



**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

98-476

AGENDA:

OCTOBER 19, 1998

SUBJECT:

**TRAFFIC REGULATION
CHANGES**

TYPE:

**RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
*RECEIVE/FILE***

SUBMITTED BY:

**HAROLD SMITH
CITY ENGINEER**

SYNOPSIS —

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

1. Request for Speed Limit Revisions-Southeast Area of Des Moines.
2. Request for Stop Signs-East Twelfth Street, East Thirteenth Street, and York Street at Thompson Avenue.
3. Request for Removal of Loading Zone-West Side of Twenty-fifth Street North of Forest Avenue.
4. Request for Corner Clearance No Parking Restriction-West Side of East Thirty-seventh Street North of Dubuque Avenue.
5. Request for Loading Zone-East Side of Twenty-eighth Street North of Ingersoll Avenue.

FISCAL IMPACT —

N/A

RECOMMENDATION —

Approval.

BACKGROUND —

1. The Bloomfield-Allen Township Association has requested that the City review the speed limit on Easter Lake Drive between Indianola Avenue and Southeast

Thirty-fourth Street..

The speed limit on Easter Lake Drive currently is 40 mph, which has been in effect since 1997, when it was reduced from 45 mph. Considerable residential development has occurred within the past two years, especially along the eastern area of this street. Based on the growing suburban character adjacent to the roadway, staff recommends that the speed limit on Easter Lake Drive be reduced to 35 mph from Indianola Avenue to Southeast Thirty-fourth Street.

Staff has received requests to review the speed limits on several other streets within the southeast area of Des Moines, and upon individual review recommends that the speed limit be adjusted on the following streets to better reflect the current development and character of each roadway. These are as follows:

1. Indianola Avenue from Marion Avenue south for a distance of 1,000 feet should be changed to 35 mph from the existing 40 mph limit.
2. Pine Avenue from Indianola Avenue to Southeast Thirty-sixth Street should be changed to 40 mph. (It is currently ordinance at 45 mph but signs are posted at 40 mph.)
3. Army Post Road from 200 feet east of Southeast Nineteenth Street to a point 1,000 feet east of Indianola Avenue should be changed to 45 mph from 55 mph.
4. Army Post Road from 1,000 feet east of Indianola Avenue easterly for a distance of 3,500 feet should be changed to 50 mph from 55 mph.
5. Southeast Thirty-fourth Street from Evergreen Avenue to Easter Lake Drive should be changed to 40 mph from 50 mph.
6. Southeast Fifth Street from Army Post Road to 350 feet south of Burnham Avenue should be changed to 35 mph from 40 mph.

At their October 13, 1998, meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee concurred with staff's recommendation that

the above-mentioned speed limit modifications be made on Easter Lake Drive, Indianola Avenue, Pine Avenue, Army Post Road, Southeast Thirty-fourth Street, and Southeast Fifth Street.

SEC. 27-782. EASTER LAKE DRIVE.

Easter Lake Drive, from East Indianola Avenue to Southeast Thirty-sixth-fourth Street, ~~40~~ 35 miles per hour.

Easter Lake Drive, from Southeast Thirty-fourth Street to Southeast Thirty-sixth Street, 40 miles per hour.

SEC. 27-798. EAST INDIANOLA AVENUE.

East Indianola Avenue, from Southeast First Street to a point 1,000 feet south of Marion Street, 35 miles per hour.

East Indianola Avenue, from a point 1,000 feet south of Marion Street to East Army Post Road, 40 miles per hour.

SEC. 27-818. EAST PINE AVENUE.

East Pine Avenue, from East Indianola Avenue to Southeast Thirty-sixth Street, ~~45~~ 40 miles per hour.

SEC. 27-763. EAST ARMY POST ROAD.

East Army Post Road, from a point 200 feet east of Southeast Nineteenth Street to ~~the east city limits~~ a point 1,000 feet east of Indianola Avenue, ~~55~~ 45 miles per hour.

East Army Post Road, from a point 1,000 feet east of Indianola Avenue to a point 3,500 feet east thereof, 50 miles per hour.

East Army Post Road, from a point 4,500 feet east of Indianola Avenue to the east city limits, 55 miles per hour.

SEC. 27-744. SOUTHEAST THIRTY-FOURTH STREET.

Southeast Thirty-fourth Street, from Evergreen Avenue to Easter Lake Drive, 50 40 miles per hour.

