



Council Communication No. 97-319

SYNOPSIS –

The Beaver Avenue and Madison Avenue parking restrictions and pavement marking changes have been reviewed by staff and the Traffic Safety Committee and are recommended for approval.

FISCAL IMPACT –

N/A.

RECOMMENDATION –

Refer to Legal Department for preparation of ordinance revisions.

BACKGROUND –

A. The intersection of Beaver Avenue and Madison Avenue continues to be one of the City’ s high accident locations. From 1992 - 1996, there have been an average of 17 accidents per year at this intersection. In the first quarter of 1997, eight accidents have already been reported.

Several years ago, staff proposed to remove the parking along Beaver Avenue from Douglas to Aurora Avenues, primarily due to the accident history at Beaver and Madison Avenues. Because of neighborhood opposition, this change was not further pursued.

Staff has prepared an alternate proposal which would provide a left-turn lane on Beaver Avenue at Madison Avenue, then taper back to the existing conditions within approximately 300 feet in each direction of the intersection. This would alleviate a considerable portion of the accidents that generally are caused because the left-turning traffic on Beaver Avenue cannot see around the opposing left-turning traffic.

A sketch of this proposal is attached. Parking is currently prohibited on both sides of Beaver Avenue for 100 feet north and south of Madison Avenue; this proposal would extend the restriction for an additional 190 feet in each direction.

B. Because of the project’ s sensitivity, a neighborhood meeting was held at Hoover High School on June 4, 1997. Approximately 12 residents were in attendance. Following staff’ s presentation and neighborhood discussion, the consensus of those attending was to recommend

the following actions:

1. Implement the parking restriction on Beaver Avenue and install the left-turn lanes (as per sketch).
2. Immediately study the need for additional north-south left turn signals.
3. Study the intersections on Beaver Avenue at Aurora Avenue and at Shawnee Avenue for possible stop signs or traffic signals.
4. Provide additional police radar enforcement to reduce speeding.
5. Study the possibility of removing truck traffic from Beaver Avenue.

This item was presented to the Traffic Safety Committee at their May 13, 1997, meeting and was approved by them on June 10, 1997 following the neighborhood meeting.

The following ordinance revisions are necessary to implement Item #1 referenced herein. Staff intends to review Items #2-5; any Council action would be recommended at a future date.

SEC 27-1978. BEAVER AVENUE DOUGLAS AVENUE TO NORTH CITY LIMITS

Beaver Avenue, on both sides, from Douglas Avenue to a point 610 feet north thereof, no parking any time.

Beaver Avenue, on both sides, from a point 100 290 feet south of Madison Avenue to a point 100 290 feet north of Madison Avenue, no parking any time.