

CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:

03-473

AGENDA:

SEPTEMBER 22, 2003

SUBJECT:

TRAFFIC
REGULATION
CHANGE

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

SUBMITTED BY:

JEB BREWER, P.E.
CITY ENGINEER

ITEM _____

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

SYNOPSIS —

The two-way traffic operation of Buchanan Street between East 7th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue has been reviewed by staff and is recommended for approval. Receive, file, and refer to the Legal Department a recommendation to change the designation of Buchanan Street between East 7th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue from one-way traffic operation to two-way traffic operation.

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 —

Buchanan Street between East 7th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue has been a one-way street, westbound, due to severe sight restrictions on the northwest quadrant of the intersection at Pennsylvania Avenue. This operation has created traffic circulation difficulties for the residential area to the west. These motorists must drive north on East 7th Street and then use Fremont Street along Longfellow Elementary School to get to Pennsylvania Avenue.

This issue was identified in the "Capitol Park Neighborhood Traffic Safety Plan," dated 1996. This Plan recommended that modifications be made to the intersection in order to improve the visibility and that the street then be converted to two-way traffic flow.

Through the Interstate 235 (I-235) design process, modifications to address the visibility problems were accommodated as part of the recent I-235 construction at the East 6th/Pennsylvania Avenue interchange.

Buchanan Street has been closed for construction, and currently is very close to being reopened to traffic with the new visibility improvements. Staff recommends that when the street is reopened, it be designated as two-way traffic operation, as identified in the neighborhood traffic study. Staff also recommended that a 100-foot No Parking Any Time "corner clearance" parking

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restriction be installed on the south side of Buchanan Street west of Pennsylvania Avenue.

At their September 16, 2003 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee concurred with staff's recommendation that Buchanan Street be designated as a two-way street between East 7th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. The following changes to the Municipal Code are necessary to convert the street to a two-way traffic operation.

~~SEC. 114-1807. BUCHANAN STREET.~~

~~Buchanan Street, from Pennsylvania Avenue to East Seventh Street, westbound.~~

SEC. 114-3036. BUCHANAN STREET—EAST SEVENTH STREET TO EAST SEVENTEENTH STREET.

Buchanan Street, on the south side, from Pennsylvania Avenue to a point 100 feet west thereof, no parking any time.

