



CITY OF WAUWATOSA

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TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday, November 10, 2009

PRESENT: Alds. Jay (7:33 p.m.), McBride, Meaux, Stepaniak, Wilke - 5

ALSO

PRESENT: W. Kappel, Dir. of Public Works

Ald. Meaux in the Chair called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. -4

Stop Signs – N. 72nd Street at Grand Parkway, N. 74th Street at Wellauer Drive

Mr. Kappel reported that there were no complaints during the 90-day trial of stop signs for northbound and southbound traffic on N. 72nd Street at Grand Parkway and on N. 74th Street at Wellauer Drive. Local alderpersons reported favorable feedback. Mr. Kappel commented that it is difficult to remove stop signs once they are in place and drivers have become accustomed to them, but he reminded the committee that the intersections do not actually meet criteria warranting such signs.

(Ald. Jay present -5)

Moved by Ald. McBride, seconded by Ald. Stepaniak to recommend to Council adding the stop signs to the official stop sign map. Ayes: 5

Parking Restrictions on N. 70th Street north of Blanchard Street

Mr. Kappel reported that, following the committee's discussion at the September 29th meeting, he and Ald. McBride met with two representatives of Holy Angels Cathedral, 1510 N. 70th Street. Although the original discussion concerned extending the no parking zone on the east side of N. 70th Street, the result of that meeting is a recommendation to move restrictions to the west side of the street. To minimize neighborhood impact, the restriction would be limited to Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Father Charles Walders, Chaplain to the Archbishop of the Old Catholic Church of America, DeForest, Wisconsin, was present.

Mr. Kappel provided a map outlining the area of existing no parking on the east side of the street, the previously discussed extension of the east side zone, and the recommended west side no parking zone. He noted that the church is right at the crest of the steep 70th Street hill, and he felt that the proposed change would provide the clear pathway in both directions that is needed there.

Michelle Braze, 1511 N. 70th Street, spoke of the volume of traffic and rate of speed going up and down the hill and said she would be happy to have any kind of restriction limiting the amount of parking on the

street. Les Braze, 1511 N. 70th Street, asked about the possibility of a loading zone for the church to alleviate traffic jams when people are being dropped off or picked up.

Ald. McBride said that a loading zone was not specifically discussed. Church representatives felt that it is important to have parking in front, but there will be room to go around a car that is unloading passengers since there will be no parked cars on the west side. Loading and unloading passengers may be a problem before and after services, but this solution provides a lot of parking during services. It seems to be an improvement for everyone concerned and can be adjusted if needed.

In response to a question from Ald. Jay, Mr. Kappel explained that 70th Street functions as a secondary arterial. The only other direct north-south arterial between State Street and Milwaukee Avenue is 68th Street. Ald. McBride noted that this is the steepest hill in the city and a major thoroughfare.

Joy Kitzrow, 1503 N. 70th Street, felt this is a good resolution but asked for enough posted signs to make the restrictions very clear.

Mr. Kappel noted that any changes would be made under a 90-day trial. During that time, he or the local alderpersons should be notified if any issues arise so that the matter can be brought back to the committee. He would rely on the alderpersons to inform constituents of any further meetings.

Ald. McBride added that this committee can extend a trial period for up to a year. Winter trials are good for testing under harsher conditions. He asked that any concerns be brought to him or Mr. Kappel.

Moved by Ald. McBride, seconded by Ald. Stepaniak to approve a 90-day trial of no parking at any time restrictions on the west side of N. 70th Street between Blanchard Street and the north lot line of 1511 N. 70th Street, limiting the restrictions to 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. Ayes: 5

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

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