

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: June 10, 2013
	Agenda Item No. 42 Roll Call No. <u>13-922</u> Communication No. <u>13-291</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. Beaver and Aurora Traffic Signals
- B. 44th Street Parking Restriction Revisions—North of College Avenue
- C. SW 5th and Virginia—Reversal of Stop Signs

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.

Funding Source: 2013-2014 Operating Budget, Page 80 Engineering Department Traffic & Transportation - Sign Installation and Maintenance, ENG100413.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- A. On November 5, 2012, by Roll Call No. 12-1738, City Council approved a construction contract for the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Beaver Avenue and Aurora Avenue. The contractor is nearing completion of this project and this traffic signal was turned on May 29, 2013. A “Police Order” was issued to temporarily authorize this signalized location. The following revision in the City Code is necessary to permanently authorize this traffic signal.

Sec. 114-1426. Aurora Avenue.

Aurora Avenue and Beaver Avenue, traffic control signal.

- B. A citizen request was received asking that staff review the existing parking conditions on 44th Street between College Avenue and Northwest Drive. The concern was that parking was allowed on both sides of the street, which restricts traffic flow to one narrow lane. This occurs especially during evening school events at Perkins Elementary School.

Staff has reviewed the parking conditions. Currently, the east side of 44th Street is designated for “Passenger Loading and Unloading Only” between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., school days. On the west side of 44th Street there is a “No Stopping or Standing” zone in effect between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., school days. During evenings and non-school days parking is currently allowed on both sides of the street.

The street is 24 feet wide. Based on the City’s adopted parking policy, a street of this width should only allow parking on one side of the street in order to allow for emergency vehicles to be able to travel through the area.

Staff recommended that the west side of the street be changed to “No Parking Any Time.” Evening and non-school parking would continue to be allowed on the east side the street.

At their May 14, 2013 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee heard citizen concerns that the 7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., School Days restriction may be too restrictive, and were requested to consider modifying the times to 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., School Days. The Committee concurred with this request and the staff recommendation that the west side of 44th Street between College Avenue and Northwest Drive be changed to “No Parking Any Time.” The following revisions to the Municipal Code will place this parking restriction into effect.

Sec. 114-2931. Forty-fourth Street--Dead end south of Grand Avenue to Ovid Avenue.

Forty-fourth Street, on the east side, from College Avenue to a point ~~650~~ 600 feet north thereof, passenger loading and unloading, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., school days.

Forty-fourth Street, on the west side, from College Avenue to a point 650 feet north thereof, ~~no stopping or standing 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. school days~~ no parking any time.

Forty-fourth Street, on the east side, from a point ~~650~~ 600 feet north of College Avenue to Ovid Avenue, no parking any time.

- C. A citizen request was received asking that staff review the intersection of SW 5th Street and Virginia Avenue. There is a recently-installed retaining wall in the northwest quadrant of the intersection, which has been damaged by oncoming traffic.

Staff has reviewed the location. The intersection is an offset four-way intersection, with Virginia Avenue “jogging” and SW 5th being the straight-through street. Currently there are stop signs placed on SW 5th approaching the two legs of Virginia Avenue.

A review of the crash history indicates that there have been two reported crashes between 2003-2012 at this location.

The existing stop signs have been in place for at least the past 20 years, based on some older mapping that the City had done. Normally, at an offset intersection like this one, the stop signs would be placed on the street that has the “jog” in it, which in this case would be Virginia Avenue. By reversing the stop signs at this location, it would make it more evident for eastbound and westbound traffic that they cannot drive straight through the intersection.

Staff recommended that the stop signs be reversed at this location, so that traffic on Virginia Avenue would be required to stop at SW 5th Street.

At their May 14, 2013 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee concurred with staff recommendation that stop signs be reversed at SW 5th and Virginia so that traffic would be required to stop at SW 5th Street. The following revisions to the Municipal Code will place this reversed stop control into effect.

Sec. 114-2002. Southwest Fifth Street.

Southwest Fifth Street, at Virginia Avenue, stop.

Sec. 114-2359. Virginia Avenue.

~~Virginia Avenue, at Southwest Fifth Street, stop.~~

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: November 5, 2012

Roll Call Number: [12-1737](#) and [12-1738](#)

Action: [On](#) Beaver Avenue and Aurora Avenue Traffic Signals: Resolution approving plans, specifications, form of contract documents, engineer's estimate, receive and file bids, and designating lowest responsible bidder as Iowa Signal, Inc. (Wayne Lesley, President), \$95,486.58. ([Council Communication No. 12-565](#)) Moved by Griess to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

(A) [Approving](#) contract and bond. Moved by Griess to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Traffic Safety Committee

Date: May 14, 2013

Resolution Number: N/A

Action: Motion by Scott Galenbeck to approve staff's recommendation that the west side of 44th Street between College Avenue and Northwest Drive be changed to No Parking Any Time, with amendment for staff to review school hours to determine if length of restriction on east side can be changed to 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. per resident request; seconded by Jim Windsor. Motion passed 6:0.

Board: Traffic Safety Committee

Date: May 14, 2013

Resolution Number: N/A

Action: Motion by Jim Windsor to approve staff's recommendation that stop signs be reversed at SW 5th and Virginia so that traffic would be required to stop at SW 5th Street; seconded by Kevin Williamson. Motion passed 6:0.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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