

URBANA TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
Tuesday, October 1, 2002

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Milton Otto, City Council Member  
Joe Smith, Senior Civil Engineer  
Eddie Adair, Chief of Police

OTHERS PRESENT:

Shawn Crowley, Parking Enforcement  
Susan Taylor, 606 West Michigan Avenue  
Barbara Bair, 206 West Iowa Street  
Rick Levine, SuperValu, 2611 North Lincoln Avenue  
Bill Meier, Pastor, Twin City Bible Church, 806 West Michigan Avenue  
Dean Papajohn, 1004 East Mumford Drive

The meeting began at 4:10 p.m.

**Additions to the agenda:**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Eddie Adair moved to accept the minutes. Joe Smith seconded the motion.  
The Commission voted 3-0 to approve the minutes from September 3, 2002 as read.

**Item #1 - Discussion of semi-trailer truck parking on Lincoln Avenue.**

Eddie Adair stated that there was a legitimate concern with trucks cueing along Lincoln Avenue to make deliveries at Super Valu. He noted that the lot along the east side of Lincoln had previously been used for overnight parking, but it had been recently leased to a trucking firm for their use so there was no other area nearby for parking.

Rick Levine from Super Valu explained that their company had sent a memo to all trucking firms with whom they do business to clarify their policy to allow trucks to enter their facility one hour prior to and up to one hour following their scheduled delivery time. He added that the memo stated that the trucking firms were not to park along Lincoln Avenue and that doing so could result in a ticket. Mr. Levine stated that Super Value provided an area in their back lot where trucks can park during that two-hour period while waiting to load and unload. He said that Brisk Transportation Inc. had cordoned off the area on the east side of Lincoln Avenue for their own vehicles. Mr. Levine expressed further concerns about parking since a truck stop on I-57 recently closed.

Joe Smith said that the Public Works Director temporarily designated the area along Lincoln Avenue and Anthony Drive as no parking area to provide a short-term solution to the parking problem.

Eddie Adair stated that he had received complaints about truck parking on Killarney Drive since the signs were installed. He pointed out that there were rest areas along I-57 and I-74 where drivers could wait for their scheduled delivery times, even though those rest areas were outside of the city.

Joe Smith moved to eliminate parking on both sides of Lincoln Avenue between I-74 and Somer Drive.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

Joe Smith moved to eliminate parking on both sides of Anthony Drive between Luther Falls Company and the western boundary of Illinois Power Co.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

Both motion were passed 3-0. These items will go to Council for consideration.

**Item #2 - Discussion of traffic flow on Lantern Hill Drive near Smith Road.**

This item will be discussed at the December 3, 2002 Traffic Commission meeting.

**Item #3 - Discussion of the installation of yellow curbing on Vine Street from Fairlawn Drive to Michigan Avenue.**

Joe Smith explained that the Urbana School District had requested that parking be eliminated in front of the Urbana Middle School. Mr. Smith stated that the school district allowed pick up and drop off facilities within the parking lot on the north side of the middle school and the bus pick up and drop off facilities along Michigan Avenue.

Joe Smith moved to eliminate the existing loading zone and to restrict parking on the west side of Vine Street from Fairlawn Drive to Michigan Avenue from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Monday to Friday on school days.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0. This item will go to Council for consideration.

**Item #4 - Discussion of parking restrictions across from driveways at 206 West Iowa Street and 606 West Michigan Avenue.**

Barbara Bair discussed her concerns about parking across the street from her driveway entrance. She stated that she shared a driveway with her neighbor at 208 West Iowa Street and they used

her driveway to access Iowa Street when they had their cars parked in their driveway. She explained that her vehicle had sustained damage twice from vehicle entering and exiting her driveway. She indicated that there was yellow curb across from 204 West Iowa Street and asked that the City paint the curb yellow across from her driveway at 206 West Iowa Street.

Joe Smith stated that the City policy was to avoid restricting parking along the street across from driveways. Mr. Smith mentioned that parking in the West Urbana Neighborhood was very tight and the City does not restrict parking because a resident's driveway is narrow. He suggested that the resident consider widening the driveway to accommodate the turning radius of her vehicle.

Ms. Bair discussed her concern about high school students parking along the street. She questioned the new parking restrictions in the West Urbana Neighborhood. She added that there are still high school students parking along Iowa Street in the restricted area.

Milton Otto explained the purpose of the new restrictions and that the restrictions were to allow the residents in the West Urbana Neighborhood the ability to park in the neighborhood. He added that if the high school students lived in the West Urbana Neighborhood, then they would be able to park there.

Susan Taylor explained that she shared a narrow driveway and that entering and exiting her driveway was difficult when vehicles were parked across the street from her driveway.

Ms. Bair asked why the City would allow the curb to be painted yellow across from 204 West Iowa Street and not across from her residence.

Joe Smith stated that the ordinance to allow yellow curbing across from 204 West Iowa Street was passed before the City adopted a policy to avoid restricting parking across from driveways.

Milton Otto stated that this was a difficult issue. He added that parking was limited in the West Urbana Neighborhood Area. Mr. Otto said that many people want stop signs to regulate traffic in front of their homes, but they are frustrated by stop signs in the rest of the City and the same was true for parking restrictions. He explained that the City would not continue to allow yellow curbing even though they had done so in the past. Mr. Otto stated that he was opposed to painting the curb yellow across from driveways.

Chief Adair agreed that parking was congested in that area, but he deferred to the policy of the City.

No action was taken.

**Item #5 - Discussion of pedestrian traffic on Lincoln Avenue between Michigan Avenue and Nevada Street.**

Pastor Bill Meier from Twin City Bible Church discussed his concerns about pedestrians crossing Lincoln Avenue to attend church services. He stated that the University of Illinois

allowed members of the church to park in the McKinley Health Services lot and the Dorner Drive parking structure on Sundays. He requested a crosswalk on Lincoln Avenue at either Michigan Avenue or Indiana Street. He said that the church would hire a security guard to help pedestrians cross the street on Sundays.

Joe Smith stated that he and the Public Works Director, Bill Gray looked at the area. He expressed concern about pedestrians using the crosswalk if it were installed.

Pastor Meier stated that he would inform his congregation about the crosswalk and encourage them to use it.

Joe Smith stated that the best location for the crosswalk would be on Lincoln Avenue at Michigan Avenue. He stated that the church would be responsible for the installation of a ramp on Michigan Avenue, which would cost approximately \$200.

Pastor Meier stated that the church would be willing to pay for the installation of the ramp. He asked where to go to hire a security guard.

Chief Adair suggested that he contact a security company.

Pastor Meier asked when the crosswalk would be installed.

Joe Smith asked if Council could be advised of the crosswalk installation before writing a work order to have it painted.

*The minutes will be included in the packets for the Monday, October 7 Council Meeting.*

Joe Smith stated that the crosswalk would be installed within two weeks after notifying Council.

Joe Smith moved to install a crosswalk on along the north leg of Lincoln Avenue at Michigan Avenue.

Chief Adair seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

**Item #6 - Discussion of STEP report.**

Eddie Adair discussed the results of the September STEP enforcement. (See attached report.). He noted that STEP had been limited to school zones due to other demands on the Police Department.

Meeting adjourned 4:55 P.M.

The next meeting of the Urbana Traffic Commission will be on **Tuesday, December 3, 2002** at 4:00 p.m. Urbana City Building, Second Floor Conference Room, 400 South Vine, Urbana. **The November Traffic Commission meeting has been cancelled.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Stiehl  
Recording Secretary