

TRAFFIC SAFETY MEETING
January 4, 2022

The Traffic Safety Commission met in person at 3315 Ridge Road, Highland Police Dept. Chief Hojnicky called the meeting to order at 8:02 A.M.

Roll Call: Peter T. Hojnicky, Chief of Police
John E Banasiak, Commander Police Department
Robyn Pappenheim, Project Engineer of DVG Team, Inc.
Steve Jurczak, Police Commissioner
William Timmer, Fire Chief
Tom Black, Councilman
Mark Knesek, Public Works Director

Also present: Derek Snyder- Nies Engineering
Les Dreisherf- Design Alliance Architect

Highland Auto Spa- Presentation by Mr Dreischerf representing the Auto Spa. New places distributed to all which basically was a 180 degree from previous design. Same number of stacked cars/parking. Southern most drive was moved north. Some of the concerns mentioned: vehicles exiting and going SB onto US 41, stacking of traffic NB outer lane of US 41 to enter, stacking of SB center lane waiting to enter wash, congestion for NB overall traffic, if only right in/out vehicles going SB make a u-turn across US 41 to pass/enter, etc. Ken Mika said the plans are also asking from some easement leniency and had yet to go before various town boards requiring their approval. After much discussion a motion was made by Commander Banasiak to deny the current plan as presented. This was seconded by Police Commissioner Jurczak with all in favor of denying the plans as submitted.

Discussion regarding the sensors on Kennedy and Lincoln Street, 41st Street and Hart Road. Robyn Pappenheim of DVG Team is going to look into the matter to determine whether the signals can be timed for after hours or whether loops exist and the traffic box will allow any changes if it is determined a need exists.

Discussion regarding the desire/necessity of an arrow for E-W traffic on Ridge Rd at Kleinman. Whether the current arrow for N-S traffic at Grace should be E-W on Ridge instead. Whether there should be an arrow for E-W traffic at 5th St and the need for an arrow at 2nd Street for E-W. Whether an arrow is needed at E-W 5th and 45th.

Robyn Pappenheim presented her analysis of the implications of a traffic light at Spring & 45th. Discussion was held regarding intersection safety and how such a project would affect local businesses, utilities, costs. Etc. The committee tabled the matter to digest the info until a future meeting.

Norfolk/Southern RR crossings at Hart, Lincoln and Highway were discussed with Public Works Director Knesek advising he sent correspondence to them on 1-3-22 in regards to the implementation of making these gated/silent crossings. Awaiting correspondence- letter attached.

Email sent to all by Chair on 1-4-22 wishing to add the intersection of 45th & 5th to Robyn Pappenheims list for further study of making this an arrow intersection.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:44 am.

TOWN OF HIGHLAND

Highland Municipal Building • 3333 Ridge Road • Highland, Indiana 46322
(219) 838-1080 • Utility (219) 972-7589 • FAX: (219) 972-5097

January 3, 2022

Thomas R. Rueschhoff, P.E.
Senior Rail Projects Manager
Multimodal Rail Programs Office
Indiana Department of Transportation
100 North Senate Avenue - Room N955
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Re: Railroad Crossing Improvements
Highland, Indiana

Dear Mr. Rueschhoff:

On behalf of the Town of Highland, I am writing to request consideration for the installation of gates at three (3) railroad crossings in the Town of Highland for the Norfolk Southern Railroad (NSRR). Presently, the Town has six at-grade crossings and one grade-separated crossing with the NSRR. Of the six at-grade crossings, three are equipped with train-activated flashing lights and three are equipped with train-activated flashing lights and gates.

The crossings without the gates are on East/West roads and when the sun rises and sets it is very difficult to see the flashing lights.

The Town will be seeking consideration for Section 130 funding to add gates to the three crossings that are equipped with flashing lights only. The crossings are at the following locations:

<u>Street Name</u>	<u>DOT No.</u>
Lincoln Avenue	545883J
Highway Avenue	545881V
Hart Road/42 nd Street	545144U

We understand that there is a process in place to prioritize the needs of all crossings throughout the State and we wish to have our railroad crossings evaluated, the hazard index determined, and included in the rankings of RR crossings to be considered for Section 130 funding.

If you need additional information concerning the request, including data to support the evaluation, please contact my office at (219) 972-5069. I can also be contacted via email at mknesek@highland.in.gov.

Sincerely,

Mark Knesek
Public Works Director