



CITY OF WAUWATOSA  
MEMORIAL CIVIC CENTER  
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**COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC AND SAFETY**

Tuesday, February 27, 2007 – 7:40 p.m.

PRESENT: Alds. Grimm, Herzog, Minear, Treis -4

EXCUSED: Ald. Donegan

ALSO

PRESENT: Mr. Kappel, Director of Public Works

Ald. Grimm in the Chair

**Request for No Trucking on N. 68th Street from W. State Street to W. Blue Mound Road.**

Held for one month was the request by residents in and around N. 68th Street that trucking be prohibited on N. 68th Street between W. State Street and W. Blue Mound Road.

Mr. Kappel reported that since the last meeting, businesses along W. State Street have been notified of this request. The City of Milwaukee was also contacted concerning its placement of a 'no trucking' sign on its segment of N. 68th Street near the freeway. However, no reply has been received as yet. Mr. Kappel noted that even if the Wauwatosa portion of N. 68th Street were posted to prohibit trucking, trucks making deliveries to State Street could still use the street for those deliveries. Police Capt. Sutter has confirmed that delivery trucks would not be cited for traveling on N. 68th Street if they were making deliveries. This situation is addressed in the municipal code as follows: "11.40.330 Heavy traffic--Exceptions. Nothing contained in Sections 11.40.310 and 11.40.320 shall be deemed to prohibit the ordinary use of any of the streets designated for the purpose of obtaining orders for and delivering or moving supplies or other necessary commodities to or from any place of business or residence fronting on the streets or intersecting streets."

In response to a question, Mr. Kappel stated he did not have information concerning a trucking prohibition that once been in place on N. 68th Street.

The following residents spoke to the issue:

Vaso Sasic, 612 N. 68th Street – A trucking prohibition existed in 1984; approximately seven years later, the law was apparently changed. It needs to be changed again. That portion of N. 68th Street within the City of Milwaukee has been posted no trucking between the freeway and Blue Mound Road. Truckers should be directed to use Hawley Road. The heavy traffic has caused the road surface to fail sooner than it should have, creating an additional burden to property owners.

Maureen Lloyd, 627 N. 68th Street – At one time, Hawley Road was difficult for semi-trucks to use because of the ramp onto State Street. This situation has been remedied and truckers should again be directed to use Hawley Road. Outpost Natural Foods claims it directs its suppliers to use Hawley Road.

Deborah Sumiec, 652 N. 68th Street – By the ages of three and six years, her children knew that traffic signals couldn't always be trusted. Their windows rattle. Residents contend with loud radios and motorcycles in addition to heavy truck traffic. This is a neighborhood filled with young children. This traffic burden should be shared.

Jerry Styberg, 6804 W. Wisconsin Avenue – Residents know that trucks are part of the traffic, but N. 68th Street bears a heavy traffic burden. Can't trucks be redirected to N. 70th or N. 76th Streets?

Christina Schell, 545 N. 68th Street – Many children under the age of 7 reside in this neighborhood and attempt to walk to school. Safety is an issue.

Mel Mickey, 558 N. 68th Street – The truck-specific problems posed by Hawley Road have been corrected and trucks must be encouraged to use that route.

Krista Johnson, 644 N. 68th Street – Why wouldn't the police issue citations to trucks if the street were posted 'no trucking'?

Mr. Kappel reiterated that even if N. 68th Street were posted to prohibit trucking (i.e., *through* trucking), trucks making deliveries could still lawfully travel on the street.

Chris Bolin, 512 N. 68th Street – More businesses on State Street should be weighing in on this issue. It is unreasonable to expect residents living on a narrow street to contend with the amount of traffic that N. 68th Street carries. Most of the trucks on N. 68th Street service the three grocery stores on State Street, according to an informal survey performed by his wife. The stores' suppliers should be instructed to use Hawley Road. From N. 70th and W. State Streets it is .8 mile to Hawley Road and 1.3 miles to the freeway. The Milwaukee sign specifies no trucks over three tons; residents can likely contend with smaller trucks. Businesses on State Street should be responsive to their customers on N. 68th Street and encourage their suppliers to voluntarily use other routes.

Max Dickman, 1150 E. Standish, Bayside, representing Pick 'n Save, noted that while travel through the Village area is impractical for trucks, consideration must be redirected towards Hawley Road again. Larger trucks are used so that fewer trips are necessary. Truckers are instructed not to make deliveries before 7 a.m.

Bob Eckert, 155 N. 110th Street, representing Eckert Door Company, 6510 W. State Street, stated that provisions of the interstate commerce code permit delivery trucks on non-trucking routes. A truck with a bill of lading has the right to use posted street.

Police Chief Weber confirmed Mr. Kappel's earlier remarks concerning the legality of delivery trucks using posted routes to make deliveries. Mr. Kappel stressed the posting a street is intended to eliminate *through* truck traffic only. Construction traffic, such as will be serving the condominium development on N. 62nd & W. State Streets, can be directed temporarily to use certain routes.

In response to a question, Mr. Kappel stated that N. 68th Street's surface has not received attention since he has been in his current position

It was moved by Ald. Treis, seconded by Ald. Minear to review the data for the next two weeks (including renewed efforts to obtain a response from the City of Milwaukee concerning their posting). -4

**Safe Routes to School Grant Submittal.** Mr. Kappel advised that staff intends to file an application for a Safe Routes to School Grant, an infrastructure grant that will cover some crosswalk modifications. The grant is 100% funded, though reimbursable. The crosswalk redesigns will allow pedestrians to cross busy intersections without entering traffic. A request will also be made for funding of additional installations of school crossing signs and radar feedback signs. One of these went on-line yesterday and has been collecting data.

It was moved by Ald. Treis, seconded by Ald. Herzog to accept the report and place it on file. -4

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk

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