



CITY OF WAUWATOSA
7725 WEST NORTH AVENUE
WAUWATOSA, WI 53213
Telephone: (414) 479-8917
Fax: (414) 479-8989

TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, July 12, 2005

PRESENT: Aids. Becker, Krol, Maher, Purins -4

EXCUSED: Ald. Herzog

ALSO PRESENT: T. Wontorek, City Admin.; W. Kappel, Dir. of Public Works

Ald. Becker as Chair called the meeting to order at 7:42 p.m.

Noon-Hour School Crossing Guards

The pilot program of eliminating lunch-hour school crossing guards at four locations was discussed at the previous meeting, and further action was withheld to allow for input from public and private schools on eliminating lunch-time guards throughout the city. Mr. Wontorek reported that the pilot results were shared with the new school superintendent and his staff, and copies were sent to all private schools in the city. They were all advised of this meeting and asked to contact him if there were any concerns. Only one call was received, and that was from a private school that doesn't use crossing guards. Dr. Ertl, the Wauwatosa superintendent, reported that he had not received any comments from staff. Mr. Wontorek concluded that it seems reasonable to proceed with removing lunch-time school crossing guards from all 16 locations effective with the start of the new school year.

Asked about savings, Mr. Wontorek said that the pilot program reduced costs by about \$125 per week at each of the four locations. If expanded to all 16 locations for the remainder of 2005, there would be savings of about \$25,000 to \$30,000. Projections for the full school year are in the \$70,000 to \$75,000 range.

Ald. Krol commented that this is appropriate since children are not allowed to leave at noon-time without an adult. Mr. Wontorek added that there are adequate traffic control signs and signals to assist parents who walk their children to and from school.

Moved by Ald. Krol, seconded by Ald. Maher to recommend to Council eliminating all noon-time crossing guards throughout the city effective with the start of the new school year –

Ald. Maher said that he had been the most concerned about the pilot program and is impressed with the efforts made to reach out to the schools and parents. He has a four-year old who will be affected by the change and has heard only positive comments from fellow parents or other residents.

Vote on the motion, Ayes: 4

The meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk

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