



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Final Traffic Commission

Chairman Alderman Sandy Weidner
Co-Chairman Martin DeFatte
Atty. Nicole Loop
Charles French
John Heckenlively
Lt. Chuck Weitzel
Mark Yehlen

Monday, October 17, 2011

5:15 PM

City Hall, Room 301

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 P.M.

PRESENT: 5 - Nicole Loop, Martin DeFatte, John Heckenlively, Lt. Chuck Weitzel and Mark Yehlen

EXCUSED: 2 - Charles French and Chairman Weidner

Also Present: John Rooney, Alderman Fair, Jennifer Horn, Patrick Starken, Brian Hansche, Jim Boehm, Paul Seggelink, Mike Axelson

Approval of Minutes for the September 19, 2011 Meeting

The minutes of the September 19, 2011 meeting were approved as printed. Passed unanimously

New Business

1. [11-6671](#) **Subject:** Communication from the Alderman of the 15th District requesting a stop sign be placed at the intersection of Shoreland Avenue and Ruby Avenue.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 09-19-11: Defer

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 10-17-11: Receive and file.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Paul Seggelink and Mike Axelson appeared before the Commission to express their concerns with the number of young children that live in the area of Shoreland Drive near Ruby Avenue. They believe there are high speeds in the area and inquired about getting a stop sign placed at the intersection. Paul Seggelink noted he was more interested in a reversal of the stop signs than a four-way stop.

John Rooney explained the purpose of installing stop signs is to assign right-of-way

and not to control speeds. He also noted stop signs are usually set up to stop the minor approach volume of traffic, and this request would be contrary to that. He noted that in other areas where cut-through traffic appears to be a problem, the City has installed a basket-weave pattern of stop signs to defray motorists from doing that. However, Shoreland is a collector street that does serve a higher volume of traffic in the area.

John Rooney noted he didn't believe a traffic study would warrant all-way stops or a reversal of stop signs in the area.

Lt. Weitzel noted he could put the speed trailer in the area to see if a need of targeted enforcement is required. He noted deployment could take up to four weeks.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Yehlen, seconded by Heckenlively to receive and file. Passed unanimously.

Recommended to be Received and Filed

2. [11-6759](#)

Subject: Communication from the Alderman of the 1st District and Wisconsin Lutheran School (734 Villa St.) requesting a 4-way stop sign be placed at the corner of 8th St. and Villa St.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 09-19-11: Defer

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 10-17-11: Receive and file.

Fiscal Note: N/A

James Boehm and Alderman Fair appeared before the Commission.

John Rooney explained the traffic study and noted that none of the warrants were met for an all-way stop control. He noted the intersection had no accidents over the last five (5) years and noted that very few pedestrians use the intersection at all. He noted most school children are dropped off curb side by car or bus, and those that did walk came from the west and did not use this intersection.

James Boehm thanked the Traffic Commission for getting some of the signs up that were needed and thanked them for looking into the study.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Loop, seconded by Weitzel to receive and file. Passed unanimously.

Recommended to be Received and Filed

3. [11-6842](#)

Subject: Communication from Brian Hansche (1500 S. Main Street) wishing to discuss traffic issues in the area of 14th Street and S. Main Street.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 09-19-11: Defer

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 10-17-11: Receive and file.

Fiscal Note: N/A

John Rooney explained to the Traffic Commission the site lines and safe stopping distance available at the intersection of 14th Street and S. Main Street, and 15th Street and S. Main Street. He noted that with the removal of parking on the south side of 14th Street, between Main and Wisconsin Avenue, there is clear site line to the west. He recommended no changes in traffic control be made at this location. He also indicated at the intersection of 15th Street and S. Main Street, safe stopping distance and site distance would require approximately 90 feet of parking removal on the west side of Main Street, south of 15th Street. However, he noted there were no reported accidents over a five-year period, therefore his recommendation was to leave parking on-street. He noted on-street parking is needed in most neighborhoods and if the accident data doesn't support a change, he felt the motorists in the area used the intersection with caution.

Brian Hansche disagreed with the assessment from the Engineering Department and requested the parking restrictions be removed.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Yehlen, seconded by Heckenlively to receive and file. Passed unanimously.

Recommended to be Received and Filed4. [11-6977](#)

Subject: Communication from Jennifer Horn, Principal, Stephen Bull Fine Arts School - 815 De Koven Avenue, requesting a study be done for a crossing guard in the area of the school.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 10-17-11: Receive and file.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Jennifer Horn and Patrick Starcken appeared before the Commission and noted some problems with parking in the area by appearance. Jennifer Horn also indicated she would be interested if a crossing guard could be placed at the intersection of Center Street and DeKoven Avenue. She asked that the crossing guard be placed on the south approach.

John Rooney noted that approach was already stop-controlled and there was no way the Engineering Department could conduct a gap study if a stop sign already creates gaps for pedestrians.

Lt. Weitzel noted he could work with the day shift commander to see if some enforcement and ticketing could be done to clear the street of illegally parked motorists in the area.

Jennifer Horn noted the problematic times in the A.M. and P.M. and noted the P.M. dismissal time was worse.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Weitzel, seconded by Heckenlively to receive and file. Passed unanimously.

Recommended to be Received and Filed**Next Meeting Date**

The next Traffic Commission meeting will be November 21, 2011 at 5:15 P.M. in Room 304 (Engineering Conference Room).

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 P.M.

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