

URBANA TRAFFIC COMMISSION

Tuesday, July 3, 2001

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Milton Otto, City Council Member  
Joe Smith, Senior Civil Engineer  
Eddie Adair, Chief of Police

OTHERS PRESENT:

Glenn Berman, Engineering and Administration Manager  
Shawn Crowley, Parking Enforcement  
Jim Hayes, Council Member, Ward 3

The meeting began at 4:15 p.m. Joe Smith chaired the meeting.

**Deletion to the agenda:**

There was one deletion from the agenda. Ms. Becky Fredrick, who asked that the item be added to the agenda, requested that Item #4, "Discussion of the installation of stop signs on Cottage Grove Avenue at Fairlawn Drive," be removed from the agenda.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Eddie Adair moved to accept the minutes as read. Joe Smith seconded the motion. The Commission voted 2-0 to approve the minutes of May 2001.

**Item #1 - Discussion of the installation of "No Parking Here To Corner" signage at the southwest corner of Vine Street and Pennsylvania Avenue.**

Joe Smith read a letter from Vernon Halberstadt asking for the installation of the "No Parking Here To Corner" signage at the southwest corner of Vine Street and Pennsylvania Avenue to help motorists recognize the yellow curb markings near Blair Park. Mr. Halberstadt stated that other motorists must pull out into the intersection because cars block visibility when they park illegally

Joe Smith moved to install a "No Parking Here To Corner" sign at the end of the existing yellow zone on the west side of Vine Street, south of Pennsylvania Avenue.

Milton Otto assumed the chair.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0. This item will not go to Council since it does not alter existing parking restrictions.

**Item #2 - Discussion of parking restrictions on the south side of Ellis Drive between Romine Street and Goodwin Avenue.**

Jim Hayes discussed a constituent's concern about drivers stopping in the middle of the street to talk to pedestrians or motorists traveling in the opposite direction. He stated that this blocks traffic since there is parking on both sides of the street. Mr. Hayes' constituent asked if parking could be eliminated on one side of the street so traffic could travel around vehicles stopped in the street.

Glenn Berman stated that there are streets in the area where parking was restricted to one side of the street, but that those streets were narrower than Ellis Drive. He stated that the Public Works Department had tried to follow the desire of those living in the neighborhood. He suggested that the residents in the area submit a petition to the Traffic Commission.

Joe Smith stated that if all of the residents within the block agree to the parking restrictions, the Traffic Commission would consider the request. Mr. Smith stated that the 1300 block of Ellis Drive was very congested with parked vehicles on both sides.

Jim Hayes stated that he would contact his constituents to discuss the situation with them.

Milton Otto stated that no action would be taken until a petition was presented to the Traffic Commission

**Item #3 - Discussion of the installation of school zone signage on Philo Road between Florida Avenue and Colorado Avenue at the East Urbana Campus.**

Joe Smith stated that the School Safety Advisory Committee requested temporary school zone signage on Philo Road at the East Urbana Campus. He stated that the committee asked for the signage last year, but the Traffic Commission did not favor installing the signage last year since all of the students were bussed to the campus.

Milton Otto stated that there was a bus stop on the opposite side of the street so it would be advisable to install the signage for students crossing the street.

Joe Smith stated that the signage would be temporary and would be removed when the school was gone.

Joe Smith moved to install school crossing signage for the Urbana #116 School District campus on Philo Road at the south and north edges of the campus.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion was passed 3-0.

This item will go to Council for consideration.

**Item #4- Discussion of the installation of stop signs on Cottage Grove Avenue at Fairlawn Drive.**

This item was deleted from the agenda at the request of the citizen who originally requested that this item be heard.

**Item #5- Discussion of the installation of a stop sign on Philo Road at Mumford Drive.**

Ms. Betty Wirt requested that this item be heard by the Traffic Commission. She called the Public Works Department to express her concern about the difficulty motorists on Mumford Drive have when crossing Philo Road. In addition, Ms. Wirt stated that the opening of the daycare facility on Mumford Drive, east of Philo Road, will increase the number of motorists crossing Philo Road at Mumford Drive.

Glenn Berman stated that the one warrant for installing a stop sign that might possibly be met was the warrant that considered the gaps between cars at the intersection.

Joe Smith stated that the Engineering Division would conduct a delay study to determine if the average delay for motorists on the side street (Mumford Drive) exceeded 30 seconds during peak hours.

Glenn Berman mentioned that the environmental impact of having vehicles stop and start on Philo Road for a traffic concern that occurs for a short time must be considered.

Joe Smith agreed that having 12000 vehicles stop for 1000 vehicles might cause motorists on Philo Road to ignore the signs. He added that the delays on other streets in Urbana are probably worse. He stated that delays such as this would be better solved with traffic signals than with stop signs.

Eddie Adair moved to conduct a delay study of the Philo Road and Mumford Drive intersection in September.

Joe Smith seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

This item will be scheduled for discussion at a future Traffic Commission meeting.

Eddie Adair discussed the results of the May STEP detail. (See attached report.)

Meeting adjourned 4:55 P.M.

The meeting will be August 7, 2001 at 4:00 p.m. at the Urbana City Building, 400 South Vine Street, Second Floor Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Stiehl  
Recording Secretary