



CITY OF WAUWATOSA

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TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

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

EXCUSED: Ald. Maher

ALSO PRESENT: W. Kappel, Director of Public Works

Ald. Becker as Chair called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. -4

Completion of 90-Day Trial of Four-Way Stop at N. 65th and W. Lloyd Streets

The Director of Public Works reviewed the 90-day trial of a four-way stop at N. 65th and W. Lloyd Streets. Mr. Kappel reported that within the first two days of the trial, even with advance warning devices, there were two property damage accidents. After that, however, there were no further accidents. As evidenced by the e-mails from area residents provided to the committee, there is overwhelming support for the four-way stop. The committee also was given a copy of an e-mail received today, the only one in opposition to the signs. Because of the overall positive response and the positive effect on pedestrian safety, Mr. Kappel recommended making the installation permanent. He noted that he received more responses on this item than any other in the past 14 years.

Rezonn Dahlin-Klein, 6223 Washington Circle, said she has served as the neighborhood coordinator for this effort. She indicated that residents are very pleased with the stop signs.

Moved by Ald. Herzog, seconded by Ald. Krol to recommend to Council adoption of a resolution making the four-way stop at N. 65th and W. Lloyd Streets permanent –

Ald. Herzog said that even though the intersection doesn't meet all the warrants for a four-way stop, it is a natural intersection for such signage, which is needed when there is a high-traffic area or where there are blind corners. This intersection seems to be highly used as a way in and out of the Highlands, and Lloyd Street is used as a route to other parts of the city. Ald. Herzog reported observing today that the telephone junction box that was creating somewhat of a blind spot has now been relocated.

Mr. Kappel indicated that permanent signs would be installed as soon as possible to replace the temporary installation. He noted that the two property damage accidents involved driver negligence. Both drivers admitted that they did not see the stop sign despite flags and advance warning signs calling attention to it. This is a natural thoroughfare and, although traffic volumes do not warrant it, is listed as a collector street because it is one of the primary exit points from the Highlands area, which has only a small number of roads exiting to the north and south.

In response to a question, Mr. Kappel said he does not see the need for using flashing red lights along with the signs here, but it is something that will be monitored. An inquiry about reducing the speed limit in this area is being investigated, and a report on traffic volumes and speeds will likely be brought to the committee in a few months.

Ald. Purins expressed concern about setting a precedent that may make it difficult to make a judgment about future requests for stop signs. Mr. Kappel said that the biggest factor here is the width of the street, which is much greater than a normal residential street. Ald. Krol commented on the need to make exceptions. In this case, special consideration is warranted because the street is wide and it is a major crossing and thoroughfare for the area.

Vote on the motion, Ayes: 4

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

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