

CITY OF NEWARK
Newark, Delaware

Traffic Committee Meeting
November 21, 2017
3:30 p.m.

Members Present: DC Mark Farrall, Andrew Haines, Tim Filasky, Tom Parkins, Dave Gula

Absent: Lt. Dennis Aniunas
Marvin Howard

Guest: M/Cpl. Paul Keld

1. Review the speed study on Hidden Valley Drive due to a speeding concern.

DC Farrall stated that speed surveys were conducted on both Farmhouse road and Hidden Valley Drive. One study was performed on Farmhouse Road approximately 425 feet off of Nottingham Road and the other study was performed on Hidden Valley Drive approximately 750 feet west of Farmhouse Road. The data in both locations was collected for two weeks.

On Farmhouse Road, there was a total of 6,341 vehicles recorded and all except for 22 vehicles were traveling below 35 mph. The fastest recorded speed was 43 mph and the 85th percentile speed was 27.3 mph. On Hidden Valley Drive, a total of 3,625 vehicles were recorded and all except for 74 vehicles were traveling below 35 mph. Of the 74 vehicles traveling in excess of 35 mph, 21 vehicles were traveling 35.1-35.9 mph. The fastest recorded speed was 47 mph and the 85th percentile speed was 29.3 mph.

Sgt. Davis performed a further analysis and found there was no significant pattern of violations. When no pattern is found, the resources to conduct enforcement would not be beneficial.

In July, the message board was displayed reminding residents of the posted speed limit.

One concern with the results of the speed study, is the 85th percentile speed was 29 mph and that 85% of the vehicles were traveling 29 mph instead of 25 mph.

DC Farrall said installing speed bumps would create issues for the fire trucks and snow plowing operations.

Mr. Filasky suggested notifying the residents on the committee's vote on the requested item. DC Farrall said Cpl. Walker and Ms. Bachman will work drafting a letter to mail to the residents.

Motion by Mr. Gula, seconded by Mr. Haines, to deny the request for traffic calming on Hidden Valley Drive.

Motion Passed: Unanimous

Vote: 5 to 0

2. Review responses received by property owners in considering the request to designate New Street as a special residential parking district.

3. Review request to eliminate parking on the west side of Center Street

DC Farrall said as both agenda items are related they would be discussed simultaneously.

A total of twenty-three (23) letters were mailed to property owners within the parking district. A total of five (5) responses were received. There was no opposition received in designating New Street as a special residential parking district. Mr. Haines asked if the committee was aware of any adverse opinions received. DC Farrall said there didn't appear to be from the responses.

DC Farrall added this would benefit the residents within the parking district if the parking was open to help alleviate the parking issues on Center Street.

Motion by Mr. Haines, seconded by Mr. Gula, to approve Agenda Item #2 and Agenda Item #3 as submitted to eliminate parking on the west side of Center Street and add parking on the south side of New Street.

Motion Passed: Unanimous

Vote: 5 to 0

4. Review responses received by property owners in considering the request to eliminate parking on the east side of Annabelle Street.

This item was requested by Mr. Alan Schweizer, Newark landlord. This item was tabled from the previous meeting to provide notice to property owners on Annabelle Street.

A total of fifteen (15) letters were mailed to property owners. Two (2) property owners were opposed.

DC Farrall mentioned if parking was reduced to the west side only the entire street would become permit parking only.

DC Farrall said from January 2012 to September 2017 there have been four (4) collisions on Annabelle Street. One collision was criminal, one side swipe collision, one backing collision and another collision unknown.

Mr. Parkins asked what generated this request to eliminate parking. Mr. Haines said Mr. Schweizer wanted to eliminate parking in front of his three properties. Mr. Parkins is of the opinion it seems to be more of a congestion issue. Mr. Haines agreed.

Motion by Mr. Gula, seconded by Mr. Haines, to deny the request to eliminate parking on the east side of Annabelle Street.

Motion Passed: Unanimous

Vote: 5 to 0

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Mark Farrall, Chairman

Any supporting documents pertaining to this meeting will be held on file at the police department.