



**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

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

99-171

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

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

APRIL 26, 1999

SUBJECT:

1. Request for Stop Signs-SE 4th Street and Columbus Avenue.
2. Request for Stop Signs-Madison Avenue at Lynner Drive and Dosh Road.
3. Request for Stop Signs-40th Street and Shawnee Avenue.
4. Request for Stop Signs-40th Street and Bel-Aire Road and 38th Street and Lindlavista Way.
5. Petition for Two-Sided Parking Restriction-SE 3rd Street from McKinley Avenue to Emma Avenue.
6. Request for Deletion of Handicapped Parking Ordinance Due to Recent Realignment-North Side of Indianola Avenue East of SW 1st Street to South Union Street.
7. Request for Corner Clearance-West Side of East 24th Court South of East Aurora Avenue.
8. Request for Corner Clearance-West Side of Williams Street South of East Douglas Avenue.
9. Request for Corner Clearance-Vicinity of 303 New York Avenue.

TRAFFIC
REGULATION
CHANGES

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE

RECEIVE/FILE

SUBMITTED BY:

FLOYD BENTZ, P.E.
ACTING CITY
ENGINEER

FISCAL IMPACT -

N/A

RECOMMENDATION -

Receive, file, and refer to Legal Department for preparation of proper legislation.

BACKGROUND -

1. Staff received a request from Council Member Harold Belken, forwarding complaints from the neighborhood, about speeding on Columbus Avenue in the vicinity of SE 4th Street. The intersection is currently controlled as a two-way stop, with traffic on Columbus having the right-of-way.

Several years ago, staff reviewed the stop sign controls in the area near this location, and two-way stops were implemented in the "basket-weave" (alternating stop) pattern, so that through traffic was discouraged. The intersection of SE 4th and Columbus does not currently fit this pattern, which results in traffic on Columbus not being required to stop between SE 6th and SE 2nd Court.

In order to bring this location into conformance with the alternating stop pattern at the remainder of the neighborhood intersections, staff recommends the stop signs be reversed, so that SE 4th Street traffic has the right-of-way. Staff also recommends that a stop sign be placed for southbound traffic on SE 4th at Hillside, which is a T-intersection one block south of Columbus.

At their April 13, 1999 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee approved staff's recommendation.

2. A request was received from Council Member Tom Vlassis, forwarding concerns of the neighborhood about speeding on Madison Avenue between Lower Beaver Road and Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway, and requesting a four-way stop at Lynner Drive and a three-way stop at Dosh Road.

Staff has reviewed this request, including a review of the traffic controls within this residential area. Madison Avenue is considered a minor collector street in this vicinity, designed to carry traffic from the immediate residential area to both Lower Beaver and Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway. There are no stop signs on Madison Avenue within these limits.

Staff recommends a four-way stop be installed at Madison Avenue and 30th Street, which is the intersection of the two residential collectors in this vicinity. This would be consistent with stop conditions in other residential areas, and would eliminate the long distance along Madison Avenue without any stop-controlled intersections.

While reviewing the above request, staff also determined the four-way intersection of 30th and Aurora is currently uncontrolled. Staff recommends that stop signs be installed on 30th Street at Aurora, designating this location as a two-way stop, with Aurora as the through street.

At their April 13, 1999 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee approved staff's recommendation.

3. A request was received from Council Member Vlassis, forwarding concerns of Elizabeth Howland, 4035 - 39th Place, about traffic speeding on Shawnee Avenue between Beaver and Aurora Avenues.

Ms. Howland requested a four-way stop be installed at the intersection of Shawnee and 40th Street.

Staff has reviewed this request, including a review of the traffic controls within this residential area. Currently, this intersection is controlled as a two-way stop, with Shawnee traffic having the right-of-way. The traffic on Shawnee Avenue, which is considered a local residential street, does not stop between 43rd Street and Aurora Avenue.

In order to break up continuity for the through traffic on Shawnee Avenue, staff recommends the existing stop signs at this intersection be reversed, so that 40th Street has the right-of-way. Because this would then result in a long section of 40th Street without stops, staff recommends that one block to the north, at the intersection of Aurora and 40th, a four-way stop be installed where these two minor residential collector streets intersect. This would be consistent with stop conditions at residential collectors in other areas of the City.

In addition, staff will contact the Police Department Traffic Unit to request speed enforcement in this area.

At their April 13, 1999 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee approved staff's recommendation.

4. A request was received from Council Member Vlassis, forwarding concerns of Elyse Donhowe, 5001 - 38th Street, about traffic controls at the 40th Street/Bel-Aire Road and 38th Street/Lindlavista Way intersections.

Currently, both intersections are T-type locations with no controls. Normally, these types of intersections do not create difficulties, because drivers approaching from the base of the "T" tend to yield to those motorists on the "through" street. In these two instances, however, there is a considerable percentage of turning traffic because the "through" leg becomes a dead-end street.

Because of the unusual traffic movements and the increased potential for accidents, staff recommends stop signs be placed on Bel-Aire Road at 40th Street and on 38th Street at Lindlavista Way. At their April 13, 1999 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee approved staff's recommendation.

The following revisions to the Municipal Code are necessary to designate through streets to place the stop signs referred to in Items 1 through 4 into effect:

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

(1b) Aurora Avenue and Fortieth Street.

(44a) Madison and Thirtieth Street.

