

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: December 22, 2014
	Agenda Item No. 36 Roll Call No. <u>14-1957</u> Communication No. <u>14-591</u> Submitted by: Pamela S. Cooksey, P.E., Interim City Engineer

AGENDA HEADING:

Amending Chapter 114 of the Municipal Code Regarding Traffic Regulation Changes as follows:

- A. All-Way Stop Installation at the Intersection of E 5th Street and E Locust Street.

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: 2014-2015 Operating Budget, Page 74 Engineering Department Traffic & Transportation – Sign Installation and Maintenance

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- A. A request was received from several members of the East Village Parking Study Steering Committee which includes members of the East Village Board of Directors, along with area business owners and residents, to change the intersection of E 5th Street and E Locust Street to an all-way stop. Currently, E 5th Street stops at E Locust Street, with E Locust Street continuing through. The intersection is surrounded by retail and commercial uses in the heart of a growing downtown commerce center.

Locust Street continues from the west side of the Des Moines River to where it terminates at the Capitol grounds at Pennsylvania Avenue. The traffic on Locust Street is higher on the west side of the river than on the east side of the river. A 2012 count shows it dropping from 6,600 vehicles per day to 4,700 vehicles per day. Historical data from the Iowa Department of Transportation shows that since 1994, volumes on the Locust Street Bridge over the Des Moines River have dropped from 12,650 to 4,700 vehicles/day.

Pedestrian activity has continued to increase in the East Village area both along E Locust Street and crossing E Locust Street as the area has continued to develop. This pedestrian volume can be witnessed both during the day and throughout the nighttime hours. The DART D-LINE shuttle also runs along E Locust Street and provides connections for many pedestrians to destinations throughout the East Village along E Locust Street and E Grand Avenue.

Given the reduction in traffic volumes that has been witnessed on E Locust Street over the past 20 years, combined with the growing need to provide for pedestrian crossings in the heart of the retail and commercial center of the East Village, staff recommended that an all-way stop be installed. At their December 9, 2014 meeting, the majority of the Traffic Safety Committee members present concurred with staff recommendation to install an all-way stop at the intersection of E 5th Street and E Locust Street. The following revision to the Municipal Code will place this stop control into effect.

Sec. 114-2272. East Locust Street.

East Locust Street, from the middle of the Locust Street Bridge over the Des Moines River to the east ~~west~~ line of East ~~Seventh~~ Fifth Street, stop.

East Locust Street, from the east line of East Fifth Street to the east line of East Seventh Street, stop.

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

(48d) East Locust Street at East Fifth Street

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Traffic Safety Committee

Date: December 9, 2014

Resolution Number: N/A

Action: A motion was made by Carl McPherson to approve staff recommendation for an all-way stop at the intersection of E 5th Street and E Locust Street; seconded by Chad Mason. NAYS: George Robinson. Motion passed 3:1.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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