



City of Racine

City Hall
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403
www.cityofracine.org

Meeting Minutes - Final Traffic Commission

*Chairman Alderman Sandy Weidner
Atty. Nicole Loop
Charles French
John Heckenlively
Lt. Chuck Weitzel
Mark Yehlen*

Monday, August 20, 2012

5:15 PM

City Hall, Room 301

Call To Order

PRESENT: 5 - Charles French, John Heckenlively , Lt. Chuck Weitzel, Chairman Weidner and Mark Yehlen
EXCUSED: 1 - Nicole Loop

Also Present: John Rooney, Alderman Kaplan, Tom Ryan

Approval of Minutes for the July 16, 2012 Meeting

The minutes of the July 16, 2012 meeting were approved as printed. Passed unanimously.

New Business

1. [12-7614](#) **Subject:** Communication from the Alderman of the 12th District, on behalf of Bob Brown (3725 Haven Ave.), requesting that east/west facing stop signs be added at the intersection of Haven Avenue and Monroe Avenue.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 05-21-12: Defer

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 07-16-12: Defer

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 08-20-12: Receive and file

Fiscal Note: N/A

Secretary Rooney explained the study for the all-way stop request at the intersection of Haven and Monroe Avenue. He noted there was no accident history to support the installation of an all-way stop and nor were any of the volume or other warrants met for an all-way stop condition, as well. He did note, a speed study was performed with pneumatic tube counters and did indicate a significant speeding problem in the area.

He recommended the item be received and filed but recommended that targeted speed enforcement be conducted.

Lt. Weitzel noted he would be setting up that targeted enforcement in that area and he and the Secretary of the Traffic Commission have had discussions on the speed issue in that area.

Motion made by Heckenlively, seconded by Yehlen to receive and file and recommend targeted speed enforcement by the RPD. Passed unanimously.

Recommended to be Received and Filed

2. [12-7870](#)

Subject: Communication from the Alderman of the 4th District, on behalf of Tom Ryan (1414 Michigan Blvd.) and James Rooney (1500 Michigan Blvd.), requesting an All-Way stop at Barker Street and Michigan Blvd.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 07-16-12: Defer

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 08-20-12: "No parking at any time" be approved on Michigan Blvd. at the following locations: east side, from Barker Street south 124 feet; east side, from Barker Street north 91 feet; west side, from Barker Street south 87 feet; west side, from Barker Street north 120 feet.

Fiscal Note: The estimated cost of this signage will result in an installation cost of \$240.00 and an annual maintenance cost of \$100.00.

Secretary Rooney explained the study to the Traffic Commission members. He noted warrants were not met for an all-way stop at Barker Street and Michigan Blvd. He noted there were only 4 accidents at this location over the last 5 years, all of which were not correctable by traffic control measures. He noted one accident was a hit and run of a parked vehicle, the other one was a rear-end collision from an inattentive driver. He noted the other two accidents were failure to yield right-of-way of motorists who were stopped at the intersection, but proceeded into it causing an accident of a right angle on nature with the vehicle that had right-of-way on Michigan Blvd. He noted there were no issues as far as delay was concerned that would cause a need for an all-way stop condition. He did note, however, the site lines could be opened up by installing parking restrictions on both sides of the street, north and south of the intersection. He noted these types of parking restrictions can help mitigate the failure to yield right-of-way type of collisions where the motorists simply may not have enough sight distance to see vehicles going north and southbound on the intersection because of vehicles being parked too close to the intersection. He noted those parking restrictions were based on design speed, plus perception reaction time for vehicles braking and coming to a complete stop in poor weather conditions.

Charlie French indicated he had seen little issues other than congestion in the area on busy summer days or with events going on at Racine Yacht Club or the north beach area.

Alderman Kaplan also had no objections to the parking restrictions in the area.

Tom Ryan commented that parking restrictions are needed in the area and if that would help the matter, he would support the request.

Motion made by French, seconded by Weitzel to approve the parking restrictions as described. Passed unanimously.

Recommended For Approval

3. [12-7951](#)

Subject: Communication from Toni Ostermann (2006 St. Clair St.) requesting a 4-way stop on the corner of Yout Street and Erie Street.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 08-20-12: Receive and file

Fiscal Note: N/A

Secretary Rooney noted that a study has not been performed at the intersection since 1997, at which time the recommendation was to receive and file the request for an all-way stop. He did note with looking back at previous Traffic Commission minutes and noted there are parking restrictions on the east and west approaches of that intersection that were installed in the early 1970's. He noted those restrictions were installed but not to the distances recommended by the Traffic Engineer. He noted the Traffic Commission shortened those distances to provide more on-street parking in the area.

Charlie French noted that he drives that area all the time and noted the offset intersection, because of the narrowness of Yout Street east of Erie Street, kind of creates a natural traffic calming measure that makes you slow down.

In the absence of the person making the request, French made a motion, seconded by Yehlen to receive and file the communication. Passed unanimously.

Recommended to be Received and Filed

4. [12-7992](#)

Subject: Communication from Pastor Daryn Crenshaw of the Christ Baptist Church (1034 West Boulevard), requesting removal of the "No Parking Anytime" sign at Lindermann Avenue and West Boulevard.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 08-20-12: Defer

Secretary Rooney read the request to remove parking restrictions in the area of Lindermann, between West Blvd. and Grove Ave. He noted the parking restrictions in place for "No parking anytime" were due to deliveries being made to the former Piggly Wiggly location on the south side of the street. He also noted some limited parking zones were established for a dry cleaning business that is no longer in operation. He didn't see any objections to the request to remove the parking restrictions seeing that neither business is in existence anymore. He did note there was an e-mail from Alderman McCarthy who was concerned about removing parking restrictions because the Christ Baptist Church at 1034 West Blvd. has not complied with some other issues relating to conditional use.

Motion made by Yehlen to eliminate all the restrictions. He didn't feel as though the Traffic Commission should be commenting on issues of conditional use. There was no second, so the motion died. Motion made by Heckenlively, seconded by French to defer the item one month to see if the pastor would like to come in and speak to

the issue. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

5. [12-8098](#) **Subject:** In accordance with Section 2-95 of the Municipal Code of the general ordinances of the City of Racine, recommends that the following requests for changes in traffic code be granted:

A. Recommends that Section 94-141 (1) of Schedule F of the Municipal Code of the General Ordinances of the City of Racine relative to "No parking at any time" be amended:

By Including:

1. Michigan Blvd., east side, from Barker Street south 124 feet
2. Michigan Blvd., east side, from Barker Street north 91 feet
3. Michigan Blvd., west side, from Barker Street south 120 feet
4. Michigan Blvd., west side, from Barker Street north 87 feet

Recommended For Approval

Next Meeting Date - September 17, 2012 - Room 301 at City Hall

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:02 P.M.

If you are disabled and have accessibility needs or need information interpreted for you, please contact the Engineering Department, 636-9166, at least 48 hours prior to this meeting.