

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date	March 23, 2009
	Agenda Item No. 34 Roll Call No. <u>09-</u> Communication No. <u>09-168</u> Submitted by: Jeb E. Brewer, P.E. City Engineer	

AGENDA HEADING:

Amending Chapter 114 of the Municipal Code regarding traffic regulation changes as follows:

- A. Parking Restriction—North Side of Des Moines Street East of E. 11th Street.
- B. Revised Speed Limits on Indianola Avenue from E. Army Post Road to County Line Road.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the Traffic and Transportation Division staff recommendations for minor parking adjustments, including first reading of the Ordinance regarding the traffic regulation changes.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: Minor costs.

Funding Source: 2008-2009 Operating Budget, Page 131, Engineering Department Traffic & Transportation—Sign Installation and Maintenance, ENG100413.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- A. The State of Iowa Department of Administrative Services requested the Traffic and Transportation Division to restrict parking adjacent to a parking lot driveway that connects to Des Moines Street west of E. 12th Street. Staff has reviewed this location, and concurs with the request to restrict parking a short distance on either side of the driveways to this state parking lot. The following ordinance change is necessary to implement this parking restriction.

Sec. 114-3148. Des Moines Street—East Ninth Street to East Eighteenth Street.

Des Moines Street, on the north side, from a point 145 feet east of East Eleventh Street to a point 110 feet east thereof, no parking any time.

Des Moines Street, on the south side, from East Twelfth Street to a point ~~40~~ 70 feet east thereof, no parking any time.

- B. Staff received a request from a resident on E. Pine Avenue east of Indianola Avenue to lower the speed limit on Indianola Avenue between E. Army Post Road and County Line Road. The

current speed limit on this section of Indianola Avenue is 50 mph. The roadway is a two-lane rural type road with ditches for drainage and a width of approximately 20 feet.

Staff placed traffic counters on Indianola Avenue north of Pine Avenue in October of 2008. These counters showed a volume of approximately 4,200 vehicles per day (vpd). By comparison, Indianola Avenue north of Army Post Road has substantially higher volumes of about 9,000 vpd.

The speed profile on Indianola Avenue north of Pine Avenue showed an average speed of 43 mph and an 85th percentile speed of 49 mph. The 85th percentile speed has traditionally been used as a good indicator for a reasonable and proper speed limit. The measured 85th percentile speed of 49 mph, compared to the posted speed limit of 50 mph, indicates that motorists are already slowing down some due to the narrow roadway width and development that has occurred adjacent to Indianola Avenue.

Between Pine Avenue and County Line Road, there has been considerable new development, primarily residential but also including a church and some commercial property, and this section has a more urban character. North of Pine Avenue to Army Post Road, there has been very limited new development, with just a few new houses on the west side of the road, and this section retains more of a "rural" character.

Based on the measured speed profile, the continuing development in this area, and the varied roadway characteristics, a reduced speed limit is appropriate, with different speed limits north and south of Pine Avenue.

At their March 10, 2009 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee approved staff's recommendation that a speed limit of 45 mph be established for Indianola Avenue from Army Post Road to Pine Avenue, and a speed limit of 35 mph from Pine Avenue to County Line Road. The following ordinance changes will implement the new speed limits.

Sec. 114-1326. Indianola Avenue.

Indianola Avenue, from East Army Post Road to East Pine Avenue, 45 miles per hour ~~to US Highway 69, 50 miles per hour.~~

Indianola Avenue, from East Pine Avenue to US Highway 69, 35 miles per hour.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Date: March 10, 2009

Roll Call Number: N/A

Action: Motion was made by Bob Saf to approve staff's recommendation that a speed limit of 45 mph be established for Indianola Avenue from Army Post Road to just north of Pine Avenue, and a speed

limit of 35 mph from just north of Pine Avenue to County Line Road. Seconded by Jim Windsor.
Motion unanimously approved.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Second and third readings of Ordinance.

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