



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Transportation

Traffic-Roadway Section

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DATE: March 25, 2010

TRA 16-9

TO: All Oregon Cities
All Oregon Counties
Association of Oregon Counties
League of Oregon Cities

All ODOT Region Offices
All ODOT District Offices
Federal Highway Administration

RE: **Oregon Traffic Control Devices Committee 2009 Annual Report**

The Oregon Traffic Control Devices Committee (OTCDC) serves as an advisory group to the State and the cities and counties in Oregon regarding traffic control device issues. To keep you informed of the actions of the Committee, we have prepared and enclosed our annual report summary for 2009. If you wish to have a copy of past minutes or any of the guidelines referred to in the summary, please call my office. Meeting summaries may also be viewed online by following the appropriate link at the following website:

http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/TRAFFIC-ROADWAY/Traffic_Control_Devices_Committee.shtml

Also enclosed is a list of the voting members. If you represent a city or county and are interested in being considered for membership on the OTCDC, please contact the Association of Oregon Counties, the League of Oregon Cities, or Debby Corey of my office at (503) 986-3609.

The next OTCDC meeting will be Friday, April 2, 2010 at 9:00 am at [Marion County Public Works](#), 5155 Silverton Road NE, Salem.

If you have questions or comments about the Committee, please telephone me at (503) 986-3606 or Debby Corey at (503) 986-3609.

Original Signed by

Edward L. Fischer, PE, PTOE
State Traffic Engineer
Secretary, Oregon Traffic Control Devices Committee

Enclosures

Copy with Enclosure(s) to:
OTCDC Members
Cathy Nelson, Technical Services Manager

DC/cwc

OREGON TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES COMMITTEE

2009 ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY

January 1, 2009 – December 31, 2009

Membership Changes

- ✓ Brian Barnett was elected as 2009 Chairperson for the OTCDC
- ✓ Ed Chastain was elected as 2009 Vice-Chairperson for the OTCDC
- ✓ Committee composition at the beginning of the year: [Brian Barnett](#), Chair, City of Springfield; [Ed Chastain](#), Vice-Chair, Lane County; [Ed Fischer](#), Secretary, ODOT State Traffic Engineer; [Alan Hageman](#), OSP; [Angela Kargel](#), ODOT Region 2; [Robin Lewis](#), City of Bend; [Joseph Marek](#), Clackamas County; [Charles Radosta](#), ITE, Kittelson and Associates; [Massoud Saberian](#), City of Lake Oswego; [Cynthia Schmitt](#), Marion County
- ✓ [Ethan Wilson](#), Oregon State Police joined the committee, replacing retiring Alan Hageman in September
- ✓ [Joel McCarroll](#) returned to the committee in September, relieving Angela Kargel, ODOT Region 2, from interim ODOT region representative

Traffic Control Device Decisions, Discussions and Recommendations

- ✓ Reviewed and discussed efforts in Portland to introduce bicycle signals, warrants in an effort to separate bikes from conflicting vehicle movements. This has become a higher profile issue with recent spike in right turn hook crashes between motor vehicles and bikes. While used broadly in Europe, the bike signals are still rare in the U.S.
- ✓ Discussed ongoing issues between some local governments and ODOT Rail regarding whether the road authority controls work in their right-of-way and other communication issues.
- ✓ Learned that FHWA has denied experimental status for Oregon's proposed EV charging station sign. The vehicle symbol in the proposed sign may have a registered trademark.
- ✓ Approved a new Heritage Symbol Sign for the relatively few facilities designated as Heritage Sites in Oregon. Thus far they include, Geisel Monument north of Gold Beach, Frenchglen Hotel in Burns, Kam Wah Chung in John Day, Sumpter Valley Dredge in Sumpter, Willamette Stone in Portland and Wolf Creek Inn in Grants Pass.

