

CITY OF NEWARK
Newark, Delaware

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING
November 16, 2010
5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Chief Paul Tiernan, Lt. George Stanko, Carol Houck, Rich Lapointe, Marvin Howard, Tom Parkins

Absent: Dave Gula

Guests: Weifeng Mao, University of Delaware student
Qian Zhao, University of Delaware student
Eddin Aluaravo, University of Delaware student

1. REQUEST FOR A CROSSWALK ON ACADEMY STREET IN FRONT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE SMYTH HALL BUILDING.

Chief Tiernan said an email was received from Ms. Lauren Aro a University of Delaware student. Chief Tiernan said Ms. Aro said there is only one crosswalk near Perkins and many pedestrians jaywalk at this location. Ms. Aro believes if a crosswalk was installed at this location it provide more safety for the pedestrians. Ms. Aro also feels it is inconvenient for pedestrians at the south green that want to cross the road to access public safety, housing or Perkins garage.

Lt. Stanko said crosswalks currently exist at Perkins, Lovett Avenue, Courtney Street and Park Place and does not feel there is a need for an additional crosswalk at this location.

MOTION BY LT. STANKO, SECONDED BY MARVIN HOWARD TO DENY THE CROSSWALK ON ACADEMY STREET IN FRONT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE SMYTH HALL BUILDING.

MOTION PASSED. VOTE: 6 TO 0.

2. REQUEST TO INSTALL A BRIDGE HEIGHT SIGN ON THE N. CHAPEL STREET BRIDGE COMING FROM PAPER MILL ROAD.

Mr. Aluaravo is concerned that the crosswalk signal is lit signaling to pedestrians it is safe to cross Paper Mill Road when at the same time traffic on Cleveland Avenue has a green arrow to turn right onto Paper Mill Road. As a result, Mr. Aluaravo is concerned for pedestrian safety at this location.

Carol Houck said as part of the Pomeroy Trail project design this intersection will be incorporated in the improvements that will be forthcoming. Carol Houck said the City anticipates these improvements to go out for contract within the next three months. Carol Houck requested Mr. Aluaravo's email address and will forward a copy of the plan.

Lt. Stanko said an average of one to two vehicles a month hit the bridge. Lt. Stanko said in the northbound direction there is a sign with a blinking light warning motorists the vehicle is too high. Lt. Stanko said in the southbound direction the sign is not visible. Rich Lapointe said from the southbound direction the sign is located on the telephone pole on the left side. Lt. Stanko said the request is for a sign that is visible.

Carol Houck said she believes this agenda item should have been communicated between the departments and was not necessary for the committee to review.

Lt. Stanko said permission may need to be obtained from CSX railroad. Chief Tiernan inquired if the sign and blinking light would need to be requested through the Delaware Department of Transportation. Rich Lapointe suggested obtaining the most recent accident information and send a letter to the Delaware Department of Transportation to request a sign and blinking light for the southbound direction.

MOTION BY RICH LAPOINTE, SECONDED BY CAROL HOUCK, TO SEND A LETTER TO DELDOT WITH THE ACCIDENT HISTORY TO REQUEST A BRIDGE HEIGHT SIGN WITH A BLINKING LIGHT BE INSTALLED IN THE SOUTHBOUND DIRECTION ON N. CHAPEL STREET.

MOTION PASSED. VOTE: 6 TO 0

3. REQUEST TO INSTALL "NO RIGHT TURN ON RED" SIGNS ON WESTBOUND EAST MAIN STREET AT CHAPEL STREET AND SOUTHBOUND NORTH CHAPEL STREET AT MAIN STREET.

Chief Tiernan clarified that currently "No Right Turn on Red" signs currently exist at these locations however the request is to relocate the signs to a more visible location.

Lt. Stanko said the alderman initiated this request. Lt. Stanko said the manual states a "No Turn on Red" sign should be located near the signal head. Lt. Stanko said the sign on southbound N. Chapel Street is currently located on the right behind a pole. Lt. Stanko said the code only requires one sign near the signal head. Rich Lapointe said another location that needs to be corrected is heading east on Delaware Avenue at Academy Street.

MOTION BY LT. STANKO, SECONDED BY RICH LAPOINTE, TO SEND A LETTER TO DELDOT REQUESTING THE "NO RIGHT TURN ON RED" SIGNS BE RELOCATED NEAR THE SIGNAL HEAD AT WESTBOUND EAST MAIN STREET AT CHAPEL STREET, SOUTHBOUND NORTH CHAPEL STREET AT MAIN STREET AND EASTBOUND DELAWARE AVENUE AT ACADEMY STREET.

MOTION PASSED. VOTE: 6 TO 0.

There being no further business, Chief Tiernan called for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION BY MARVIN HOWARD, SECONDED BY LT. STANKO, TO ADJOURN.

MOTION PASSED. VOTE: 6 TO 0.


Paul M. Tiernan, Chairman