

**BLOOMINGTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION
AGENDA**

May 25, 2022

**4:30 P.M. –In-person and Virtual Hybrid meeting
City Hall, Council Chambers**

Online link: <https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/87824419157>

Meeting ID: 878 2441 9157

Dial in: +1 312 626 6799, 878 2441 9157# US (Chicago)

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes – April 27, 2022
- III. Communications from Commission
- IV. Public Comment*
- V. Reports from Staff
 - A. June meeting
- VI. Old Business*
- VII. New Business*
 - A. TC-22-06: Indiana/Henderson Speed Limit review
 - B. TC-22-07: Rogers/Madison Speed Limit Review
- VIII. Traffic Inquiries
- IX. Adjournment

Next meeting – July 27, 2022

**Action Requested/Public comment prior to any vote (limited to five minutes per speaker)*

Auxiliary aids for people with disabilities are available upon request with adequate notice. Please call (812) 349-3429 or e-mail human.rights@bloomington.in.gov.

**BLOOMINGTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION
MINUTES**

April 27, 2022

**4:30 P.M. –In-person and Virtual Hybrid meeting
City Hall, Council Chambers**

Online link: <https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/87824687533>

Meeting ID: 878 2468 7533

Dial in: +1 312 626 6799, 878 2468 7533# US (Chicago)

I. Call to Order: 4:35pm

Members present: Greg Alexander, Sarah Ryterband, Ryne Shadday, David Hoff, Steven Reynolds, Andrew Cibor; Freddie Love (remote)
Staff: Beth Rosenbarger, Neil Kopper (Engineering);

II. Approval of Minutes – March 23, 2022

Ryterband moved and Hoff seconded.

Yea: Alexander, Cibor, Hoff, Reynolds, Ryterband, Love, Shadday

Minutes approved 7-0

III. Communications from Commission

Cibor noted that he and member Alexander had a discussion about the Speed Limit resolution, but it is not on the agenda today.

Alexander shared ideas about changing speed limits and ideas of change; and asked if commission members are comfortable supporting an item on the agenda when engineering or the city is not supportive of the change.

Ryterband suggested that Alexander’s idea be added to the agenda as a topic.

Hoff commented about speed limits and enforcement.

Other discussion ensued.

IV. Public Comment*-- none

V. Reports from Staff

Rosenbarger shared the status of the College/Walnut Corridor Study: staff is still working to select a consultant team.

Rosenbarger shared she accepted a new position as Assistant Director, and at some point, there will be a new staff liaison.

VI. Old Business*

A. TC-22-02: 17th Street Multiuse Path project

Neil Kopper presented for staff and summarized the project. Questions and discussion included the phasing of the project, signal changes, pedestrian countdown timers, intersection specific elements, questions about a holistic approach to intersection safety, and other items.

Ryterband moved to recommend approval of the 17th Street project to Council; Hoff seconded;
Yea: Alexander, Cibor, Hoff, Reynolds, Ryterband, Love, Shadday.
Approved 7-0

B. TC-22-04: Crosswalk projects:

Kopper presented for staff and summarized the crosswalk projects.
Ryterband moved to recommend that the Title 15 changes related to the crosswalks projects are forwarded to Council with a positive recommendation from the Traffic Commission; Cibor seconded.
Yea: Alexander, Cibor, Hoff, Reynolds, Ryterband, Love, Shadday.
Approved: 7-0

C. TC-22-05: Signal at Tapp Road and Deborah Drive

Kopper presented for staff.
Ryterband moved to recommend that the Title 15 changes related to the signal are forwarded to Council with a positive recommendation from the Traffic Commission; Hoff seconded.
Yea: Alexander, Cibor, Hoff, Reynolds, Ryterband, Love, Shadday.
Approved: 7-0

VII. New Business* - none

VIII. Traffic Inquiries - none

IX. Adjournment

Next meeting – May 25, 2022 (subject to change depending on a meeting room conflict)

**Action Requested/Public comment prior to any vote (limited to five minutes per speaker)*

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TRAFFIC COMMISSION**Case #:** TC-22-06 (Indiana/Henderson)**STAFF REPORT****Case #:** TC-22-07 (Rogers/Madison)**Date:** May 25, 2022

FROM: Neil Kopper, PE, Engineering Department**REQUEST:** Speed Limit Updates on Indiana, Henderson, Rogers, and Madison Streets

Location: Indiana Avenue (Atwater to 17th), Henderson Street (1st to Atwater), Rogers Street (Patterson to 11th), and Madison Street (11th to 17th).

