

CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:

03-294

AGENDA:

JUNE 23, 2003

SUBJECT:

TRAFFIC
REGULATION
CHANGES

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

SUBMITTED BY:

JEB E. BREWER, P.E.
CITY ENGINEER

ITEM 47

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

SYNOPSIS —

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

1. Corner Clearance—East Side of 28th Street North of Grand Avenue.
2. Designation of Des Moines Street as a Through Street
3. Move Parking Restriction from South Side to North Side of Thornton Court from SE 20th Street to a point 350 feet West.

FISCAL IMPACT —

Minor costs for signing to be paid from the Traffic and Transportation operating budget.

RECOMMENDATION —

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

BACKGROUND —

1. In order to provide for one-lane traffic flow in each direction on 28th Street north of Grand Avenue, a parking restriction is required to prohibit parking on the east side of the street from Grand Avenue north for a distance of 150 feet. The following ordinance revision is necessary for this change.

SEC. 114-2850. TWENTY-EIGHTH STREET—DEAD END SOUTH OF TERRACE DRIVE TO EUCLID AVENUE.

Twenty-eight Street, on the east side, from Grand Avenue north for a distance of 150 feet, no parking any time.

2. The Traffic and Transportation Division has received a request from a citizen to install stop signs on Des Moines Street at 10th and 11th Streets. This request has been prompted by the expansion of the State of Iowa parking lots in this area, and shifts in traffic due to the closing of the E. 12th Street bridge over I-235 for reconstruction.

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Staff has reviewed this location and concurs with the request for stop signs. Both intersections are "T" intersections, with 10th and 11th Streets connecting to Des Moines Street from the north. Under low side street volumes, uncontrolled "T" intersections operate safely and well, with traffic on the connecting leg yielding to traffic on the through leg. In order to eliminate confusion and assign the right-of-way, staff recommends designating Des Moines Street as a through street, and installing stop signs on 10th and 11th Streets.

In order to designate Des Moines Street as the through street, the following ordinance change needs to be implemented.

SEC. 114-2187. DES MOINES STREET.

Des Moines Street, from the east line of East First Street to the west line of East ~~Sixth~~Fifth Street, stop.

Des Moines Street, from the east line of East Ninth Street to the west line of East Twelfth Street, stop.

3. At their June 9, 2003 meeting, the City Council received a communication from Joe and Linda Riccio, 1924 Thornton Court, concerning difficulties with parked vehicles on their (north) side of the street. These difficulties included blocking their mailbox so they do not receive mail and snow removal problems. They requested that the parking be moved to the other side of the street.

Thornton Court is a cul-de-sac that extends approximately 350 feet west from SE 20th Street. Parking is prohibited on the south side of the street and around the cul-de-sac at the west end. There are curb delivery mailboxes on both sides of the street. The south side of the street was picked for the parking restriction as that is the side where the street light poles are installed. The No Parking signs can be placed on these poles so additional sign posts are not required, which would require the residents to mow around the posts.

Moving the parking restriction to the north side of the street will provide relief for the conditions the Riccios have experienced. However, these same problems could be shifted to another resident on the south side of the street. Where parking is allowed on a street, it is public parking, so the "offending" resident could legally park anywhere along the south side, which could block a mailbox or create snow removal difficulties for another resident.

If Council desires to switch the parking restriction as requested, the ordinance change listed below must be implemented. If there are similar problems with another resident, the parking could also

be prohibited on the south side of the street from 7 AM to 6 PM, or could be prohibited any time on the south side, eliminating all on-street parking.

SEC. 114-3667. THORNTON COURT—SOUTHEAST TWENTIETH STREET TO DEAD END WEST.

Thornton Court, on the ~~north~~south side, from Southeast Twentieth Street to a point 350 feet west thereof and any part of the cul-de-sac, no parking any time.