95 identified as White Wing Road from SR-95, then identified as Oak Ridge Turnpike to White Wing Bridge, has a maximum speed limit of 55mph.
 - b. The speed limit presently posted in the majority of this section is 50mph; except for the south portion, approximately 950' south of Wipp Road extending to the bridge at Melton Lake, is posted at 45mph.

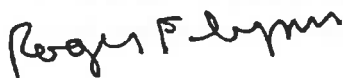
Based on the analysis above, my recommendation is to leave the speed limit postings as they currently exist and change the Ordinance to match the signage. The steps to implement this recommendation include:

1. Deleting item five in section 15-509 of the City Ordinance.
2. Add a new item three to section 15-508 of the City Ordinance entitled, "*Maximum limits on specific streets – fifty (50) miles per hour*" to include White Wing Road from Oak Ridge Turnpike to a point approximately 950' south of Wipp Road.
3. Add a new item nine to section 15-507 to be entitled, "*Maximum limits of specific streets – forty five (45) miles per hour*" to include White Wing Road from approximately 950' south of Wipp Road to White Wing Bridge.

Oak Ridge Police Department endorses this recommendation; the net result to these changes will not affect the traveling public.

It has been requested by TDOT that the Traffic Safety Advisory Board review the proposed changes to the City Code of Ordinance sections 15-507, 15-508, and 15-509 at the August 22, 2017 meeting for a recommendation to be presented to City Council for consideration of first reading at the September 11, 2017 Council meeting.

Sincerely,



Roger Flynn, P.E.
City Engineer

Enclosures

cc: Shira McWaters, P.E. Public Works Director

Flynn, Roger

From: Nathan Vatter <Nathan.Vatter@tn.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2017 10:05 AM
To: Flynn, Roger
Cc: Ray.Peters@truproject.com; Cameron Parker; Bryan Bartnik
Subject: State Route 95 (Speed Limits)
Attachments: 2378_001.pdf; RE: TWPC--Wipp Road off of Route 95

Roger,

We recently took a request to consider lowering of the 55 mph posted speed limit on SR-95 near Whipp Road in Roane County.

Following a review of our records and files we found that the segment appears to be located within the incorporated boundary of Oak Ridge. This would result in Oak Ridge having jurisdiction for the posted regulatory speed limits. We also found a past study for the route for consideration of the posted speed. Please find the attached information for your consideration of the citizen request to lower the posted speed.

If you have any questions please let me know.

County: ROANE Route: SR095 Spd: 055 0-NONE Cnty: Sec: 1

From: To: [Find New](#)

[Road Segment](#) Traffic Roadway Description Geometrics Road History Road System Maintenance Features Maintenance

Road Names	Control Items	HPMS	Special Systems	US Routes	Other	Road Segment - View	
BLM	EUM	Road Name	Functional Class	Administration System	Government Control	Urban Area	Incorporated Area
000	5 700	WHIPP RD	U OTH PRIN ART	13-NHS URBAN STA	STATE HWAY AGE	155 - KNOXVIL	221 - OAK RIDGE
5 790	5 810	WHIPP RD	U OTH PRIN ART	13 NHS URBAN STA	STATE HWAY AGE	155 - KNOXVIL	221 - OAK RIDGE
5 810	10 220	OAK RIDGE TLU	U OTH PRIN ART	13-NHS URBAN STA	STATE HWAY AGE	155 - KNOXVIL	221 - OAK RIDGE



Nathan Vatter, P.E. | Region I Traffic Engineer
Region I Traffic Office
Transportation Management Center, 2ND Floor
7238 Region Lane
Knoxville, TN 37914
p 865-594-2456
Nathan.Vatter@tn.gov
tn.gov/idot

* NOTE *
 COMBINED RADAR TOTALS
 85 TH 52 MPH

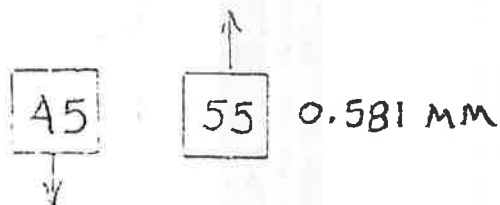
SB
ENTRANCES
 SIDE ROADS - 2
 OTHER - 4

① RADAR 4.609 MM
 85 TH 58 MPH

② RADAR 3.150 MM
 85 TH 49 MPH

③ RADAR 1.244 MM
 85 TH 49 MPH

NE
ENTRANCES
 SIDE ROADS - 5
 OTHER - 8



ROANE CO.
 LOUDON CO.



SR 95
 S

* Make sure whether
 in City of Oak Ridge
 * Recommend 50mph
 reduction.

FO Sent information
 to the city
 2/19/07

Bather Belrose Boje, Inc. SPEEDPLOT Program

STREET..... 0 Blk. SR 95 1.244 MM
 LIMITS..... to

DIRECTION(S).....NORTH/SOUTH 50TH PERCENTILE SPEED.....43
 DATE.....9/27/07 85TH PERCENTILE SPEED.....49
 TIME.....11:28 TO 12:07 10 MPH PACE SPEED.....37 through 46
 POSTED SPEED LIMIT....55 PERCENT IN PACE SPEED..... 72.6
 PERCENT OVER PACE SPEED.....17.0
 PERCENT UNDER PACE SPEED.....10.4
 RANGE OF SPEEDS.....31 to 58
 VEHICLES OBSERVED..... 106
 AVERAGE SPEED.....42.3

SPEED NO.	PCT.	CUM. PCT.
31	2	1.9
32	0	0.0
33	0	0.0
34	9	8.5
35	0	0.0
36	0	0.0
37	17	16.0
38	0	0.0
39	0	0.0
40	23	21.7
41	0	0.0
42	0	0.0
43	20	18.9
44	0	0.0
45	0	0.0
46	17	16.0
47	0	0.0
48	0	0.0
49	9	8.5
50	0	0.0
51	0	0.0
52	5	4.7
53	0	0.0
54	0	0.0
55	3	2.8
56	0	0.0
57	0	0.0
58	1	0.9

