



City of Independence Minutes

**Traffic Safety Commission Meeting
Wednesday, February 18, 2026**

1. **Call to Order.** Sgt Williamson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. **Roll Call.**

Present: Planning Manager Fred Evander
Commissioner Michael Tweed
Commissioner Kevin Crutsinger
Commissioner Trevor Williamson
Commissioner Jason Branske
Commissioner Noemy Vega
Commissioner Kelie McWilliams, who attended via zoom, missed the first few minutes of the meeting due to technical difficulties.

Absent:

City Staff Myra Russell, City Recorder
Present:

3. **Minutes.**

1. **Regular Meeting 11/19/2025. Action:**

Planning Manager Evander moved to approve minutes as submitted; Commissioner Crutsinger seconded. Discussion: None

Voice vote. Motion 6-0-0

Ayes: Fred Evander, Michael Tweed, Kevin Crutsinger, Trevor Williamson, Jason Branske, Noemy Vega

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

4. **Visitors/Public Comment.** None.

5. **Staff Reports/Presentations.**

1. **Traffic Data.** Commissioner McWilliams messaged that she was having issues connecting to the meeting. Zoom meeting crashed, and Recorder Russell was able to bring it back up. Commissioner McWilliams joined the zoom meeting. Commissioners had been looking at the traffic data maps while this was going on. Question about warnings given for the new 4-way stop sign at the River Road bridge. They were included in data for January provided. The group discussed the effectiveness of radar monitoring and digital speed signs in reducing speeding.

2. **Vehicular Incidents.** McWilliams thanked staff for getting ages on the traffic data as

requested at the last meeting. Sgt. Williamson confirmed the police department is fully staffed at this time. The group discussed the need for pedestrian safety measures, with Williamson noting that previous grant-funded projects had been successful but were not renewed last year. Plans were made to apply for the grant again and to collaborate with Salem's Motor Unit for focused enforcement efforts in multiple locations.

6. Action/Discussion Items.

- Commissioner Tweed asked about who cleans up after an accident. If there is a tow, the tow company is supposed to clean up. Sgt. Williamson will remind them. If no tow, the police or fire department can do it, if time. Or push to the side and PW can clean with the street sweeper.
- Commissioner Tweed asked about jurisdictional transfer of roads so that the city could maintain to improve road conditions and safety. Planner Evander mentioned that the transportation bill that failed at the state had money for jurisdictional transfers. The group agreed that jurisdictional transfer could be beneficial if ODOT provided funding for road improvements before transferring ownership.

7. Adjournment. Sgt. Williamson adjourned the meeting at 6:27 pm.