

URBANA TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
Tuesday, December 6, 2005

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dennis Roberts, City Council Member  
Eddie Adair, Chief of Police  
Joe Smith, Senior Civil Engineer

OTHERS PRESENT:

Shawn Crowley, Parking Enforcement  
April Getchius, University of Illinois  
Chris Manrique, 308 Thompson Street  
James Manrique, 308 Thompson Street  
Cheri Manrique, 308 Thompson Street

The meeting began at 4:00 p.m.

**Additions to the agenda:**

There was one addition to the agenda:

Recognition of Chief Eddie Adair's service to the Urbana Traffic Commission.

Dennis Roberts recognized Chief Adair for his years of service to the community and for his contribution to the Urbana Traffic Commission.

**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 the November 2005 meeting.

**Item #1 - Discussion of the installation of three-way stop signs at Illinois Street and Goodwin Avenue.**

Joe Smith explained that stop signs had been installed on Goodwin Avenue for both lanes of traffic by the Public Works Director. He added that this installation was temporary and required Council action if the installation was to be permanent. He stated that the number of pedestrians crossing at that intersection met the warrant as described by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

Dennis Roberts agreed that an ordinance would be beneficial.

Joe Smith moved to install stop signs on Goodwin Avenue at Illinois Street for both northbound and southbound traffic.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

This item will go to Council for consideration.

**Item #2 - Discussion of speeding vehicles on Larch Place.**

Eddie Adair stated that he forwarded the e-mail regarding speeding vehicles to Traffic Enforcement to be placed on STEP patrol. He said that after STEP had an opportunity to patrol on that street, the Police Department would forward the results of their patrol to the Traffic Commission.

Dennis Roberts stated that he traveled on Larch Place and noted that the street was approximately two blocks in length. He said that he interviewed a resident from that street who said that people typically travel on Larch Place from Colorado Avenue and that occasionally the motorists would be speeding.

Joe Smith wondered why traffic would use that street since it did not really appear to be a shorter way to travel. He stated that he had been unable to conduct a speed study due to the weather conditions.

Dennis Roberts stated that the Traffic Commission would evaluate the situation after receiving input from Traffic Enforcement.

**Item #3 - Discussion of speeding vehicles in the 1000 block of South Cottage Grove Avenue.**

Joe Smith summarized the concerns expressed in an e-mail from Jon Prince of 1009 South Cottage Grove Avenue. Mr. Smith explained that Mr. Prince saw many vehicles speeding on Cottage Grove Avenue and that he had not seen any type of enforcement in the area.

Chief Adair stated that Traffic Enforcement typically conducted speed enforcement in that area.

Joe Smith asked if the speed trailer could be set in that area.

Shawn Crowley stated that the trailer did not work as well in the winter months.

Chief Adair stated that STEP enforcement would be assigned to that area and the results would be reported to the Traffic Commission.

Discussion followed.

The STEP report will be discussed at the February Traffic Commission meeting.

**Item #4 - Discussion of lane markings on Bradley Avenue from the western City limits to Lincoln Avenue.**

Cheri Manrique discussed concern about the inconsistent lane markings on Bradley Avenue when traveling from Champaign to Urbana.

James Manrique stated that he traveled to Parkland College using Bradley Avenue and was confused since there appeared to be four lanes of traffic on Bradley Avenue when traveling in Champaign, but there appeared to be only two lanes of traffic when traveling in Urbana. He stated that traffic was traveling as if drivers were not certain whether they should be in the middle of the lane, to the right or to the left.

Joe Smith explained that when Bradley Avenue was constructed it was built with two lanes and parking. He added that the volumes of traffic were not sufficient for four lanes of traffic, but if the volumes increased significantly, the road could be altered to accommodate the increase. He stated that an engineering study was planned for Spring 2006 to determine lane markings for the intersection of Bradley Avenue and Lincoln Avenue to decide whether a left-turn only lane was needed and/or a right-turn only lane. He said that residents living on the south side of Bradley Avenue between Carver Drive and Mathews and the church on the north side would be contacted to discuss their parking concerns for Bradley Avenue. He continued that the intersection of Bradley Avenue and Carver Drive marked the City limits for Champaign and Urbana, but not at a distinct line, which added to some of the confusion in consistently marking the street.

Dennis Roberts said that more definite striping would be beneficial for motorists.

Joe Smith stated that the City could stripe the street to make the taper to one lane more noticeable.

Joe Smith moved to install a white line on both sides of Bradley Avenue from Lincoln Avenue to Carver Drive to delineate the lane line.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

This item does not require Council action.

**Item #5 - Discussion of parking on Harvey Street, south of Eads Street.**

Joe Smith discussed a phone call from a resident on Harvey Street where the resident was concerned about having difficulty accessing her driveway because vehicles parked too close to her driveway.

Shawn Crowley stated that Parking Enforcement had not received very many calls in that area and have ticketed a few. She added that they had towed some abandoned vehicles in that area, but that area was not a source of significant problems. She said that Parking Enforcement would patrol that area to make sure that there were no problems.

Joe Smith stated that these callers are usually encouraged to contact Parking Enforcement when a vehicle blocks a driveway.

Dennis Roberts stated that the problem would be monitored.

Joe Smith moved to cancel the January Traffic Commission meeting since there were no items and the meeting would occur after a City holiday.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 P.M.

The next meeting will be held February 7, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. at the Urbana City Building, 400 South Vine, second floor conference room.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Stiehl  
Recording Secretary