

Safety Commission MEETING MINUTES



June 12, 2024 - 6:00 PM
Conference Room A/B
3805 S. Casper Drive

Please note: Minutes are unofficial until approved at the next scheduled meeting.

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM, by Dave Rocklewitz.

2. ROLL CALL; DECLARATION OF QUORUM; PUBLIC NOTICE

Present: Lucas Pichler (DPW), Tammy Simonson (Engineering), Charlotte Kroupa (Aldерwoman), Mary English, Mitchell Lataille, Caleb Manske, Anne-Marie St. John, Dave Rocklewitz (NBPD)

Also Present: Matt Newman (SDNB) – non-voting member

Absent: Steve Kon (NBFD)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. January 10, 2024 Minutes

MOTION: Motion to Approve

VOTE: Motion by: Board Member English
Second by: Aldерperson Kroupa
Motion Passed 8-0

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Election of Commissioner/Chairperson: Due to an unplanned vacancy, the election of a new commissioner/chairperson will be needed.

Michell Lataille nominated Mary English to fill the vacant chairperson position. English accepted the nomination. Charlotte Kroupa nominated Caleb Manske to fill the vacant chairperson position. Manske accepted the nomination. There were no additional nominations.

The commission voted to fill the vacancy. Mary English collected three votes; Caleb Manske collected five votes. Manske was elected chairperson.

B. 24-1: A resident has requested additional/supplemental pedestrian crossing signage be added in the median at Coffee Road and 153rd Street.

Lucas Pichler presented an overview of the request, as well as a crash pin map from 2000 – 2023. Pichler noted that pedestrian crossing signs already existed at the intersection of Coffee Road and 153rd Street, but advised that additional signage was requested in the median. Pichler also noted that there had been zero pedestrian related crashes at the intersection between 2000 – 2023.

Pichler advised that the most appropriate signage that could be added to the median would indicate, "State Law, Yield to Pedestrians Within Crosswalk." Pichler also expressed concerns that if the Safety Commission recommended additional signage at this intersection/crosswalk, especially because pedestrian volume at this intersection/crosswalk was lower than others, there would be precedent for the Safety

Commission to recommend additional signage for other similar requests. Pichler further added that the ideal solution would be to build sidewalks that extended to Moorland Road and/or National Avenue. Charlotte Kroupa inquired about the possibility of putting up larger pedestrian crossing signs in place of the current signs. Pichler noted that the current signs were standard sizes, based on engineering guidelines. Caleb Manske inquired if speed was a concern at this location. There was confirmation from the commission members that speed concerns on Coffee Road, between Moorland Road and National Avenue, had previously been brought to the Safety Commission's attention within the past year or two; however, the data from that traffic study did not indicate there was a significant speeding issue. Lucas again added that there was no data to support additional pedestrian crossing signage. Manske inquired if the police department could collect additional speed data. Dave Rocklewitz confirmed that the police department could deploy a Speed Sentry sign to collect additional data. Manske inquired if there were any additional thoughts or ideas related to this request, but there was no additional discussion.

MOTION: Motion to monitor Coffee Road, between Moorland Road and National Avenue, with a Speed Sentry sign and to take no additional action on installing additional pedestrian crossing signs at this time.

VOTE: Motion by: Staff Designee Rocklewitz
Second by: Board Member Lataille
Motion Passed 8-0

- C. **24-2:** A resident has requested the installation of spin alert signs on the existing speed limit signs on Park Avenue, between Woodshire Drive and Sunny Slope Road. Lucas Pichler presented an overview of the request, as well as previous traffic study data (from September 2022), which directly related to this request. Pichler noted that the previous request was specifically related to the traffic queues on Park Avenue created by Orchard Lane Elementary School, before and after the school day. Pichler advised that Orchard Lane Elementary staff had made some adjustments to their student pick-up procedures, which reduced the number of vehicles queueing on Park Avenue. Pichler also added that even though the traffic study data from the previous request did not demonstrate a significant speeding concern, the Safety Commission still recommended the addition of a speed limit sign on Park Avenue to the Common Council, which was later approved.

