

**CITY TRAFFIC ENGINEER'S REPORT  
ISSUE NO. TC 790**

**Crosswalk and Pedestrian Beacon on SW Denney Road at the Fanno Creek Trail**

**February 14, 2019**

**Background Information**

Requested by staff. The City's Active Transportation Plan (ATP) has identified pedestrian and bicycle crossing improvement throughout the City. One of these identified locations is the Fanno Creek Trail crossing on SW Denney Road east of 111<sup>th</sup> Avenue (Project ID # CR-101). The City has also received calls from trail users to install a marked crosswalk at this location.

Denney Road is classified as a 3-lane Collector Street (one through lane in each direction and a center turn lane) with a posted speed of 35 mph. There are pedestrian crossing warning signs and a median island on Denney Road at the Fanno Creek crossing. The median island provides a refuge area for pedestrians and allow pedestrians to cross the street in two stages. A traffic count taken in September 2018 showed that Denney Road carries approximately 12,700 vehicles per day.

National research and guidelines published by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) does not recommend installing a marked crosswalk at uncontrolled locations (intersections and midblock locations with no traffic signal or stop signs on the approach of the crossing) on three lane roadways that carry greater than 12,000 vehicles per day with a 35 mph speed limit. This recommendation is due to the increase in pedestrian crash risk if marked crosswalks are added without other substantial crossing improvements such as a raised median islands, warning beacons or a traffic signal where warranted to improve crossing safety for pedestrian.

The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) gave interim approval to allow for the use of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) as a warning device to supplement standard pedestrian crossing warning signs and markings, where the crosswalk approach is not controlled by a yield or a stop sign, or by a traffic signal.

Research on the RRFB showed a very high compliance rate of motorists yielding to pedestrians. The research showed the RRFB has a high 80's to almost 100 percent compliance rate in comparison to 15 to 20 percent range for a standard yellow circular flashing beacons. Also, the high yielding rates are sustained after 2 years in operation.

Staff is proposing to install a marked crosswalk and Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons on SW Denney Road at the Fanno Creek Trail crossing east of 111<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

The cost to install the crosswalk and the beacons is approximately \$35,000. The City of Beaverton and Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District (THPRD) have reached an agreement to share the cost of the installation of the crosswalk and the RRFB's at this location (see attached letter from THPRD).

### **Applicable Criteria**

The applicable criteria from Beaverton Code 6.02.060A is:

- 1a (provide for safe vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian movements);
- 1b (help ensure orderly and predictable movement of vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians);
- 2 (all proposed new traffic devices shall be based on the standards of the MUTCD).

### **Conclusions:**

1. The addition of a marked crosswalk and RRFB's with the existing median island on SW Denney Road at the Fanno Creek crossing would improve pedestrian safety and ensure orderly and predictable movement of vehicles and pedestrians, satisfying Criteria 1a and 1b.
2. The Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons meets the guidelines of the MUTCD, satisfying Criterion 2.

### **Recommendation:**

1. Approve the request to install a midblock marked crosswalk and Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons on SW Denney Road at the Fanno Creek Trail east of 111<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

TC # 790



1" = 50'

SW 111TH AVE

PROPOSED  
CROSSWALK

SW DENNEY RD

PROPOSED  
FLASHING BEACON

RAPID  
FLASHING  
BEACON

PUSH  
BUTTON

BEACON DETAIL

Y:\TRANSPORTATION\Drawings\2019\TC 790 - RRFB on Denney Rd.DWG



Crosswalk and Pedestrian Beacon on  
SW Denney Rd at The Fanno Creedk Trail

**ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**  
**TRANSPORTATION DIVISION**

Drawn By: GO Date: 2/21/19

Reviewed By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



November 16, 2018

Jabra Khasho  
City of Beaverton  
PO Box 4755  
Beaverton, OR 97076

Dear Jabra,

I am writing to express Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District (THPRD) support for an improvement to the pedestrian crossing of the Fanno Creek Trail at SW Denney Road.

THPRD is a special service district that serves Beaverton and surrounding unincorporated areas of Washington County. The mission of the District is to provide high-quality park and recreation facilities, programs, services and natural areas that meet the needs of the diverse communities it serves.

THPRD manages about 50 miles of trails that are used by tens of thousands of people each year. The better the trail system is, the more people use it for both recreation and commuting purposes. One area that helps connect trail segments and improves safety is the installation of improved mid-block crossings and wayfinding signage.

