

CITY OF NEWARK
Newark, Delaware

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING
June 16, 2015
3:30 p.m.

Members Present: D.C. Feeney, Lt. Fred Nelson, Tom Coleman, Dave Gula,
Tom Parkins

Absent: Andrew Haines
Marvin Howard

1. REQUEST FOR PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS AT THE INTERSECTION OF APPLE ROAD AND W. PARK PLACE.

Lt. Nelson said this item was a request from a citizen. The concern is a conflict with pedestrians crossing W. Park Place from the south side of W. Park Place to the north side with vehicles turning left. Lt. Nelson agrees would be difficult during certain times of the day.

Tom Coleman said he believes that a pedestrian signal at this location wouldn't meet the warrants for a traffic control device. He said this issue is currently in the Transportation plan to review for traffic calming. Tom Coleman made a suggestion to have Public Works take a closer look at the intersection to see if a pedestrian signal or alternative traffic calming measures would be beneficial.

MOTION BY TOM COLEMAN, SECONDED BY LT. NELSON, TO FURTHER STUDY THE INTERSECTION AND MOVE FORWARD TO INCLUDE IN A FUTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN.

MOTION PASSED. VOTE: 5 TO 0.

2. REQUEST FOR A HANDICAP PARKING SPACE IN FRONT OF 300 B DELAWARE CIRCLE.

Lt. Nelson said he didn't speak to the resident directly. The request was received by our Records Division.

Lt. Nelson said he is not sure if this can be done by the city if this is private property. Lt. Nelson said the spaces are not marked. Tom Coleman said this is plowed by the City of Newark and is within the right of way.

Tom Coleman said his main concern would be that when the handicap individual leaves the handicap space will remain designated as handicap with the potential to not revert back to a non-designated handicap space.

Lt. Feeney said he would like to see that the request be granted. Dave Gula asked if verification would necessary prior to approving the request. Lt. Feeney said it could be verified by a handicap parking permit.

MOTION BY TOM PARKINS, SECONDED BY DAVE GULA, DESIGNATE A HANDICAP PARKING SPACE IN FRONT OF 300 B DELAWARE CIRCLE ONCE VERIFIED.

MOTION PASSED. VOTE: 5 TO 0.

New Business:

Lt. Nelson said the West Branch Civic Association was concerned regarding cars making left turns on Cleveland Avenue crossing the double yellow line to make left turns into the dealerships. They feel this causes a backup of traffic and an increased risk for collisions. The civic association is requesting signage in the area preventing left turns in this area. D.C. Feeney doesn't believe it would be possible to prohibit left turns on Cleveland Avenue. Tom Coleman said one solution would be one lane each direction with a turn lane in the middle. Tom Coleman said this stretch of road is now the most dangerous stretch of road within the State of Delaware. As a result, Cleveland Avenue has moved to the top priority on DeIDOT's list to review. D.C. Feeney asked Lt. Nelson to respond back to the civic association that Cleveland Avenue will be reviewed by DeIDOT.

Lt. Nelson said the West Branch Civic Association is concerned about the pedestrian crosswalk at Cleveland Avenue and Wilbur Street. They feel the signage and lighting is poor creating a hazardous condition for pedestrians and motorists. The civic association recommends a blinking yellow light or additional lighting in the area. Tom Coleman said he would discuss crosswalk lighting options with the Electric Department. Tom Coleman said he wouldn't recommend a blinking yellow light at this location at this time. There has been discussion to shift eastbound traffic into the parking area and remove parking on the street to allow space in the middle of the street for a pedestrian refuge island.

MOTION BY TOM COLEMAN, SECONDED BY DAVE GULA FOR PUBLIC WORKS TO REVIEW ON STREET PARKING NEAR CROSSWALK AND DISCUSS STREET LIGHTS WITH THE ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT.

MOTION PASSED. VOTE: 5 TO 0.

Dave Gula said he had the opportunity to speak with Alan Silverman, Planning Commission member that has many concerns regarding transportation issues. Dave Gula requested for Mr. Silverman bring the items to his councilmember for the request to be reviewed by the Traffic Committee.

Mr. Silverman inquired in regard to the projects within the Transportation Plan.

Old Business:

Tom Parkins asked if the pedestrian crossing on Main Street is still on schedule for this summer. Tom Coleman said he believes this is still on schedule to begin this summer.

Tom Parkins asked if the College and Delaware Avenue will begin soon. D.C. Feeney said that work has already began.

Tom Parkins said he is still concerned regarding the traffic improvements at Kirkwood Highway and Cleveland Avenue. He said the timing cycle from Woodlawn Avenue is much too short. Tom Coleman said this was forwarded to DelDOT to review for a timing adjustment.

Tom Parkins asked if there is signage to put on Cleveland Avenue to show the lanes. Tom Coleman agrees that signage would be beneficial in addition to lane markings.


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Kevin Feeney, Chairman