

URBANA TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
Tuesday, March 7, 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dennis Roberts, City Council Member  
Mike Bily, Acting Chief of Police  
Joe Smith, Senior Civil Engineer

OTHERS PRESENT:

Shawn Crowley, Parking Enforcement  
Larry Roberson, 1812 Federal Drive  
Dorothy Maduzia, 605 East Illinois Street

The meeting began at 4:05 p.m.

**Additions to the agenda:**

There was one addition to the agenda.

**Discussion of excessive traffic on Illinois Street.**

**Approval of Minutes:**

Mike Bily moved to accept the minutes as read. Joe Smith seconded the motion. The Commission voted 3-0 to approve the minutes of the February 2006 meeting.

**Item #1 - Discussion of excessive traffic on Illinois Street.**

Dorothy Maduzia expressed her concern about an increase in semi-trailer and vehicle traffic on Illinois Street.

Dennis Roberts explained that Illinois Street was one of the major east-west streets in Urbana.

Ms. Maduzia wanted to know if there had been an increase in traffic on Illinois Street and if there had been an increase, what the City would do to discourage traffic from using the street as a shortcut.

Joe Smith stated that Illinois Street was a collector street. He added that the function of Illinois Street was to move traffic between Vine Street and Cottage Grove Avenue.

Mike Bily said that the Police Department ran three STEP details after receiving a call from Ms. Maduzia. He reported that there was one violation during each of those details (see February STEP report).

Dennis Roberts said that the City had completed a speed study and STEP enforcement on Illinois Street.

Joe Smith mentioned that brick streets tend to keep traffic to a minimum on the street. He reported that traffic counts were being taken on most streets to update information for Champaign County Regional Planning Commission. He suggested adding Illinois Street to the list of streets they will be reviewing to determine if there was an increase in traffic volume.

When that information is complete, a copy will be send to Ms. Maduzia.

**Item #2 - Discussion of the installation of No Parking signs on the west side of the 1800 block of Federal Drive.**

Dennis Roberts mentioned that this item was discussed at the February Traffic Commission meeting and deferred to the March meeting to allow the Traffic Commission the opportunity to contact businesses in the block for input on the parking restrictions.

Larry Roberson stated that Canteen Vending Company had limited parking at their facility. He expressed concern over the elimination of parking on Federal Drive.

Mike Bily stated that the parking restrictions would include the area across from their loading docks and would not include the entire block.

Mr. Roberson asked about the possibility to construct a cut-out to accommodate large truck movements from the loading docks.

Joe Smith discussed the costs involved to build the cut-out.

Mr. Roberson preferred the parking restrictions.

Joe Smith moved to install no parking signs from the centerline of Cardinal Court to the power pole. He said that he would measure the area to determine the exact location.

Mike Bily seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 3-0.

This item will go to Council for consideration.

**Item #3 - Discussion of speed study on Larch Place.**

Mike Bily discussed the results on STEP enforcement on Larch Place. He stated that there were no citations issued.

Dennis Roberts stated that he would contact Lynne Barnes with the results of the study.

Acting Chief Bily said that they would continue to monitor traffic on the street during March.

Joe Smith recommended that no further action be taken by the Traffic Commission.

**Item #4 - Discussion of traffic concerns on Airport Road.**

Dennis Roberts discussed concerns that were brought to his attention by residents living in the Landis Farm subdivision. He stated that there was concern about the design of Airport Road. Mr. Roberts acknowledged that the road was partially under the jurisdiction of the City and Urbana Township.

Joe Smith stated that improvements on Airport Road, east of Cunningham Avenue, were not in the ten-year plan for the City. He suggested that as more development continued, there would be more improvements to the area. Mr. Smith added that if money was reallocated to improve Airport Road, other projects within the City would have to be reprioritized.

Mr. Roberts asked about the possibility of installing a street light at the entrance to Landis Farm Drive.

Joe Smith said that he would discuss the possibility with the Public Works Director.

Acting Chief Bily expressed concern about how effective the light would be for motorists traveling on Airport Road. He thought the light would be better than no light at all, but he didn't think that motorists on Airport Road would have any additional warning of traffic on Landis Farm Road. He suggested that residents adjacent to the proposed light be contacted since they might have some concerns about a light shining into their homes.

Dennis Roberts thought that a neighborhood meeting might be helpful in finding solutions to concerns about traffic. He suggested that the item be placed on the April Traffic Commission agenda and that a neighborhood meeting be planned. He asked that the Public Works Director, Bill Gray, and representatives from any other jurisdiction involved be invited to attend the meeting.

**Old Business**

Joe Smith discussed the plans for striping Bradley Avenue. He stated that there would be parking restrictions on the south side of Bradley Avenue from Romine Street to Carver Drive to allow the appropriate taper for striping the street for two lanes. He requested that the residents impacted by the restrictions be notified about the restrictions.

Meeting adjourned at 4:42 P.M.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Stiehl  
Recording Secretary