City of Madison

Traffic Committee Minutes

May 25, 2021

Attendees: Patrick Thevenow, Jim Bartlett, David Rettig, Marsha and Michael O’Dea, Katie Rampy, John Wallace

Patrick Thevenow called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

Old business – none.

4th Street and 421 visibility

David Rettig emailed the city traffic committee a short three page report. He suggested limiting parking on 421, and/or reduction of the speed limit, and/or installation of a traffic light at Jefferson and Fourth Street and/or making Fourth Street one way westbound. Jim Bartlett stated that Eastbound isn’t as bad but also has limited visibility as well.

The mayor’s office reached out to INDOT because the state has control of Jefferson Street. IDOT emailed a recommendation to extend the painting of the current yellow curb an additional 20 ft. making the yellow marking back from the corners a total of 50 ft. in length.

Chief Wallace said he could petition the state for a stoplight to slow traffic North and South. It was noted that the previous traffic committee tried to get a light at 421 and Aulenbach. Their request was denied. Jim Bartlett made the recommendation to extend the yellow lines and send this request to the board of public works.

Jim Bartlett made a motion to have yellow curb painting on the South East corner of 421 at Fourth and that we ask Chief Wallace to make a petition to INDOT for a light at Fourth Street and 421. Seconded by Patrick Thevenow. All in favor.

900 block of Second Street and 900 block of First Street – Riverview Loft Apartments

Jim Bartlett reported that there is parallel parking on 2nd Street on both sides causing the driving lanes to be very narrow. It has been suggested to extend the one way of 2nd Street an additional block. On First Street the roadway can be even narrower. Both streets have a problem of residents parking against traffic. Chief Wallace stated that with more residents in that area congestion is expected. Katie Rampy noted that the parking lots are underutilized. Lucy stated that Rick Grote owns a business in this area and is concerned that making these streets one way could create problems for his business especially when semi delivery is involved.

Jim Bartlett recommended that the sidewalk on 1st Street that extends out towards the road at the intersection with Cragmont be painted yellow to signify no parking. There is no curb on the South side but a yellow line would also help.

Jim Bartlett made a motion to yellow line the curbs both North and South at Cragmont and 1st Street the required distance at an intersection. The motion was seconded by Lucy Dattilo. The motion carried with all in favor. A recommendation was made to contact the Riverview Loft Apartment management asking that they contact residents reminding them to park properly – not against traffic, to not park in the street or in the way of intersections.

Filmore Street – alley traffic flow by the bridge

Michael O’Dea spoke of the desire to limit traffic to local traffic and contact Google. He is also concerned about the safety of pedestrian traffic on the newly created bike path. There are 10 residential homes on this street and two way traffic presents an issue. The alley is very narrow. He didn’t know if signs will be a solution but that they could help. Patrick Thevenow said that local traffic isn’t really the problem but out of town guests following their GPS don’t know the road. Chief Wallace said their needs to be directions to the new Fairfield Inn. It was suggested to make this road one way from Harrison to Clay.

A suggestion: Baltimore Street heading South at First Street should have “do not enter” and “local traffic only” signs.

Patrick Thevenow made a motion to ask the Board of Public Works to change the flow of traffic on Filmore to one way eastbound from Harrison to Clay Street. Jim Bartlett seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.

Note:

Since the meeting Chief Wallace and Councilman Thevenow visited the Filmore area and observed traffic flow. The Mayor checked with INDOT and confirmed that a no turn sign could be placed on Harrison at Filmore as part of the bridge approach project. Wallace and Thevenow spoke to the Odea’s and everyone was in agreement to see if the sign would help. At this time the one way street option will not be persued.