

URBANA TRAFFIC COMMISSION
Tuesday, August 1, 2000

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jim Kelly, Operations Manager
Shawn Crowley, Traffic Enforcement Supervisor
Patricia Adkinson, #17 Lakeside Terrace
Denny Corbett, Flex-N-Gate, 1306 East University Avenue

The meeting began at 4:00 p.m.

Additions to the agenda:

There were no additions.

Approval of Minutes:

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

Item #1 - Discussion of STEP enforcement on Illinois Street between Lincoln Avenue and Race Street.

Eddie Adair discussed the results of STEP enforcement on Illinois Street. (See page 2 of the attached report.) He noted that the detail was assigned to the area from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and that the speeds indicated the need for expanded enforcement. He stated that he would discuss the results of additional enforcement in the STEP report for next month.

Item #2 - Discussion of traffic at Scovill Drive and Vine Street.

Jim Kelly stated that the stop line had been painted on Scovill Drive at Vine Street.

Eddie Adair stated that a STEP detail would be assigned to the area to enforce the speed limit and that he would include the results in his next report.

Joe Smith stated that the Champaign-Urbana Urbanized Area Traffic Study (CUUATS) Committee would be studying the Vine Street and Windsor Road intersection in the near future to determine if

signals would be warranted at that intersection.

Item #3 - Discussion of speeding vehicles on Lakeside Terrace.

Patricia Adkinson discussed her concerns about traffic on Lakeside Terrace. She suggested installing more speed limits signs and warning signs to slow vehicles near the curve and on the remainder of the street.

Joe Smith stated that the current speed limit for Lakeside Terrace was 20 mph. He added the speed limit sign on Lakeside Terrace near Broadway Avenue was too close to the intersection for motorists to see it as they entered the street from the west and suggested moving the sign farther in on Lakeside Terrace. He stated that the curve was too sharp for 20 mph. Mr. Smith recommended posting a warning sign for northbound and southbound traffic for motorists to reduce speed to 10 mph for the curve. He suggested placing additional speed limit signs by the park for eastbound and westbound traffic since many children cross at that point to go from the park to the Boys' Club.

Joe Smith moved to add additional 20 mph speed limit signs and 10 mph warning signs at the curve and to relocate the speed limit sign on Lakeside Terrace near Broadway Avenue.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

The motion does not require Council action.

Item #4 - Discussion of pedestrian crossing on Lierman Avenue near Flex n Gate.

Denny Corbett discussed his concern about pedestrians crossing Lierman Avenue to travel between Flex n Gate offices on the west side of Lierman Avenue to the parking lot on the east side. He stated that traffic entering Lierman Avenue from University Avenue was not aware that pedestrians were crossing near the intersection. He added that there were no speed limits posted as motorists enter Lierman Avenue from University Avenue. He also requested that the speed limit be reduced to 20 mph.

Joe Smith stated that this situation was similar to the pedestrian traffic at Solo Cup Company on Main Street. He recommended that pedestrian warning signage be installed for northbound traffic on Lierman Avenue near University Avenue and for southbound traffic on Lierman Avenue near Butzow Drive. He stated that the speed limit for residential traffic is 30 mph so the speed limit cannot be reduced.

Carolyn Kearns stated that posting the pedestrian warning signs would be helpful.

Joe Smith moved to install pedestrian warning signs near the north side of the Flex n Gate building and

near the south side of the building and to install 30 mph speed limit signs on Lierman Avenue near Butzow Drive and University Avenue.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

This motion does not require Council action.

Item #5 - Discussion of bicycle traffic in the Central Business District of Urbana.

Carolyn Kearns discussed a phone conversation with Sharon Compton from Broadway Classics about Ms. Compton's concerns with bicyclists riding on the sidewalks in the downtown Urbana area. Ms. Kearns stated that a person was hit by a bicyclist and suffered a broken wrist from the fall. Ms. Kearns asked if it was possible to place signage in the downtown area informing bicyclist of the ordinance prohibiting bicyclists from riding on the sidewalk in the Central Business District.

Joe Smith suggested installing the signage first and then begin ticketing bicyclists who ignore the signs.

Jim Kelly stated that he would research the types of signage available to determine what sign to use in the downtown area.

Eddie Adair stated that he would assign bicycle police to issue warnings and tickets and educate the officers about the ordinance.

Carolyn Kearns suggested educating the public by placing the ordinance in the newspapers (News-Gazette and Daily Illini) and the website and by announcing it on Urbana Public Television.

Eddie Adair stated that he would discuss the ticketing process with the Legal Division to determine the amount of the ticket.

Ms. Kearns stated that she would contact Ms. Compton about the process of installing signs, issuing warnings and ticketing those who ignore the ordinance. She added that the issue would be revisited if these actions did not remedy the problem.

Meeting adjourned 4:40 P.M.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 5, 2000 at 4:00 p.m. Urbana City Building, Second Floor Conference Room, 400 South Vine, Urbana.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Stiehl

Recording Secretary