Tammy Simonson and Pichler both advised that although the City had installed some spin alert signs, there was no evidence to confirm if they were effective or not. Matt Newman also added that the School District of New Berlin was looking into some additional options for creating additional pick-up lanes at Orchard Lane Elementary. There was no additional discussion regarding this request.

MOTION: Motion to take no action, based on the past traffic study data

VOTE: Motion by: Board Member Lataille
Second by: Staff Designee Rocklewitz
Motion Passed 8-0

- D. **24-3:** Alderman Stribl (via multiple residents) has requested the installation of "No Parking" signs on Hunter Lane, near the intersection of Forest Point Blvd, and on Forest Point Blvd, between "the pond and the first driveway on the north side."

Lucas Pichler presented an overview of the request, as well as a crash pin map from 2000 – 2023. Pichler noted that that there had been zero parking related crashes in this area between 2000 – 2023.

Pichler advised that there was traffic study data available for this area, as there was a secondary request for stop signs at both intersections of Hunter Lane and Forest Point Blvd (23-16). Pichler noted that the traffic study data indicated that southbound traffic speeds for Hunter Lane were significantly faster than northbound traffic speeds. Pichler cited that it was probable that parked cars on the northbound side of the roadway was a factor for why northbound traffic speeds were slower. Tammy Simonson added that there had been past speeding complaints in this same area and that by eliminating all street parking, traffic speeds for northbound Hunter Lane could increase. Pichler advised that he did not see a need for additional "No Parking" signs in front of the pond (on Forest Point Blvd.) but believed it could make sense to install permanent "No Parking" signs on the north/west side of Forest Point Blvd., west from the intersection of Hunter Lane to the end of the shifting taper. Pichler also believed it could make sense to move the "No Parking" sign that was currently on the east side of Hunter Lane, just north of the intersection of Forest Point Blvd (south intersection), north to the end of the double yellow, no passing lines. Caleb Manske and Simonson also noted that they agreed with Pichler's suggestions.

MOTION: Motion to recommend the following items be moved on to the Common Council for consideration/approval:

1. Move the “No Parking” sign that was currently on the east side of Hunter Lane, just north of the intersection of Forest Point Blvd (south intersection), north to the end of the double yellow, no passing lines

2. Install permanent “No Parking” signs on the north/west side of Forest Point Blvd., west from the intersection of Hunter Lane to the end of the shifting taper

VOTE: Motion by: Commissioner Manske
Second by: Alderperson Kroupa
Motion Passed 8-0

- E. 24-4:** Alderman La Fever (via a resident) has requested the installation of stop signs at the intersection of Monterey Drive and El Dorado Drive.
Lucas Pichler presented an overview of the request, as well as a crash pin map from 2000 – 2023. Pichler noted that that there had been one crash (property damage crash) at the intersection between 2000 – 2023.

Pichler advised that intersections in subdivisions are generally uncontrolled, and that the intersection of Monterey Drive and El Dorado Drive was one of two four-way intersections within this subdivision. Tammy Simonson added that the City has a policy to determine if stop signs and/or yield signs were warranted at intersections, which included looking at the vision triangle, traffic volume, and crash history. Simonson advised that based on the known factors of this intersection, there was nothing that would prompt the Engineering Department to consider conducting a traffic study. Charlotte Kroupa inquired if there were any speed limit signs on Riviera Drive, near Moorland Road. Simonson confirmed that there was a speed limit sign on Riviera Drive, near the first driveway west of Moorland Road. There was no additional discussion regarding this request

MOTION: Motion to take no action

VOTE: Motion by: Alderperson Kroupa
Second by: Board Member Lataille
Motion Passed 8-0

- F. 24-5:** Alderman La Fever (via a resident) has requested the installation of stop signs at the intersection of Riviera Drive and El Dorado Drive.
Lucas Pichler presented an overview of the request, as well as a crash pin map from 2000 – 2023. Pichler noted that that there had been two crashes (one property damage crash and one possible injury crash) at the intersection between 2000 – 2023.

