



Agenda Item:

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COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

City Manager's Office

GENERAL INFORMATION—

Agenda Date: 01/09/06
Agenda Item Type: Ordinance

Communication No.: 06-010
Roll Call No.:

Submitted by: Jeb E. Brewer, P.E., City Engineer

SUBJECT—

Traffic Regulation Changes

SYNOPSIS—

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

- A. Four-Way Stop—East Sheridan Avenue and East 25th Street.
- B. One- to Two-Way Street Operation—13th Street from Mulberry Street to Locust Street.

FISCAL IMPACT—

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

BACKGROUND—

- A. Staff received a request forwarded through Council Member Kiernan, asking for a review at the intersection of East 25th Street and Sheridan Avenue for the possibility of installing a four-way stop at this intersection. Staff has reviewed this location.

East 25th Street in this area is considered a residential collector street, connecting between Euclid Avenue and Guthrie Avenue in this area. There is a four-way stop at East 25th and Hull Avenue. Sheridan Avenue is a local residential street. Traffic counts taken in 1999 indicated volumes of 2,740 vehicles per day on East 25th Street and approximately 1,000 vehicles per day on Sheridan Avenue. The crash history appears favorable, with only two reported accidents from

2001-2004. One of these accidents was a right-angle type, and the other was a left-turning type. There is a marked school crosswalk at this location, identifying that school children should cross East 25th Street on the north side of Sheridan Avenue on their way to and from Garton Elementary School, which is located north and west of this intersection. The length of East 25th Street is 1/2 mile between the stops at Hull and at Guthrie, with Sheridan being halfway between. A four-way stop at the proposed intersection would create a 1/4 mile spacing between stops, which is consistent with staff's previous recommendations of "breaking up" through traffic on residential collector streets in other residential areas. Based on the designated school crossing at this intersection along with the 1/4-mile "through-street" spacing that would result, staff recommends that a four-way stop be installed at the intersection of East 25th Street and Sheridan Avenue.

At their December 13, 2005 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee concurred with staff recommendations. The following changes to the Municipal Code will implement the four-way stop control.

Sec. 114-319.03. Location of four-way stop intersections.

(66a) East Sheridan Avenue and East Twenty-fifth Street.

Sec. 114-2066. East Twenty-fifth Street.

East Twenty-fifth Street, from the north line of Guthrie Avenue to the south line of ~~Hull~~ East Sheridan Avenue, stop.

East Twenty-fifth Street, from the north line of East Sheridan Avenue to the south line of Hull Avenue, stop.

- B. Staff received a request from the Des Moines School District asking that 13th Street be converted to a two-way street between Locust Street and Grand Avenue. The request was made to allow buses to load and unload students more safely at the Pappajohn Education Center. Staff has reviewed this request and concurred that the street could be converted to two-way between Locust Street and High Street. Thirteenth Street was converted in December by police order, and the following ordinance revision will allow the two-way change to be made permanent. At the same time, a corner clearance "no parking" change was added to increase sight distance at the 13th Street and High Street intersection.

Sec. 114-2739. Thirteenth Street—Grand Avenue to High Street.

Thirteenth Street, on the east side, from High Street to a point 40 feet south thereof, no parking any time.

Sec. 114-1948. Thirteenth Street.

Thirteenth Street, from Mulberry Street to Locust Avenue ~~High Street~~, southbound.