

REPORT / RECOMMENDATION



To: Edina Transportation Commission

Agenda Item #: VI. B.

From: Byron Theis – Traffic Safety Coordinator

Action

Discussion

Date: December 13, 2012

Information

Subject: Traffic Safety Committee Report of December 12, 2012

Action Requested:

Review and recommend Traffic Safety Committee (TSC) Report of Wednesday December 12, 2012, be forwarded to City Council for approval.

Information / Background:

It is not anticipated that residents will be in attendance at the meeting regarding any of the attached issues. An overview of the comments from the Edina Transportation Commission (ETC) will be included in the staff report provided to Council for their January 22, 2012 meeting.

Attachments:

Traffic Safety Review for December 12, 2012.

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

The Traffic Safety Committee (TSC) review of traffic safety matters occurred on December 12. The Director of Engineering, Public Works Director, Police Traffic Supervisor, and Traffic Safety Coordinator were in attendance for this meeting.

From these reviews, the recommendations below are provided. On each of the items, persons involved have been contacted and staff recommendation has been discussed with them. They were informed that if they disagree with the recommendation or have additional facts to present, they can be included on the December 20, Edina Transportation Commission and the January City Council agenda.

SECTION A:

Requests on which the Committee recommends approval:

At this time, there are no requests that are recommended for approval.

SECTION B:

Requests on which the Committee recommends denial:

1. Request for a Yield sign at the intersection of Highland Road and Westridge Boulevard.

This request is from a resident who lives on Westridge Boulevard. The requestor states that vehicles are having a hard time seeing other vehicles that are travelling on either road. The requestor also mentioned that the high amount of children in the neighborhood makes driving dangerous without sidewalks in the neighborhood. The requestor feels that placing a Yield sign would be helpful for vehicles to establish a right-of-way. The requestor also requested that the clear-zone be looked at for compliance.

There have been no relevant requests in this area. This intersection is Y-shaped with Westridge Boulevard intersecting Highland Road at an angle not at 90 degrees. There have also been zero crashes at this intersection from 2001 to 2010. Pictures are provided below.

Westridge Boulevard is classified as a local roadway that has a width of 27 feet with curb and gutter. Highland Road is classified as a City Street that has a width of 27 feet with curb and gutter. Both are bituminous

streets with no sidewalks or parking restrictions on either side. Traffic counts conducted at this intersection show that 283 vehicles enter the intersection on a typical weekday.

A check for compliance for clear zone was conducted, and was determined that the corner is in compliance with the city code for clear zones.

The MNMUTCD has standards in which a Yield sign can be placed at an intersection and are provided below:

A. The combined vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian volume entering the intersection from all approaches averages more than 2,000 units per day;

B. The ability to see conflicting traffic on an approach is not sufficient to allow a road user to stop or yield in compliance with the normal right-of-way rule if such stopping or yielding is necessary; and/or

C. Crash records indicate that five or more crashes that involve the failure to yield the right-of-way at the intersection under the normal right-of-way rule have been reported within a 3-year period, or that three or more such crashes have been reported within a 2-year period.

YIELD or STOP signs should not be used for speed control.

This intersection does not meet warrants set out by the MNMUTCD. Observations conducted at this intersection show no other special considerations.

Staff recommends denial of request for a Yield sign.



Photo 1: Highland Road and Westridge Boulevard



Photo 2: Highland Road looking westbound at Westridge Boulevard



Photo 3: Westridge Boulevard looking towards Highland Road

2. Request for parking restrictions on Antrim Road south of Chapel Drive.

This request is from a resident who lives on Antrim Road. The requestor has stated that traffic is parking and restricting the sightlines of both Chapel Drive and their driveway. Requestor states that the vehicles are driven by high school students who park on Antrim Road and walk to school. The requestor feels that parking restrictions would help disperse the density of vehicles parked next to Chapel Drive.

This is a T-intersection with Antrim Road running north-south and Chapel Drive running east-west. This intersection is also close to Valley View Road. A total of 10 houses would be affected if the restriction were placed from Chapel Drive to 70th Street West. Pictures are provided below.

Antrim Road is classified as a Collector street with an Average Daily Traffic (ADT) of 4104 vehicles with an 85th percentile speed of 36.4 MPH south of Chapel Drive. The street is 43 feet wide with curb and gutter on both sides.

Crash records show two crashes at this intersection from 2001 to 2011. One was property damage only in 2002 and the other was a possible injury in 2010. Observations conducted at this intersection conclude vehicles parked on Antrim Road are high school students who park and walk to school. Parking restrictions restricting at certain times could alleviate the issue, however the restrictions would apply to residents as well. After discussion, it was recommended that placing parking restrictions would not be necessary. Enforcement of City Code for parking near a driveway and parking near an intersection would eliminate issues with sightlines.

Staff recommends denial of the request for parking restrictions.



Photo 4: Antrim Road looking south



Photo 5: Antrim Road and Chapel Lane

SECTION C:

Requests that are deferred to a later date or referred to others.

At this time, there are no requests that require deferral to a later date.

SECTION D:

Other traffic safety issues handled.

1. Call from a resident requesting traffic counts on Interlachen Boulevard from Schaefer Road to Ridge Road. The 2005 traffic counts show an ADT of 2198 vehicles and an 85th percentile speed of 29.4 MPH.
2. Call from a resident requesting a sign to inform drivers of pedestrian crossings on Edina Industrial Boulevard and TH 100. Resident was

forwarded to MNDOT; MNDOT owns and maintains signal operations and signs at this intersection.

3. Call from a resident requesting traffic counts on Xerxes Avenue north of TH 62. The most recent traffic counts (2012) show an ADT of 14590 vehicles and an 85th percentile speed of 34.6 MPH.
4. Call from a resident requesting information about the traffic control near Xerxes Avenue and TH 62. Requestor was forwarded to MNDOT, who manages that intersection.
5. Call from a resident requesting repair of the traffic signal light at 70th Street West and Metro Boulevard. Request was forwarded to Edina Public Works, who maintains this traffic signal.
6. Staff reviewed enforcement and observations made on Cornelia Drive near Mavelle Drive regarding parked vehicles. A request was made to investigate the area for possible parking restrictions. The requestor states that vehicles are parking on Cornelia Drive and blocking the turning of buses from Cornelia School. Requestor would like parking restrictions to help buses move freely from the parking lot of the school onto Cornelia Drive. After enforcement of existing City Code, observations made in the area determined that the issue of parked vehicles was resolved.