The section of the Fanno Creek Trail between the Denney Road trailhead and the segment that starts at SW 105<sup>th</sup> Ave. is in need of improvement. The park district strongly supports the installation of signage and a flashing beacon near the trailhead to make it easier for people to cross the road safely. To this end, THPRD will provide up to \$20,000 in funding to support these improvements, with the understanding that the City will install them, then maintain and replace them in the future.

If I can provide any additional information or support, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Barbarasch".

Bruce Barbarasch  
Nature & Trails Manager

MEMORANDUM  
Beaverton Police Department



DATE: February 26, 2019

TO: Jabra Khasho, City Transportation Engineer

FROM: Sergeant Steve Schaer

SUBJECT: Traffic Commission Issues No. TC 790

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On review of the City Traffic Engineer's report, and my visitation of the location, I concur with the Traffic Engineer's recommendation to approve the request to install a midblock marked crosswalk, and Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons on SW Denney Road at the Fanno Creek Trail east of 111<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Sgt Steve Schaer

**Jabra Khasho**

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**From:** Kerri Thornton <kerri.m.thornton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 25, 2019 11:27 AM  
**To:** Jabra Khasho  
**Subject:** Issue TC-790

Hi there,

My name is Kerri Thornton and I live at 6695 SW Princess Ave. Beaverton, OR 97008.

I would like to issue my FULL support for a crosswalk and traffic beacon on Denny street at the Fanno Creek trail.

Daily, I see middle school students, attending Whitford, have to navigate this crosswalk. Additionally there are young families, senior citizens and more that would be well served by this light addition. My own brother was on a leisure run and a kindly car stopped to let him cross to get on the Fanno trail. However 3 cars back did not see the stop coming and there was a car crash. Needless to say, it shook my brother up to know that cars are not always looking to stop at that intersection.

Thank you for implementing this important safety feature for our community and our children.

Best,  
Kerri Thornton

DRAFT

CITY OF BEAVERTON

FINAL WRITTEN ORDER OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION

REGARDING ISSUE NUMBER TC 790

**Crosswalk and Pedestrian Beacon on SW Denney Road at the Fanno Creek Trail**

1. A hearing on the issue was held by the Traffic Commission on March 7, 2019.
2. The following criteria were found by the City Traffic Engineer to be relevant to the issue:
  - 1a (provide for safe vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian movements);
  - 1b (help ensure orderly and predictable movement of vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians);
  - 2 (all proposed new traffic control devices shall be based on the standards of the MUTCD).
3. In making its decision, the Traffic Commission relied upon the following facts from the staff report and public testimony:
  - The Crosswalk and pedestrian beacon were identified in the City's Active Transportation Plan.
  - The City has received several requests from trail users to install a marked crosswalk at this location to improve pedestrian safety.
  - The functional classification of SW Denney Road is a 3-lane Collector Street.
  - The posted speed limit on SW Denney Road is 35 mph.
  - East of 111<sup>th</sup> Avenue, SW Denney Road carries approximately 12,700 vehicles per day.
  - There is a median island on SW Denney Road at the Fanno Creek Trail crossing that provides refuge area and allow pedestrians to cross the street at two stages.
  - National research and guideline published by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) does not recommend installing a marked crosswalk at uncontrolled locations (intersections and midblock locations with no traffic signal or stop signs on the approach of the crossing) on multilane roadways (four or more lanes) that carry greater than 12,000 vehicles per day with a 35 mph posted speed limit without other pedestrian facility enhancements such as raised median islands, pedestrian warning beacons or a traffic signal where warranted.
  - The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) gave interim approval to allow the use of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) to supplement pedestrian crossing warning signs and markings.
4. Following the public hearing, the Traffic Commission voted ( \_\_ aye, \_\_ nay) to recommend the following action:
  - Approve the request to install a midblock marked crosswalk, and a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons on SW Denney Road at the Fanno Creek Trail crossing east of 111<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

5. The Traffic Commission decision was based on the following findings:
- The addition of a marked crosswalk and RRFB's to the existing pedestrian warning signs and median island on SW Denney Road at the Fanno Creek Trail crossing would improve pedestrian safety and ensure orderly and predictable movement of vehicles and pedestrians, satisfying Criteria 1a and 1b.
  - The Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons meets the guidelines of the MUTCD, satisfying Criterion 2.
6. The decision of the Traffic Commission shall become effective upon formal approval of the City Council.

**SIGNED THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF MARCH 2019**

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Traffic Commission Chair