- ✓ Learned of [upcoming enhancements](#) of the SPIS system under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Crash data systems capability will be enhanced to include analysis capability for all public roads and will report the top 5% statewide. Other program goals and objectives include software tools to perform variable safety analysis on public roads, enhancing the Crash Summary Database (SD), and enhanced reporting and mapping to advance the new annual SPIS utilizing the Oregon Adjustable Safety Index System (OASIS).
- ✓ Received an update on [ODOT-sponsored](#) and [other research](#) on curve advisory speeds. All indications were that the 2009 MUTCD would revert the language back to engineering studies based on established engineering practices.
- ✓ Reviewed the concept of [multi-way boulevards](#) being considered by local government for West 11th Avenue in the Eugene area. These facilities may enhance pedestrian experience by use of medians that separate thru-traffic from slower local vehicle traffic on separate access lanes. The intent is to buffer pedestrians, homes and businesses from the noise and speed of thru traffic while supporting local commerce and culture.
- ✓ Received a [briefing](#) from ODOT's Transportation Safety Division on Oregon's [Traffic Records Coordinating Committee](#) (TRCC). This committee works toward data improvements that minimize duplication, improve uniformity, advance electronic data collection, and facilitate data access and use. The committee includes managers, collectors, and users of traffic records, public health and injury control data.
- ✓ Received an introduction to the Federal [Interstate Oasis Program](#) . The program is intended for truck stop type facilities off the interstate right-of-way near freeway interchanges. It is a component of the new SAFETEA-LU law. An oasis usually needs to be within 3 miles of an interstate and meet other criteria. There are [three categories](#) of signing prescribed for the program. The Travel Information Council will be operating the program through an intergovernmental agreement with ODOT. *Note: The Oasis [palm tree logo](#) was eventually approved in the 2009 MUTCD.*
- ✓ Reviewed the [progress](#) ODOT and other stakeholders have made to administrative rules for signal preemption devices. Proposed changes would allow system users to come to agreement about setting priorities for system activation, or default to all users having the same priority. This could place emergency fire vehicles on an equal footing with other emergency vehicles. The consensus was that is the best option if there is no agreement on different priority. Oregon law requires ODOT to write rules regarding priority, giving consideration to the weight of the vehicle.
- ✓ Reviewed and approved three proposed [variations](#) on a 48 inch, black on orange diamond-shaped warning sign for bikes or pedestrians on or near the roadway. The variations would include (Symbol) AHEAD, (Symbol) CROSSING ROADWAY, and (Symbol) ON ROADWAY The symbol may be a bicycle or a pedestrian.
- ✓ Agreed that ODOT will design a "YEAR-ROUND" rider for school zone signs to add to the [Sign Policy and Guidelines](#). This change will include guidance on appropriate

usage and placement for the signs. This will be added to the [Oregon Supplement to the MUTCD](#) when the time comes for the next update.

- ✓ Received a [presentation](#) from Ed Fischer on an [international scan tour](#) of pedestrian and bike safety and mobility in Europe. The team visited ten cities in five countries in May of 2009 under the sponsorship of FHWA, AASHTO, and NCHRP. This included Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.
- ✓ Took a bike tour of Portland Bike signals as the last step after tentative approval of a change to the [Traffic Signal Policy and Guidelines](#) approving bike signals. The committee expected to give final approval at the January 2010 meeting of the committee.
- ✓ Approved 21 revisions over the course of the year to the Sign Policy and Guidelines. These [Policy Updates](#) can be reviewed on the SP&G webpage or in the monthly meeting summaries for the OTCDC.

Note: For those reading a hard copy of this document and desiring to follow the links embedded in the electronic copy, you may access an electronic version by typing the following "Tiny URL" into your web browser: <http://tiny.cc/M63jU>. This will take you to the OTCDC website where you can view summaries of past individual meetings.

OREGON TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES COMMITTEE

MEMBERS

as of January, 2010

<p>Ed Chastain, Chairperson Lane County 3040 N Delta Highway Eugene, OR 97408-1696</p> <p>(541) 682-6931 Ed.chastain@co.lane.or.us</p>	<p>Massoud Saberian, Vice-Chairperson City of Lake Oswego P.O. Box 369 Lake Oswego, OR 97034-0369</p> <p>(503) 635-0274 msaberian@ci.oswego.or.us</p>
<p>Ed Fischer, Secretary ODOT Traffic–Roadway Section 5th Floor, Transportation Bldg. Salem, OR 97301-3871</p> <p>(503) 986-3606 ed.i.fischer@odot.state.or.us</p>	<p>Brian Barnett City of Springfield 225 Fifth Street Springfield, OR 97477-4675</p> <p>(541) 726-3681 bbarnett@ci.springfield.or.us</p>
<p>Robin Lewis City of Bend 745 NW Bond Street PO Box 431 Bend, OR 97709-0431</p> <p>(541) 330-4025 rlewis@ci.bend.or.us</p>	<p>Joel McCarroll ODOT Region 4 63055 N Highway 97 Bend, OR 97701-5765</p> <p>(541) 388-6189 Joel.R.McCarroll@odot.state.or.us</p>
<p>Joseph Marek Clackamas County 150 Beaver Creek Road Oregon City, OR 97045-4302</p> <p>(503) 742-4705 joem@co.clackamas.or.us</p>	<p>Charles Radosta Kittelson & Associates, Inc. 610 SW Alder Street, Suite 700 Portland, OR 97205-3608</p> <p>(503) 535-7428 CRADOSTA@kittelson.com</p>
<p>Cynthia Schmitt Marion County 5155 Silverton Road Salem, OR 97305-3899</p> <p>(503) 588-5036 Cschmitt@co.marion.or.us</p>	<p>Lt. Ethan Wilson Oregon State Police 4th Floor, 255 Capitol Street NE Salem, OR 97310-0001</p> <p>(503) 934-0266 Ethan.K.Wilson@state.or.us</p>