SEC. 27-1174. SOUTHEAST FOURTH STREET.

Southeast Fourth Street, at Columbus Avenue - Stop.

SEC. 27-1303.05. COLUMBUS AVENUE.

Columbus Avenue, at Southeast Fourth Street - Stop.

SEC. 27-1343.01. HILLSIDE AVENUE.

Hillside Avenue, at Southeast Fourth Street - Stop.

SEC. 27-1283. AURORA AVENUE.

Aurora Avenue, at Thirtieth Street - Stop.

SEC. 27-1259. FORTIETH STREET.

Fortieth Street, at Shawnee Avenue - Stop.

Fortieth Street, at Bel-Aire Road - Stop.

SEC. 27-1413. SHAWNEE AVENUE.

Shawnee Avenue, from the south line of Aurora Avenue to the east west line of ~~Beaver Avenue~~ Thirty-ninth Place - Stop.

Shawnee Avenue, from the east line of Forty-first Street to the east line of Beaver Avenue - Stop.

SEC. 27-1364.07. LINDLAVISTA WAY.

Lindlavista Way, at Thirty-eighth Street - Stop.

5. A neighborhood petition was received requesting that parking be prohibited on both sides of SE 3rd Street between McKinley and Emma Avenues. Parking is currently allowed on the west side of the street. The petition was signed by five of the eight affected duplex units (62.5 percent). It was also signed by the owner of these duplexes.

Concern was previously expressed that vehicles from outside the immediate area park in this block, blocking mailboxes and creating difficulties in mail delivery.

Based on the signatures in favor of the petition, including the owner, staff recommends the request for a two-sided parking restriction be approved. At their April 13, 1999 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee approved staff's recommendation.

The following revisions to the Municipal Code are necessary to place this parking restriction into effect:

SEC. 27-1589. SOUTHEAST THIRD STREET--EAST VINE STREET TO EAST ARMY POST ROAD.

Southeast Third Street, on the east side, from East Leach Avenue to ~~East McKinley Avenue~~ East Emma Avenue, no parking any time.

Southeast Third Street, on both sides, from East Emma

Avenue to East McKinley Avenue, no parking any time.

6. In conjunction with recent adjustments of handicapped parking for St. Anthony's Church in the vicinity of SW 1st Street and South Union Street, the following section of the Municipal Code overlaps recently installed handicapped parking and should be deleted:

SEC. 27-2312. INDIANOLA AVENUE-SOUTH UNION STREET TO COURTLAND DRIVE.

~~Indianola Avenue, on the north side, from a point 100 feet east of Southwest First Street to South Union Street, is designated a handicapped parking space and is subject to the same prohibition as is found in section 27-616(a) of this code.~~

7. The Traffic and Transportation Division received a request from a resident regarding visibility and turning difficulties due to parked vehicles on East 24th Court, just south of East Aurora Avenue. In order to provide adequate visibility for turning vehicles at this intersection, staff recommends a 90-foot "corner clearance" no parking zone be established on the west side of East 24th Court south of East Aurora Avenue. The following revision to the Municipal Code is necessary to effect this change:

SEC. 27-1789. EAST TWENTY-FOURTH COURT-MAPLE STREET TO NORTH CITY LIMITS.

East Twenty-fourth Court, on the west side, from East Aurora Avenue to a point 90 feet south thereof, no parking any time.

8. The Traffic and Transportation Division received a request from a resident regarding visibility and turning difficulties due to parked vehicles on Williams Street at the intersection of East Douglas Avenue. In order to provide adequate visibility for turning vehicles at this intersection, staff recommends a 50-foot "corner clearance" no parking zone be established on the west side of Williams Street south of East Douglas Avenue. The following revision in the Municipal Code is necessary to effect this change:

SEC. 27-2745. WILLIAMS STREET-DEAN AVENUE TO

EAST DOUGLAS AVENUE OVID AVENUE.

Williams Street, on the west side, from East Douglas Avenue to a point 50 feet south thereof, no parking any time.

9. The Traffic and Transportation Division received a request from Bonded Fibers & Quilting, Inc., 303 New York Avenue, to provide a handicapped parking stall on 3rd Street for their business. In order to provide handicapped parking at this business, staff recommends a 25-foot handicapped parking zone be established on the west side of 3rd Street from a point 75 feet north of New York Avenue to a point 25 feet north thereof.

They also requested that staff review the visibility and turning difficulties due to parked vehicles on New York Avenue at the intersection of 3rd Street. In order to provide adequate visibility for turning vehicles at this intersection, staff recommends a 30-foot "corner clearance" no parking zone be established on the north side of New York Avenue both east and west of 3rd Street.

The following revisions to the Municipal Code are necessary to effect these changes:

SEC. 27-1587. THIRD STREET-UNIVERSITY AVENUE TO AURORA AVENUE.

Third Street, on the west side, from a point 75 feet north of New York Avenue to a point 25 feet north thereof, handicapped parking.

SEC. 27-2487. NEW YORK AVENUE-FIRST STREET TO ONTHANK DRIVE.

New York Avenue, on the north side, from Third Street to a point 30 feet east and west thereof, no parking any time.

New York Avenue, on the north side, from Second Avenue to a point 30 feet east of Third Street 140 feet east of Fourth Street, two hour parking, 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

New York Avenue, on the north side, from 30 feet west of Third Street to a point 140 feet east of Fourth Street, two hour parking, 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

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