CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION:

98-131

AGENDA:

APRIL 6, 1998

SUBJECT:

TRAFFIC REGULATION CHANGES

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

SUBMITTED BY:

HAROLD SMITH
CITY ENGINEER

ITEM _____

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
DES MOINES, IOWA

SYNOPSIS –

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

A. Request to define handicapped loading areas on Third Street and Grand Avenue adjacent to Civic Center Court Apartments.

B. Request for no parking any time– east side of Williams Street from Maple Street to East University Avenue and west side of Williams Street from East University Avenue to Mahaska Avenue.

C. Request for corner clearance– west side of Southeast Seventh Street north and south of Scandia Avenue.

FISCAL IMPACT –

N/A

RECOMMENDATION –

Refer to Legal Department for preparation of ordinance revisions.

BACKGROUND –

A. The Traffic and Transportation Division originally established loading zones on Third Street and on Grand Avenue adjacent to the Civic Center Court Apartments, in the parking insets, to facilitate moving vehicles and various types of vehicles performing a necessary public service. Once the two loading zones were established, Traffic and Transportation received several telephone calls regarding the lack of space for

loading and unloading handicapped vehicles, because service vehicles were using all of the available space. The original intent was to establish an area, protected from the use of normal service vehicles, for the loading and unloading of persons with accessibility problems, not to establish two 24-hour handicapped parking areas in an area where all other parking is prohibited. If these areas were used as all-day handicapped parking areas, all of the other residents of the Civic Center Court Apartments with accessibility problems would be unable to use these spaces for loading and unloading, except sporadically. The recommended ordinance change below redefines both handicapped areas by adding the loading zone restriction that was unintentionally omitted.

SEC. 27-2212. GRAND AVENUE– SECOND AVENUE TO THIRD STREET.

Grand Avenue, on the south side, from a point 45 feet west of Second Avenue to a point 70 feet west thereof, is designated a handicapped ~~parking space~~ loading zone and is subject to the same prohibitions as ~~is~~ are found in sections 27-616(a) and 27-608 of this code.

SEC. 27-1583. THIRD STREET– LOCUST STREET TO GRAND AVENUE.

Third Street, on the east side, from a point 150 feet north of Locust Street to a point 125 feet north thereof, is designated a handicapped ~~parking space~~ loading zone and is subject to the same prohibitions as ~~is~~ are found in sections 27-616(a) and 27-608 of this code.

B. Due to the new intersection construction, the proposed parking restrictions are necessary to accommodate additional traffic lanes at East University Avenue.

SEC. 27-2745. WILLIAMS STREET– DEAN AVENUE TO EAST OVID AVENUE.

Williams Street, on the east side, from Maple Street to East University Avenue, no parking any time.

Williams Street, on the west side, from East University Avenue to ~~a point 50 feet north thereof~~ Mahaska Avenue, no parking any time.

C. Traffic and Transportation staff received a request for a no parking restriction on the east side of Southeast Seventh Street at Scandia Avenue from an area resident because of visibility problems at the intersection. A review of the area confirmed a problem with visibility. The proposed ordinance change will establish a no parking any time area for 50 feet north and south of Scandia Avenue on the east side of Southeast Seventh Street.

SEC. 27-1647. SOUTHEAST SEVENTH STREET– EAST VINE STREET TO EAST PORTER AVENUE.

Southeast Seventh Street, on the west side, from a point 50 feet north of Scandia Avenue to a point 50 feet south, no parking any time.