

# Draft of remarks to John Day City Council

---

**From:** "Rick LaMountain" <rflamountain@peoplepc.com>  
**To:** <larrydecew971@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Draft of remarks to John Day City Council  
**Date:** Dec 7, 2023 5:13 PM

---

Mayor and Councilors:

I appreciate the opportunity to speak with you this evening. My name is Larry DeCew. I'm here to urge the City Council to approve a civic-improvement project conceived and developed by members of the John Day Change Club.

The Change Club is part of a clinical study instituted last spring by medical and social-services professionals affiliated with Oregon Health Sciences University. Located primarily in the state's rural areas, the network's clubs were launched under the aegis of small-town libraries but today are independent. The clubs have two main goals: to promote local civic engagement, and to encourage healthy lifestyles via regular walking groups.

Earlier this year, OHSU endowed the John Day Change Club with a \$5,000 grant to undertake a community-improvement project of its members' choosing. After considering and reviewing a number of different community needs, the club decided to pursue the installation of two new pedestrian-safety signs near the John Day Canyon City Parks and Recreation headquarters where the 7th Street walking trail crosses N.W. Bridge Street.

There is considerable need for these signs as the crossing is situated at the bottom of a long hill upon which descending vehicles can quickly build momentum. By the time they are mere feet from the crossing, those vehicles can be suddenly and unexpectedly exceeding the speed limit, endangering pedestrians crossing the trail at that juncture.

Though signs to alert motorists to the upcoming crosswalk are currently at this location, we're concerned that the signs go largely unnoticed. They are small and unlit, with a yellow background and faded black lettering that blend inconspicuously into the background. We've researched a potential replacement for this sign and identified one we believe would be a significant upgrade.

Manufactured and distributed by LED Lighting Solutions, the replacement signs are colored fluorescent yellow/green and equipped with flashing, solar-powered LED lights visible from a distance of 2,500 feet. Between dawn and dusk -- the time of day when both motorized and pedestrian traffic is at its heaviest -- the lights, controlled by a computerized application, would flash 50 times a minute. After dark, when traffic has abated, the lights would not flash but the sign's fluorescence would reflect brightly in oncoming vehicles' headlights. More, the new sign could easily be affixed to the existing signpost.

If the Council approves this project, the John Day Change Club will pay the \$2,174.93 cost of the signs and \$1,240 for replacement batteries. Of the city, we'd ask only that it commit its public-works department to install the signs, for which we could reimburse labor costs up to \$300.

The City Council's adoption of this project would both help foster community participation in John Day's improvement and heighten motorists' and pedestrians' safety at a potentially hazardous crosswalk.

Thank you for your consideration. The Change Club appreciates the opportunity to contribute to our city's betterment and is eager to join you in pursuing other civic-improvement projects in the future.

MOST ORDERS SHIP WITHIN 24 HOURS



https://ledlighting-solutions.com/storefront.html

Search



SIGN IN OR REGISTER (HTTPS://LEDLIGHTING-SOLUTIONS.COM/CUSTOMER-LOGIN.HTML)



HOME (HTTPS://LEDLIGHTING-SOLUTIONS.COM/STOREFRONT.HTML) / TRAFFIC & SAFETY (HTTPS://LEDLIGHTING-SOLUTIONS.COM/TRAFFIC-SAFETY.HTML) / SOLAR TRAFFIC SIGNS (HTTPS://LEDLIGHTING-SOLUTIONS.COM/SOLAR-TRAFFIC-SIGNS.HTML) / W11-2 CROSSWALK (HTTPS://LEDLIGHTING-SOLUTIONS.COM/W11-2-CROSSWALK.HTML) / 30" SOLAR POWERED FLASHING CROSSWALK SIGN (HTTPS://LEDLIGHTING-SOLUTIONS.COM/30-SOLAR-POWERED-FLASHING-CROSSWALK-SIGN.HTML)



SKU: CCR5002-030

30" Solar Powered Flashing Crosswalk Sign



