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Planning Division
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Memorandum
To: Kim-Hien Nguyen
From: Myla Cross
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Subject: SW 139th Avenue Partition Sight Distance Analysis


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This memorandum provides a sight distance analysis to confirm that AASHTO sight distance standards can be met at the proposed shared driveway for the two-lot partition project located at 4975 SW 139th Avenue in Beaverton, Oregon.

## Location \& Project Description

The project site is located on Tax Lot 1S116CA03000, encompasses approximately 0.35 acres, and is zoned Residential Mixed C (RMC). The site is currently occupied by a single-family home, which will remain on Lot 1 after the proposed partition. A single-family attached home with two units will be constructed on Lot 2. A shared site access will be provided near the northern property line. A site plan is provided in the appendix of this memorandum. Figure 1 shows the subject site outlined in blue.


Figure 1: Vicinity Map (Image from City of Beaverton GIS)

## Sight Distance Requirements

Intersection sight distance was measured and evaluated in accordance with the standards established in A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets', as required by the City of Beaverton's Engineering Design Manual. According to AASHTO, the driver's eye is assumed to be 14.5 feet from the near edge of the nearest travel lane of the intersecting street and at a height of 3.5 feet above the approach street pavement. Vehicle/object height is assumed to be 3.5 feet above the cross-street pavement. Using a vehicle/object height equal to the driver's eye height makes intersection sight distances reciprocal (i.e., if one driver can see another vehicle, then the driver of that vehicle can also see the first vehicle).

Both intersection sight distance (ISD) and stopping sight distance (SSD) are assessed. According to AASHTO, the ISD is an operational measure, intended to provide sufficient line of sight along the major street so that a driver can turn from the minor street without impeding traffic flow. The SSD is considered the minimum requirement to ensure safe operation of an intersection. Stopping sight distance is the distance that allows an oncoming driver to see a hazard in the roadway, react, and come to a complete stop if necessary to avoid a collision.

SW 139 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Avenue is relatively flat near the project site, with approach grades measuring less than two percent over the braking distance. The posted speed along SW 139 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Avenue is 25 mph ; therefore, the recommended ISD is 280 feet and the required SSD is 155 feet. Calculation worksheets are provided in the appendix to this memorandum.

## Sight Distance Measurements

The following observations were made at the proposed site access; all figures are located in the appendix of this memorandum.

## Looking North from Site Access

Due to an existing wooden fence along the north property line, both the minimum recommended ISD and the required SSD north of the proposed site access could not be met along SW 139 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Avenue at the standard distance of 14.5 feet from the near edge of the travel lane of the intersecting street. Figure 2 shows the available sight lines from the access at a location of 14.5 feet from the near edge of the travel lane. If the front portion of the existing wooden fence is removed, the available sight lines would exceed the minimum ISD recommendation of 280 feet.

According to AASHTO, the design vehicle length in front of the driver's eye for passenger cars in the US is nearly always 8 feet. When drivers pull forward to an eye position of 10 feet from the edge of the roadway, an additional 2 feet of space will remain between the front of the vehicle and the edge of the travel lane on SW $139^{\text {th }}$ Avenue.

Figure 3 shows the available sight lines from the access at a location of 10 feet from the near edge of the travel lane. When the driver of the vehicle exiting the site access pulls forward to a location of 10 feet from the traveled way (rather than the standard 14.5 feet), the available sight lines exceed the minimum ISD recommendation of 280 feet as shown in Figure 4.

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## Looking South from Site Access

The available sight lines south of the access were measured to exceed the minimum ISD recommendation of 280 feet. Figure 5 shows the available sight lines from the access. Figure 6 is taken 280 feet south of the access.

## Conclusions

Based on the analysis, the stopping sight distance requirements and intersection sight distance recommendations in accordance with AASHTO standards to the south of the project site are met.

While adequate intersection sight distance can be met to the north when the driver of the vehicle exiting the site access pulls forward to a location of 10 feet from the traveled way (rather than the standard 14.5 feet), it is recommended that the front portion of the existing wooden fence be removed. This will allow for the intersection sight distance recommendation of 280 feet to be met from 14.5 feet back from the traveled way and therefore, be in compliance with the City of Beaverton EDM sections 210.18.1 and 210.21.F.4.

Appendix:

- Sight Distance Photos
- Sight Distance Calculations
- Site Plan


Figure 2: Available Sight Distance Looking North at 14.5 feet from Edge of Travel Lane


Figure 3: Available Sight Distance Looking North at 10 feet from Edge of Travel Lane


Figure 4: Looking South to Site Access from 280 Feet North of Site Access


Figure 5: Available Sight Distance Looking South at 14.5 feet from Edge of Travel Lane


Figure 6: Looking North to Site Access from 280 Feet South of Site Access

## Stopping Sight Distance

| Northbound |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Travel Speed | 25 mph | Travel Speed | 25 mph | Travel Speed | 25 mph |
| Reaction Time | 2.5 seconds | Travel Speed | 36.8 fps | Acceleration | $11.2 \mathrm{ft} / \mathrm{sec}^{\wedge} 2$ |
| Acceleration | $11.2 \mathrm{ft} / \mathrm{sec}^{\wedge} 2$ | Reaction Time | 2.5 seconds | Grade (percent) | 0.00\% |
| Grade (percent) | 0.00\% |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Reaction Distance | 91.9 feet | Braking Distance | 59.9 feet |
| SSD | 155 feet |  |  |  |  |
| Southbound |  |  |  |  |  |
| Travel Speed | 25 mph | Travel Speed | 25 mph | Travel Speed | 25 mph |
| Reaction Time | 2.5 seconds | Travel Speed | 36.8 fps | Acceleration | $11.2 \mathrm{ft} / \mathrm{sec}^{\wedge} 2$ |
| Acceleration | $11.2 \mathrm{ft} / \mathrm{sec} \wedge 2$ | Reaction Time | 2.5 seconds | Grade (percent) | 0.00\% |
| Grade (percent) | 0.00\% |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Reaction Distance | 91.9 feet | Braking Distance | 59.9 feet |
| SSD | 155 feet |  |  |  |  |

[^1]Intersection Sight Distance

|  | Left Turn Looking Left | Left Turn Looking Right | Right Turn Looking Left |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Approach Speed | 25 mph | 25 mph | 25 mph |
| Number of Lanes | 2 lanes | 2 lanes | 2 |
| Vehicle Type $(P / \mathrm{S} / \mathrm{C})$ | P Passenger Car | 0 | 0 |
| Extra Crossing Lanes | 7.5 seconds | 7.5 seconds | P Passenger Car |
| Time Gap |  |  |  |
|  | 280 feet | 280 feet | 6.5 seconds |
| AASHTO Intersection Sight Dist | 250 feet | 250 feet | 240 feet |
| Washington County |  |  | 250 feet |

Notes:

1) For Approach speed, use the design speed of the roadway (typically 85th percentile speed).
2) For Time Gap, use 7.5 seconds for passenger cars, 9.5 seconds for single-unit trucks, and 11.5 seconds for combination trucks.
3) The above values are for 2-lane highways without medians and grades of 3 percent or less.
4) For grades in excess of 3 percent on the minor street, add .2 seconds for each percent grade.
5) For additional lanes, add 0.5 seconds per lane for passenger cars and 0.7 seconds per lane for trucks.


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets, $7^{\text {th }}$ Edition, 2018.

[^1]:    Note:
    If grades are less than $3 \%$, no adjustment is needed.

