

# Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

**Date:** May 23, 2011

Agenda Item No. 49 Roll Call No. 11-917

Communication No. <u>11-310</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. Petition to Allow Parking—SE 5th Street between Jackson Avenue and Livingston Avenue
- B. Removal of School Signal—E 9th Street and Cleveland Avenue
- C. Request for Two-Hour Parking Limit—1900 Block Ingersoll Avenue

## **SYNOPSIS:**

Recommend approval of the staff recommendations, including first reading of the Ordinance regarding the traffic regulation changes.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

Amount: Minor costs for signing modifications.

<u>Funding Source</u>: 2011-2012 Operating Budget, Page 98, Engineering Department Traffic & Transportation - Sign Installation and Maintenance, ENG100413.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

A. Staff received a petition from the residents on SE 5th Street between Jackson and Livingston Avenues, requesting that parking be allowed on one side of their street. The petition was signed by all four of the affected residences.

Currently, parking is prohibited on both sides of the street in this block. In reviewing the history of the current two-sided restriction, it was implemented approximately 20 years ago based on a neighborhood petition at that time. In 2004, staff received a petition to allow parking on one side, but very soon after received a counter-petition to keep the two-sided restriction. Because there was not a consensus to change the parking restriction, the Traffic Safety Committee at their May 11, 2004 meeting, denied the request to allow parking on one side.

The current petition is signed by 100% of the affected residents. A notification letter was sent to each of the directly-affected residents, informing them of staff's recommendation that the parking restriction be changed to allow parking on the west side of SE 5<sup>th</sup> Street between Jackson Avenue

and Livingston Avenue. At their May 10, 2011 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee concurred with staff recommendation.

Sec. 114-2636. Southeast Fifth Street—East Vine Street to East County Line Road.

Southeast Fifth Street, on both the east sides, from East Livingston Avenue to East Jackson Avenue, no parking any time.

B. As part of the Lower Union Park Storm Sewer Improvements Project, a storm sewer will be constructed this summer along E Washington Avenue between Pennsylvania Avenue and E 9th Street, and along E 9th Street between E Washington Avenue and Garfield Avenue. The intersection of E 9th Street and Cleveland Avenue will need to be totally reconstructed in order to install the storm sewer system at this location. The work in this area is planned to begin later this spring.

Currently, there is a traffic signal at the intersection of E 9th and Cleveland, which was installed many years ago as a school signal, since Wallace Elementary School was located one block to the east and there were a large number of schoolchildren that crossed E 9th Street to attend this school. In the past few years, Wallace Elementary School was permanently closed, and its area merged with Longfellow School to become Carver Elementary School, now located on the site of old Longfellow School near the intersection of Pennsylvania Avenue and E University Avenue. Students in the area north of University Avenue are bused to Longfellow School, so no students would be crossing E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street at this intersection to get to school.

Since the entire traffic signal installation at E 9th and Cleveland will be removed as part of the sewer project, staff has reviewed whether the signal should be reinstalled, or replaced with stop signs. Traffic counts were taken in 2010 that indicated volumes of 4,300 vehicles per day (vpd) on E 9th, and 1,100 vpd on Cleveland Avenue. The analysis has indicated that this traffic signal is no longer warranted as a school signal, and also does not meet the warrants to remain as a regular vehicular signal. The cost to reinstall the signal would be approximately \$100,000. In its place, staff considered a two-way stop condition and a four-way stop condition. This analysis determined that a two-way stop condition is the most appropriate traffic control for the current conditions at this intersection, with Cleveland Avenue stopping for traffic on E 9th Street.

Staff relayed this recommendation to the Capital Park Neighborhood Association representatives, and at their April 14 meeting, the neighborhood group concurred that the intersection should be controlled as a two-way stop.

At their May 10, 2011 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee concurred with staff's recommendation that the existing traffic signals at the intersection of E 9th Street and Cleveland Avenue be permanently removed as part of the storm sewer project, and that the intersection be controlled as a two-way stop, with Cleveland Avenue stopping at E 9th Street.

Sec. 114-1434. Cleveland Avenue.

## Cleveland Avenue and East Ninth Street, school signal.

C. Staff has received a request from the owner of the new retail strip center at 1905 Ingersoll for a parking time limit on the north side of Ingersoll to create turnover parking for customers of the

retail tenants. Currently, students from Central Campus frequently park in this area during the school day, as it is closer to campus than some of the school parking lots.

With the opening of this new retail center, this section of Ingersoll is similar to areas farther west, where we have provided a two-hour parking restriction from 9 AM - 4 PM to prevent employees or others from parking all day and limiting the use of the parking for customers. Since this area is outside the meter district, there would not be two-hour parking meters but just signs, similar to farther west in the Ingersoll Business District.

At their May 10, 2011 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee approved staff's recommendation for a two-hour parking limit on the north side of Ingersoll in the 1900 block from 9 AM – 4 PM.

Sec. 114-3342. Ingersoll Avenue--Fourteenth Street to Martin Luther King Jr Parkway.

Ingersoll Avenue, on the north side, from a point 50 feet west of Nineteenth Street to a point 300' east of Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway, two-hour parking 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

## BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Date: May 10, 2011

Resolution Number: N/A

<u>Action</u>: Motion by Scott Galenbeck to approve staff's recommendation that the parking restriction be changed to allow parking on the west side of SE 5<sup>th</sup> Street between Jackson Avenue and Livingston Avenue; seconded by Kevin Williamson. Consensus of the members present in favor of the motion.

Date: May 10, 2011

Resolution Number: N/A

<u>Action</u>: Motion by Scott Galenbeck to approve staff's recommendation that the existing traffic signals at the intersection of E 9th Street and Cleveland Avenue be permanently removed as part of the storm sewer project, and that the intersection be controlled as a two-way stop, with Cleveland Avenue stopping at E 9th Street; seconded by Gabriel Carnes. Consensus of the members present in favor of the motion.

Date: May 10, 2011

Resolution Number: N/A

<u>Action</u>: Motion by Scott Galenbeck to approve staff's recommendation for a two-hour parking limit on the north side of Ingersoll in the 1900 block from 9 AM – 4 PM Monday through Friday; seconded by George Robinson. Consensus of the members present in favor of the motion.

# ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the second floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D. Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to cityclerk@dmgov.org.