Pichler again advised that intersections in subdivisions are generally uncontrolled. Pichler further advised that the intersection of Riviera Drive and El Dorado Drive was one of two four-way intersections within this subdivision. Based on the discussion from Item 24-4, there was no additional explanation about the City's policy for determining if stop signs and/or yield signs were warranted at intersections. Charlotte Kroupa questioned if there was enough traffic volume at this intersection to warrant a traffic study. Tammy Simonson and Pichler advised that this intersection would more than likely have higher traffic volumes than the intersection of Monterey Drive and El Dorado Drive; however, they did not know if it would be enough to warrant stop signs or yield signs. Kroupa advised that she believed it would be worthwhile to have a traffic study conducted to determine the traffic volumes. There was no additional discussion regarding this request.

MOTION: Motion to conduct a traffic study near the intersection of Riviera Drive and El Dorado Drive to determine if there was enough traffic volume to warrant stop signs or yield signs

VOTE: Motion by: Alderperson Kroupa
Second by: Board Member English
Motion Passed 8-0

- G. 24-6:** Alderman La Fever has requested that the “No Parking” signs on 163rd Street, between Cleveland Avenue and Ryerson Road, be changed to “No Parking Monday – Friday from 6 AM – 6 PM”.
Tammy Simonson presented an overview of the request. Simonson advised the request was primarily due to a specific business on 163rd Street that hosted tournaments on weekends, which resulted in vehicle

parking overflowing onto 163rd Street. Simonson noted the request for the changing of the parking restrictions would accommodate this specific business; however, she also noted that the City's agreement with the business was for them to make off-street parking arrangements for their events. There was a question about why the "No Parking" regulations on 163rd Street existed. Simonson explained that 163rd Street was within the City's industrial park, and parking was prohibited by City ordinance throughout the entirety of the industrial park. Lucas Pichler again reiterated that the specific business's zoning permit required all customer parking to be on site. Caleb Manske advised that he did not believe this request was a safety concern, but more of a zoning issue and/or a request for a concession; therefore, he did not believe it was the Safety Commission's role to decide on this request. There was agreement from other members of the Safety Commission, but no additional discussion.

MOTION: Motion to take no action

VOTE: Motion by: Board Member English
Second by: Alderperson Kroupa
Motion Passed 8-0

H. 24-7: Alderman Stribl (on behalf of multiple residents) has requested evaluating the intersection of Michelle Witmer Memorial Drive and Library Lane to determine if a four-way stop sign is warranted.

Lucas Pichler presented an overview of the request, as well as a crash pin map from 2000 – 2023. Pichler also provided traffic study data from the intersection of Michelle Witmer Memorial Drive and Library Lane, which was collected in May 2023, as well as a stop sign warrant analysis. Pichler noted that there had been four crashes within the intersection, and several additional nearby crashes, between 2000 – 2023. Pichler also noted that the traffic study data indicated that additional stop signs were not warranted at time.

Pichler advised that nothing had changed with the intersection but noted that there was construction on National Avenue and that the New Berlin Activities and Recreation Center had opened. Pichler further advised that there had been no additional crashes since the request for the stop sign analysis, in 2022; however, the Safety Commission had previously discussed adding "Cross Traffic Does Not Stop" signs on Library Lane. There was additional discussion about trimming trees, if deemed necessary, but no additional discussion regarding this request.

MOTION: Motion to take the following action:

1. Install "Cross Traffic Does Not Stop" signs on Library Lane, based on engineering guidance
2. Trim trees, if deemed necessary
3. Not conduct an additional traffic study, based on the 2023 traffic study data

VOTE: Motion by: Board Member Lataille
Second by: Alderperson Kroupa
Motion Passed 8-0

I. 24-8: A resident has requested an evaluation of 149th Street, between Cleveland Avenue and Janice Place, to determine if the installation of speed humps is warranted.