SEC. 27-715. SOUTHEAST FIFTH STREET.

Southeast Fifth Street, from East Army Post Road to ~~East County Line Road~~ a point 350 feet south of Burnham Avenue, 40 35 miles per hour.

Southeast Fifth Street, from a point 350 feet south of Burnham Avenue to East County Line Road, 40 miles per hour.

2. At their September 28, 1998 City Council meeting, a request and petition was received from Steve Jaeger, 2021 York Street, requesting two-way stops at the intersection of York Street and Thompson Avenue. By Roll Call No. 98-3032, Council referred this item to the Traffic Safety Committee for review and recommendation.

The north and south legs of York Street intersect with Thompson at an offset of approximately 100 feet, resulting in two closely spaced "T" intersections. Mr. Jaeger's residence is located across from the end of the southbound "T," and he expressed concern that vehicles on York Street have run into and through his yard. The latest of these occurred on September 6, 1998.

Staff has reviewed this location and compiled the reported accident history. There have been three reported accidents in the past four years, all appearing to be right-angle type crashes. Thompson Avenue also has two similar "T" type intersections in close proximity to York Street, those being at East Thirteenth and at East Twelfth Streets. Neither of these other locations experienced any reported accidents in the same time period.

Because of the accident and incident history, staff recommends that stop signs be installed on York Street at Thompson Avenue. In order to provide consistency in controls along Thompson, staff also recommends that stop signs be installed on both East Twelfth and East Thirteenth Streets at Thompson Avenue.

At their October 13, 1998, meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee approved staff's recommendation to install stop signs on York Street at Thompson Avenue, and on both East Twelfth and East Thirteenth Streets at Thompson Avenue.

SEC. 27-1420. THOMPSON AVENUE.

Thompson Avenue, from the east line of East Ninth Street to the west line of East Fourteenth Street - Stop.

3. At the request of Les Wheeler, Operations Captain for Drake University Security, the Traffic and Transportation Division has been asked to remove the Loading Zone on the west side of Twenty-fifth Street north of Forest Avenue. This loading zone was installed to serve the pharmacy that was formerly in the adjacent building. The pharmacy has been closed for many years and there is no need for a loading zone in this location. Traffic and Transportation concurs with this request. The following ordinance change will remove the loading zone and extend the no parking any time restriction north of this area south of Forest Avenue.

**SEC. 27-1799. TWENTY-FIFTH STREET-
WOODLAND AVENUE TO PAYNE ROAD.**

~~Twenty fifth Street, on the west side, from a point 20 feet north of Forest Avenue, to a point 25 feet north thereof, loading zone.~~

Twenty-fifth Street, on the west side, from a point 45 feet north of Forest Avenue, to a point 135 feet north thereof, no parking any time.

4. The Traffic and Transportation Division received a request from a resident regarding visibility and turning difficulties on the east side of East Thirty-seventh Street just north of Dubuque Avenue. There is currently a no parking any time restriction along the west side of East Thirty-seventh Street, with parking being allowed on the east side. In order to provide adequate visibility for turning vehicles in the southeast corner of this intersection the following changes to the Municipal Code are necessary.

**SEC. 27-1871. EAST THIRTY-SEVENTH STREET-
EAST UNIVERSITY AVENUE TO AVENUE
FREDERICK M. HUBBELL.**

East Thirty-seventh Street, on the west side, from Dubuque Avenue to a point 50 feet north thereof, no parking any time.

5. The Traffic and Transportation Division has been contacted by Wayne Wong, the president of Ming Wong, Inc. (2721 Ingersoll Avenue), and is the owner of the building in question, located at 545 28th Street. Mr. Wong has been asked by a new tenant of his building to provide a loading zone adjacent to the property. The new tenant of this building will operate a bakery which will require deliveries and in-out retail traffic during normal working hours. The addition of a loading zone is seen as critical to the viability of this new business. The Traffic and Transportation Division has reviewed this request and concurs with Mr. Wong's request. The following ordinance change will implement the installation of this loading zone.

**SEC. 27-1820. TWENTY-EIGHTH STREET-DEAD
END SOUTH OF TERRACE DRIVE TO EUCLID
AVENUE.**

Twenty-eighth Street, on the east side, from a point 100 feet north of Ingersoll Avenue to a point 60 feet north thereof, commercial loading zone.