

Meeting Agendas/Info

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

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

01-035

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

Communication regarding a previous petition requesting a four-way stop at 9th Street and Madison Avenue.

JANUARY 22, 2001

FISCAL IMPACT -

SUBJECT:

N/A

FOUR-WAY STOP
AT 9TH STREET
AND MADISON
AVENUE

RECOMMENDATION -

Receive and file.

TYPE:

BACKGROUND -

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE

RECEIVE/FILE

On November 6, 2000, the City Council received a letter from Renee Havran, including a petition from neighborhood residents, requesting a four-way stop to be placed at the intersection of 9th Street and Madison Avenue. By Roll Call No. 00-4260, the City Council referred the request to the Traffic Safety Committee for review and recommendation.

SUBMITTED BY:

FLOYD BENTZ, P.E.
CITY ENGINEER

Staff has reviewed this location and has determined that there are no unusual conditions that would cause unexpected difficulties with a four-way stop. However, the conditions indicate that a traffic-calming feature, such as a traffic circle, might achieve the desired results in a less restrictive manner than a four-way stop.

Madison Avenue is a through collector street running from west of 12th Street on the west to east of East 14th Street. In this area along Madison, there is a four-way stop at 12th Street and a traffic signal at 6th Avenue, with Madison Avenue designated as a through street between 6th and 12th Streets, which is a total of eight blocks. Madison Avenue also serves as an MTA bus route. Ninth Street is located midway between 6th and 12th. The traffic volume on

Madison in this area is approximately 2,300 vehicles per day (vpd), while on 9th Street the volume is approximately 300 vpd. Traffic speeds on Madison east of 9th measured in November showed an average speed of 29 mph and an 85th percentile speed of 34 mph. Approximately 76 percent of the measured vehicles exceeded the 25-mph speed limit.

The accident history at this intersection has been generally low with the existing two-way stop control, with four reported intersection accidents during the period 1996 - 1999. In addition, a fatal accident occurred in 1999 in which a vehicle hit a parked car, lost control, and struck a tree at the intersection.

Staff invited Renee Havran and Jo Harvey of the Oak Park Neighbors to attend the Traffic Safety Committee meeting and discuss this item. Neither was able to attend this meeting. Staff recommended that they work with the Neighborhood Association to consider alternative traffic-calming treatments for this location.

At their January 9, 2001 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee recommended that traffic-calming measures be considered for Madison Avenue between 6th Avenue and 12th Street. Just after this meeting, staff received an e-mail from Jo Harvey, Chair of the Oak Park Neighbors, requesting that final action be delayed to provide more time for the neighborhood residents to consider the alternatives and voice an opinion. Staff will meet with the neighborhood association to review alternatives for traffic control and traffic calming and develop a recommendation back to the City Council.