



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Final Traffic Commission

*Chairman Martin DeFatte, Alderman Gregory Holding,
Commissioner Richard Jones, Atty. Nicole Loop, Lt. James
Dobbs, Charles French*

Monday, February 15, 2010

5:15 PM

City Hall, Room 301

Call To Order

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

PRESENT: 6 - Gregory Holding, Nicole Loop, James Dobbs, Martin DeFatte, Charles French and Richard Jones

Also Present: John Rooney, Staff; Alderman Kaplan; Rosalinda Arredondo; Sandra Gonzales

Approval of Minutes for the January 18, 2010 Meeting

The minutes for the January 18, 2010 meeting were approved as printed. Passed unanimously.

New Business

1. [09-4407](#) **Subject:** Communication from the Alderman of the 5th District, on behalf of Rosalinda Arredondo (420 Walton Ave) requesting the 2-hour parking restrictions on Walton Avenue be removed.

Recommendation on 01-18-10: Defer

Recommendation on 02-15-10: All parking restrictions in the 400 block of Walton Avenue be removed.

Fiscal Note: There is a nominal cost to remove these signs.

John Rooney reminded the Traffic Commission members of the parking restrictions on the street. He noted some "No parking at any time" restrictions were located on the east end of Walton Avenue near Main, and they were put up in 1991 when the traffic signals were installed for traffic signal operations. He noted the other restrictions that limited parking during hours of the day on weekends and holidays during the summer months have been in place for several decades. He noted he had contacted the three (3) property owners on Walton Avenue to see if they had any objections to removing the signs. He noted the property owner at the northwest corner of Main and Walton would prefer to see the limited term parking signs removed, but would like to see the "No parking any time" restriction left in front of their property on the north side of Walton Avenue. John noted he explained to that property owner the no parking restriction was not necessary, but the property owner wished to see it remain to keep Zoo patrons from parking and littering in front of the property.

Rosalinda Arredondo appeared before the Commission and asked for removal of all the parking restrictions in the area. She noted she has visitors, particularly on the weekends in the summer that get tickets.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Holding, seconded by Dobbs to remove all parking restrictions in the 400 block of Walton Avenue. Passed unanimously.

Recommended For Approval

2. [09-4537](#)

Subject: Communication from Beverly Eppler requesting street parking changes in the 1900 block of Taylor Avenue.

Recommendation on 01-18-10: Defer

Recommendation on 02-15-10: "No parking at any time" restrictions on Taylor Avenue, west side, from 20th Street north 50 feet be removed.

Fiscal Note: There is a nominal cost to remove these signs.

John Rooney noted after surveying the existing no parking signs on the west side of the 1900 block of Taylor Avenue, there was only one (1) possible location a vehicle could fit on that side of the street. He noted that an existing "No parking at any time" restriction existed by Transportation Ordinance on the west side, from 20th Street, 50 feet north. He noted the signs were probably installed to remind drivers that they could not park illegally in regards to State Statutes as it pertained to parking in intersections and also within four (4) feet of private entrances.

Alderman Holding noted some of the sign pollution and noted the signs were probably giving the wrong message to motorists or to residents who thought they did not have to comply with alternate street side parking.

Nicole Loop indicated it would be hard to interpret, from a prosecution standpoint, someone's point of view in regards to an entire side of City block being posted "No parking at any time."

After further discussion, a motion was made by Jones, seconded by Holding to remove the "No parking at any time" restriction north of 20th Street on the west side of Taylor Avenue and remove all extraneous "No parking at any time" signs. Passed unanimously.

Recommended For Approval

3. [10-4713](#)

Subject: Communication from the Alderman of the 4th District requesting a 4-Way or All-Way stop at the intersection of N. Wisconsin Street and Barker Street.

Recommendation on 02-15-10: Defer

Alderman Kaplan appeared before the Commission and noted he was concerned about student safety at this intersection. He noted it was difficult, particularly at dismissal time. He indicated all other all-way stops in the neighborhood for the schools, including Jane's, St. John Lutheran, and St. Joseph Catholic School.

Sandra Gonzales appeared before the Commission and noted for the safety of the children, the start and dismissal time was very difficult on children trying to cross that street and avoid motorists.

Charlie French was concerned that installing four-way stops may cause some undue bus queuing. He also noted the irresponsibility of parents doing drop-off of students at the school in the street.

John Rooney noted this intersection was studied in February of 1999 and did not warrant an all-way stop. He noted the item was received and filed at that time.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Jones, seconded by French to conduct a study of the intersection, paying particularly close attention to pedestrians, in peak hour counts for the 7:30 A.M. arrival time at school and the 2:52 P.M. pick-up time or dismissal of the students. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

4. [10-4786](#)

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 Deleting:

1. Taylor Avenue, west side, from 20th Street north 50 feet.
2. Walton Avenue, north side, from Main Street west 100 feet.
3. Walton Avenue, south side, from North Main Street west 75 feet.

B. Recommends that Section 94-141 (32) of Schedule F of the Municipal Code of the General Ordinances of the City of Racine relative to "No parking from 8:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. from May 1 to September 30 of each year on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays only." be amended:

By Deleting:

1. Walton Avenue, south side, from 75 feet west of North Main Street to North Wisconsin Street.
2. Walton Avenue, north side, from 100 feet west of North Main Street to North Wisconsin Street.

Recommended For Approval

Next Meeting Date

The next Traffic Commission meeting will be March 15, 2010 at 5:15 P.M. in Room 301 at City Hall.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:51 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.