

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
DES MOINES, IOWA

ITEM 62

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 96-443
OCTOBER 21, 1996 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
TRAFFIC REGULATION CHANGES	RESOLUTION ORDINANCE ◆ RECEIVE/FILE	JAMES THOMPSON TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR

SYNOPSIS —

The following traffic regulation changes have been reviewed by staff and are recommended for approval:

- A. Request for a four-way stop—intersection of 42nd Street and Greenwood Drive; and
- B. Request to designate Parking Meter M-510 as a Handicapped Parking Space.

FISCAL IMPACT —

N/A

RECOMMENDATION —

Staff recommends that the current three-way stop condition at the intersection of 42nd Street and Greenwood Drive be changed to a four-way stop controlled intersection. Staff also recommends designation of Parking Meter M-510 as a Handicapped Parking Space.

BACKGROUND —

- A. A neighborhood request was received by the Traffic and Transportation Department, asking that the intersection of 42nd Street and Greenwood Drive be changed to a four-way stop. Currently at this location, traffic is required to stop on the north, east, and west approaches, with traffic on the south approach of 42nd Street assigned the right-of-way.

Staff has conducted a traffic study of this location, which included looking at the accident history, traffic volumes, school crossing activity, and a field review of the conditions at the intersection. The accident history is very favorable, with no intersection-related accidents occurring at this location during the analysis period (January 1992 through August 1996). Traffic counts taken in September 1996 indicate that approximately 4,000 vehicles utilize 42nd Street in this area. Although no counts were taken on Greenwood Drive, we would estimate that the volumes are 1,000 vehicles per day or less.

During the morning and afternoon school crossing periods, we observed between 7-10 children crossing 42nd Street from either St. Augustin School or Greenwood Elementary School. In most instances, these children were accompanied by an adult.

Although none of the above information would directly warrant a change in traffic control at this location, because of (1) the limited sight distance on the northwest and southeast quadrants for approaching vehicles, (2) the offsets in the alignments of both streets at this intersection, and (3) the driver uncertainty at the existing three-way stop condition, staff recommends that a four-way stop be installed at this intersection.

The Traffic Safety Committee, at their October 8, 1996 meeting, approved staff's recommendation with an 8 to 1 vote.

The following modifications to the Municipal Code will place this change into effect:

SEC. 27.319.02. THREE-WAY STOP INTERSECTIONS—LOCATIONS DESIGNATED.

(1) ~~Forty-second Street and Greenwood Drive.~~ The driver of a vehicle approaching this intersection from the east, west, and north shall stop before entering the intersection.

(2) (1) Avenue Frederick M. Hubbell and East Euclid. The driver of a vehicle approaching this intersection from the west, north, and south shall stop before entering the intersection.

SEC. 27-319.03. FOUR-WAY STOP INTERSECTIONS—LOCATIONS DESIGNATED

(19a) 42nd Street and Greenwood Drive.

B. The following revision to the Municipal Code will ordinance Meter No. M-510 presently signed as handicapped.

SEC. 27-2825. MULBERRY STREET--FIFTH AVENUE TO SIXTH AVENUE.

Mulberry Street, on the south side, parking meter M-510, two-hour meter, 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., is designated a handicapped parking space and is subject to the same prohibition as is found in Section 27-616(a) of this Code.