

CITY OF NEWARK
Newark, Delaware

Traffic Committee Meeting
June 21, 2016
3:30 p.m.

Members Present: DC Kevin Feeney, Sgt. Curtis Davis, Andrew Haines, Tom Coleman, Marvin Howard

Absent: Dave Gula

Guests: Marge Hadden, Councilmember

1. Request to designate the north side of Sunset Road between Townsend Road and Beverly Roads as “No Parking Anytime”.

DC Feeney said a petition was signed by the residents. Councilmember Hadden said in the past the curb was painted yellow on this side of the street. Councilmember Hadden received a request from a resident from the property owner that fronts the street to have it changed to “No Parking Anytime” Special Permit required with no times. Councilmember Hadden said it causes the resident some distress when vehicles are parked in front of her home for an extended period of time. Councilmember Hadden did obtain additional signatures from additional residents even though the additional signatures weren’t required for this request. Councilmember Hadden said currently vehicles are permitted to park here on evenings and weekends.

Sgt. Davis said the code under Section 20-215, specifies no parking on Sunset Road the south side from South College Avenue to Apple Road and on the north side from South College Avenue to Orchard Road and from Beverly Road to Apple Road. Sgt. Davis said it appears this is the only block that is not currently restricted under this section. Mr. Coleman feels it was an oversight that it wasn’t included.

Mr. Coleman said he believes Orchard Road to Townsend Road is also missing. Sgt. Davis suggested this section be included as well considering there would be no opposition with no homes that front this section. Mr. Haines agreed it should be included in order to establish consistency.

Mr. Parkins mentioned if the resident moved would the committee be supporting the request for the resident or for uniformity. Councilmember Hadden said she supports the request for uniformity as there are no other houses that front the road and would allow parking for the residents on the street. Mr. Coleman said in the event the resident moves, the next resident could always petition to have it removed.

Motion by Sgt. Davis, seconded by Mr. Coleman, to designate the north side of Sunset Road be extended from S. College Avenue to Apple Road under code 20-215.

Motion Passed. Vote: 5 to 0.

2. Request for a stop sign at the intersection of Devon and Alexandria Drives.

DC Feeney said this item was received from a resident. Mr. Coleman said no traffic control currently exists at this intersection. Mr. Coleman said most developments built in the 1950's-1960's did not have controlled intersections and it was expected motorists would follow the right of way. Mr. Coleman said it becomes difficult at t-intersection as the motorist on the through assumes they have the right of way, when in fact the person to the right has the right of way.

Mr. Haines said if it is approved for this location should all intersections with no traffic control be upgraded. Mr. Coleman said every stop sign requires an ordinance change as well as the cost associated for stop sign maintenance. Mr. Coleman said each sign costs approximately \$250 as has an expected life of approximately 7 to 10 years.

Mr. Haines asked if there is any funding through the Department of Transportation or public safety grants from a retrofit perspective to upgrade older neighborhoods. DC Feeney said there is no crash history to report. Mr. Coleman said Public Works could perform a signal warrant to determine if a signal is warranted. Mr. Parkins feels that not only one location should be upgraded, and an entire neighborhood should be upgraded for consistency. DC Feeney suggested a comprehensive neighborhood evaluation be performed to determine if they are warranted first. Mr. Parkins feels resources should be considered prior making the determination to upgrade an entire neighborhood.

Motion by Mr. Haines, seconded by Mr. Howard, to deny the request for a stop sign at the intersection of Devon and Alexandria Drives.

Motion Passed. Vote: 5 to 0.

3. Request from the Newark Housing Authority for additional handicapped parking spaces on Independence Circle.


Mr. Coleman said to his knowledge Independence Circle is one of the only locations that has parking spaces inside the public right of way. Mr. Coleman said the request is to convert regular spaces to handicapped parking spaces. Mr. Haines said there are six on left and seven spaces on right. Mr. Haines said van accessible parking spaces could be added on the top left block. Mr. Coleman said the Newark Housing Authority requested one handicapped space on each of the three sides. Mr. Coleman said the Newark Housing Authority mentioned that if they has to lose a space they may withdraw their request for the additional handicapped spaces.

Motion by Mr. Haines, seconded by Mr. Coleman, to approve up to three handicapped spaces as approved by Ethan Robinson, ADA Coordinator for the City of Newark.

Motion Passed. Vote: 5 to 0.

Old Business:

Mr. Parkins asked if the Main Street crosswalk is on schedule. Mr. Coleman said it should be completed July 2016.



Kevin Feeney, Chairman