

URBANA TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
Tuesday, January 6, 2004

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joe Smith, Senior Civil Engineer  
Eddie Adair, Chief of Police

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Milton Otto, Urbana Council Member

OTHERS PRESENT:

Shawn Crowley, Parking Enforcement  
Jim Hayes, Council Member, Ward 3  
George Sandwick, University of Illinois Public Safety  
Matt Taylor, 612 West Green Street

Meeting began at 4:10 p.m.

**Addition to the agenda:**

There were no additions:

**Approval of the 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 December 2003.

**Item #1 - Discussion of traffic concerns on Lincoln Avenue between Pennsylvania Avenue and Nevada Street.**

George Sandwick from the University of Illinois Police Department discussed his observations of traffic along Lincoln Avenue between Pennsylvania Avenue and Nevada Street. He noted that visibility for motorists on side streets was poor and that cars exceeded the posted speed limit.

Eddie Adair asked when problems were most prevalent.

Officer Sandwick stated that problems occurred when staff left at the end of the workday. He suggested adding larger speed limit signs to using the speed trailer to remind motorists of the speed limit on Lincoln Avenue.

Joe Smith stated that a study should be conducted to determine the impact of traffic on Lincoln Avenue since the City of Champaign implemented changes in traffic patterns on Green Street. He stated that the intersections of Pennsylvania Avenue and Lincoln Avenue and Nevada Street and Lincoln Avenue were scheduled for the installation of traffic signals in Spring 2005. He added that the streetlights were to be updated in the campus area.

Officer Sandwick stated that many pedestrians cross Lincoln Avenue in the middle of the blocks.

Joe Smith said that there were proposals under review to channel pedestrian traffic to cross at intersections.

Joe Smith moved to add two speed limit signs to the area on Lincoln Avenue between Nevada Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, to increase the size of the speed limit signs, and to add signage "Radar Enforced" under the speed limit signs.

Mr. Smith stated that he would discuss the possibility of a traffic study along Lincoln Avenue to determine the volume of traffic. He asked if the speed trailer could be used on Lincoln Avenue to remind motorists of the speed limit in that area. Mr. Smith added that once the traffic signals were installed, the signals would consider split phasing to control traffic movement between Pennsylvania Avenue and Nevada Street.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion passed 2-0.

This item does not require Council approval.

**Item #2 - Discussion of traffic concerns in the 600 block of West Green Street.**

Joe Smith stated that he measured the clearance along Green Street at Coler Avenue. He said that the recommended clearance was 100 feet and that there was 155 feet of clearance at that intersection. He added that there was a tree within the visibility of the intersection, but the City did not want to remove the tree when motorists could still see around it. Mr. Smith asked the resident, Matt Taylor, to let the Commission know if he felt that there were any additional problems.

Mr. Taylor stated that he did not want the tree to be removed. He said that he would notify the Commission if any further problems appeared.

Joe Smith requested that no action be taken.

**Item #3 - Discussion of the installation of signage at Kenyon Road and Cunningham Avenue.**

Joe Smith discussed the traffic counts for the intersection of Kenyon Road and Cunningham Avenue. He noted that there were no traffic controls except for a "Yield" sign for eastbound traffic leaving a private street for the gas station, Eastland Suites and apartments. He stated that stopping westbound traffic might cause traffic to backup onto Cunningham Avenue and stopping southbound traffic was not justified based upon the numbers in the traffic count.

Joe Smith moved to install warning signage for southbound Kenyon Road saying, "Watch for Turning Vehicles."

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion passed 2-0.

This item does not require Council approval.

Mr. Smith will contact the property owner of the private street and ask that the owner install a stop sign for eastbound traffic.

**Item 4- Discussion of parking restrictions on Florida Avenue and the Savannah Green subdivision.**

Joe Smith discussed concerns expressed by the Police Department regarding vehicles parking on both sides of Abercorn Street, Montgomery Street, Oglethorpe Avenue and Smith Road. Mr. Smith stated that the streets were not wide enough to accommodate parking on both sides. He suggested eliminating parking on the west side of the streets.

Shawn Crowley asked if the curbs in front of the fire hydrants had been painted yellow.

Joe Smith stated that the streets will not be painted until the City accepted the streets from the developer. At that time, he added the City would install no parking and one-way traffic signs in the alleys.

Joe Smith moved to eliminate parking on the north side of Florida Avenue from 100 feet west of Smith Road to 150 feet east of Abercorn Street and to eliminate parking on the west side of Abercorn Street, Montgomery Street, Oglethorpe Avenue and Smith Road from Florida Avenue to Michigan Avenue.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion passed 2-0.

This item will go to Council for consideration.

**Item 5 - Discussion of the installation of a one-way stop sign on Lincoln Avenue at Oaks Road.**

Joe Smith said that work on North Lincoln Avenue was nearing completion. He requested a stop sign on the westbound leg of the existing Lincoln Avenue at the intersection of northbound Lincoln Avenue.

Joe Smith moved to install a one-way stop sign on westbound Lincoln Avenue at northbound Lincoln Avenue.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion passed 2-0.

This item will go to Council for consideration.

Eddie Adair discussed the results of the December 2003 STEP details (see attached reports).

Meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 3, 2004 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Stiehl  
Recording Secretary