

## URBANA TRAFFIC COMMISSION

Tuesday, May 2, 2000

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Carolyn Kearns, City Council Member  
Joe Smith, Assistant City Engineer  
Eddie Adair, Chief of Police

### OTHERS PRESENT:

Shawn Crowley, Traffic Enforcement Supervisor  
Delora Siebrecht, Finance Department  
Glenn Berman, Engineering and Administration Manager  
Harvey Barthelemy, Laidlaw Transit

Meeting began at 4:00 p.m.

### **Additions to the agenda:**

Carolyn Kearns requested one addition:

Discussion of future agenda items.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Joe Smith moved to accept the minutes as read. Eddie Adair seconded the motion. The Commission voted 3-0 to approve the minutes of April 2000.

### **Item #1 - Discussion of temporary one-way traffic flow on Michigan Avenue between Vine Street and Broadway Avenue.**

Joe Smith recommended postponing this item until further discussion takes place with the Urbana School District Safety Advisory Committee. He added that informing parents, Urbana Middle School faculty and area residents about the proposed changes and receiving input would be easier if the temporary one-way traffic flow began in conjunction with the start of the school year. He suggested that this change take place on a 90-day trial period to see if the changes work to reduce congestion around the Urbana Middle School.

Carolyn Kearns asked that the residents on Michigan Avenue receive a letter from the Public Works Department explaining the proposed changes and inviting them to the Traffic Commission meeting. Ms. Kearns suggested that the Public Works Director or Traffic Commission send a memo to the Council members to explain the proposed changes.

Joe Smith stated that he would report on the discussions of the Urbana School District Safety Advisory Committee at the June Traffic Commission meeting. He asked that this item be placed on the August Traffic Commission agenda.

**Item #2 - Discussion of speeding vehicles on North Linview Avenue between Fairview Avenue and Bradley Avenue (1205 North Linview).**

Eddie Adair stated that the Urbana Police Department checked the traffic on North Linview Avenue between Fairview Avenue and Sunset Drive. He reported that the street was a long block with parking on both sides. He added that it would be difficult for two vehicles to drive past each other because of the narrow street and parking. Chief Adair stated that speeding was not a problem, but he did notice many unsupervised, small children playing in and near the street.

Carolyn Kearns stated that it would be difficult for vehicles to speed down the street since it was not very long.

Eddie Adair stated that the Police Department would have patrol units periodically check the area for speeding vehicles and ticket anyone exceeding the speed limit.

Carolyn Kearns asked that STEP enforcement be assigned if a pattern of speeding is noticed. She requested a copy of the minutes be sent to Ms. Cooper.

**Item #3 - Discussion of the installation of yellow curb markings on the west side of North Mathews Avenue along the Digital Computer Laboratory at 1304 West Springfield Avenue.**

Glenn Berman stated that a handicapped accessibility ramp was installed on the west side of North Mathews Avenue near the entrance of the Digital Computer Laboratory. He stated that a parking meter was removed to accommodate the ramp. He asked the Commission to recommend the curb be painted yellow on either side of the ramp to prevent vehicles from blocking access to it. Mr. Berman added that if vehicles continued to block the ramp, he would request painting yellow stripes on the street in front of the ramp.

Joe Smith moved to install yellow no parking zone on the west side of Mathews Street where the ramp is located.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 3-0.

**Item #4 - Discussion of no parking along the south side of High Street between Urbana Avenue and the Urbana City Building.**

Joe Smith stated that since the parking design had been changed on High Street at the east end of the City Building, vehicles have been parallel parking along the south side of the street. He added that those vehicles restrict the ability of vehicles parked at the metered spaces to pull in and out of the spaces.

Joe Smith moved to install No Parking This Side of Street signs along the south side of High Street in an area from the centerline of Urbana Avenue to 150 feet west of Urbana Avenue.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

**Item #5 - Discussion of speed study on North Willow Road (2703 Willow Road).**

Joe Smith discussed the results of the speed study on North Willow Road. He stated that the average speed of traffic was 33 mph. He added that the speed of the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile was approximately 37 mph and the fastest recorded speed was 44 mph. As a result of the speed study, he suggested posting the speed limit at 35 mph.

Joe Smith moved to post the speed on North Willow Road from Anthony Drive to Airport Road as 35 mph.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

This item will go to Council for consideration.

**Item #6 - Discussion of yellow markings on Cottage Grove Avenue, south of Washington Street.**

Joe Smith stated that Illinois Statutes restrict parking within 30 feet of a stop sign. He recommended that the yellow curb marking be extended 15 to 20 feet on both sides of Cottage Grove Avenue, south of Washington Street, to comply with State guidelines. He added that no ordinance would be required since the changes would be made to meet the requirements of State law.

Mr. Barthelemy asked if the City would contact the University of Illinois about a vehicle that was parked on Carle Drive, just south of Florida Avenue. He stated that the vehicle created problems for school buses turning onto Carle Drive.

**Item #7 - Discussion of STEP enforcement. (Bradley Avenue, Lincoln Avenue, Windsor Road, school enforcement around Urbana Middle School and Prairie Elementary School)**

Eddie Adair discussed the STEP reports for April. (See attached reports.) He stated that violations on Bradley Avenue were as frequent as the violations on Lincoln Avenue and Windsor Road.

**Addendum- Discussion of future agenda items.**

Delora Siebrecht discussed complaints received about vehicles illegally parking in Lot 10B (the lot along the west side of the Urbana Post Office on Broadway Avenue. She stated that the problem had worsened since work on the Champaign County Courthouse had begun.

Discussion followed.

Joe Smith suggested placing signage on each meter explaining that the parking is for post office customers.

Glenn Berman suggested changing the wording of the entrance sign to read, "Restricted Parking--Postal Patrons Only."

Ms. Siebrecht stated that she would try to publicize parking options available in downtown Urbana in the News-Gazette.

Carolyn Kearns suggested using Urbana Public Television to notify the public about parking.

Shawn Crowley stated that Parking Enforcement checked the Urbana Post Office to see if the lobby was busy before ticketing vehicles to make sure that the vehicle owners parked in the lot were conducting business at the Post Office.

Delora Siebrecht stated that the Finance Department could produce laminated tags to place on each meter informing motorists that the lot is for postal patrons and showing parking options available for downtown Urbana.

Discussion followed regarding a request to restrict parking on Sunset Drive between Lincoln Avenue and Coler Avenue.

Carolyn Kearns asked that area residents be notified that this item will appear on the June Traffic Commission agenda.

Discussion followed regarding the installation of a stop sign at the intersection of Rutledge Drive and Vermont Street.

Joe Smith stated that he would research the history of the intersection to determine if a stop sign had been installed at that intersection before it was annexed into the City.

The item will be placed on the pending list for agenda items.

Meeting adjourned 5:00 p.m.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 6, 2000 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Stiehl  
Recording Secretary