Anne Detlaff spoke about the request for speed humps on 149th Street, between Cleveland Avenue and Janice Place, or the installation of a dead end at 149th Street and Dakota Street. Detlaff advised that 149th Street had become a "cut through" for vehicles traveling throughout the City, and that there was not only a significant traffic volume concern, but a speeding concern as well. Detlaff also noted that there had been crashes on 149th Street, which included vehicles that had flipped, and countless "close calls" with pedestrians/children. Detlaff indicated she had made a similar request for the installation of speed humps in 2020, and that traffic volume had only increased since then.

Tammy Simonson explained the City's policy/process for speed hump installation, which included data collection, the installation of temporary speed humps first, and approval from at least 50% of the affected residents. Simonson further added that conducting a traffic study would be the first step of this process. Lucas Pichler also commented on the idea of the installation of a dead end, noting that it was not an option, specifically because of the number of residences. There was also a comment made about residential roundabouts, but no additional discussion.

MOTION: Motion to conduct a traffic study on 149th Street

VOTE: Motion by: Alderperson Kroupa
Second by: Board Member English
Motion Passed 8-0

Citizens providing comments on this issue:

Anne Detlaff, 2795 S. 149th Street

- J. 24-9:** Alderman Horbinski (on behalf of a citizen) has requested an evaluation of the intersection of Sunny Slope Drive and Linfield Drive to determine if a four-way stop sign is warranted.

Tammy Simonson presented an overview of the request, as well as a crash pin map from 2000 – 2023. Simonson noted that there had been three crashes at the intersection between 2000 – 2023.

Simonson advised that although Sunny Slope Road had significant traffic volume, Linfield Road was not a major traffic artery. Simonson added that Cold Spring Road, which was nearby, had significantly more traffic volume and that that intersection was also controlled by a stop sign. Simonson advised that based on the known factors of the intersection of Sunny Slope Road and Linfield Drive, there was nothing that would prompt the Engineering Department to consider conducting a traffic study. There was no additional discussion regarding this request.

MOTION: Motion to take no action

VOTE: Motion by: Staff Designee Rocklewitz
Second by: Alderperson Kroupa
Motion Passed 8-0

5. OLD BUSINESS

- A.** None

6. TABLED ITEMS

- A. 23-16:** A resident has requested stop signs be added at both intersections of Hunter Lane and Forest Point Blvd. **(Tabled for traffic study)**

MOTION: Motion to Take item from table

VOTE: Motion by: Assistant City Engineer Pichler
Second by: Alderperson Kroupa
Motion Passed 8-0

Pichler presented traffic study data, which was collected in April 2024, and provided an overview of the data. Pichler also provided two Two-Way Stop/Yield Guidelines recommendations. Pichler explained that he utilized the data collected and entered it into a Two-Way Stop/Yield Guidelines analysis program to determine if stop signs were warranted at either intersection. Pichler advised that based on the program's recommendations, stop signs (and yield signs) were not recommended for either intersection of Hunter Lane and Forest Point Blvd. There was no additional discussion regarding this item.

MOTION: Motion to take no action

VOTE: Motion by: Board Member Lataille
Second by: Alderperson Kroupa
Motion Passed 8-0

- B. 23-18:** A resident has expressed concerns about speeding vehicles on Church Drive. The resident has requested consideration for the installation of speed humps. **(Tabled for traffic study)**
Item not discussed

- C. **23-19:** A resident from 1725 S. Elm Grove Road has requested signs be added in the area to attempt to limit traffic and/or alert drivers of an at-risk child in the area. (**Tabled for information gathering**)
Item not discussed

7. SET MEETING DATE

- A. Wednesday, July 10th, 2024

8. ADJOURN

MOTION: Motion to Adjourn at 7:57 PM

VOTE: Motion by: Board Member Lataille
 Second by: Commissioner Manske
 Motion Passed 8-0

Respectfully Submitted,
Captain Dave Rocklewitz, Safety Commission Secretary