Description and purpose: A Traffic Commission member previously requested a review of the existing posted speed limits on both Indiana Avenue and Rogers Street. Currently, both of these streets are posted and codified at 30mph. Staff included Henderson Street (1st to Atwater) in the evaluation of Indiana Avenue and included Madison Street (11th to 17th) in the evaluation of Rogers Street because they are continuous corridors.

The Transportation Plan lists target speeds (the operating speed for which a street is designed to achieve) for all streets to inform the design of new projects. The Plan does not provide specific guidance regarding speed limit changes to existing streets.

Historic speed limit setting practices primarily consider the existing operating speeds (typically the 85th percentile speed) on a corridor. However, there is growing awareness that this method does not consistently produce desirable outcomes in an urban context. In 2020 The National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) produced a guide titled "City Limits: Setting Safe Speed Limits on Urban Streets" which recommends that decisions regarding individual speed limits primarily consider conflict density (e.g. a street without sidewalks should generally have a low speed limit because pedestrians share space with moving motor vehicles) and activity level (e.g. a retail area with high pedestrian traffic should generally have a low speed limit).

The information below provides brief notes and documentation of staff's evaluation of these streets based on their existing characteristics, context, and adjacent land use.

Indiana Avenue/Henderson Street:

- Indiana Avenue is the border between IU campus and mixed-use downtown Bloomington, both of which generate heavy pedestrian activity.
- Retail and housing along the corridor is relatively dense with gridded streets.
- Density reduces north of 13th Street. However, this segment is relatively short before the street terminates at 17th Street.
- The majority of the corridor has existing sidewalks. Indiana Avenue between approximately 15th Street and 17th Street has no sidewalk on either side of the street.
- The corridor has no dedicated bicycle facilities.

- Henderson Street north of 1st Street and all of Indiana Avenue have a posted speed limit of 30mph.
- Henderson Street south of 1st Street has a posted speed limit of 25mph.
- All of the nearby north/south corridors in this area are 25mph (including Dunn Street, the other part of the one-way couplet).

Rogers Street /Madison Street:

- Rogers Street is located at the western edge of mixed-use downtown Bloomington and is within or bordered by mixed use downtown zoning (3rd Street to 13th Street).
- Rogers Street borders an elementary school which has a 20mph school zone (approximately 7th Street to 9th Street).
- Rogers Street and Madison Street have relatively dense retail, housing, and gridded streets between Patterson Drive and 17th Street. South of Patterson Drive the density reduces and the Transportation Street typology switches from General Urban to Neighborhood Connector. North of 17th Street the density also reduces, and the street name changes to Kinser Pike.
- The majority of the corridor has existing sidewalk.
- There is a multiuse path along the west side of Rogers Street south of Patterson Drive. North of Patterson Drive has a few short segments of striped bicycle lanes, but generally does not have dedicated bicycle facilities.
- The corridor has a posted speed limit of 30mph.

Title 15 Changes: •

Title 15 would need to be amended to update the Speed Limit in these areas.

Recommendation:

TC-22-06: Staff recommends amending Title 15 to change the speed limit on Indiana Avenue/Henderson Street between 1st Street and 17th Street from 30mph to 25mph.

TC-22-07: Staff recommends amending Title 15 to change the speed limit on Rogers Street /Madison Street between Patterson Drive and 17th Street from 30mph to 25mph.

Staff recommends that the Commission forward a Title 15 amendment for both of these changes to Council with a positive recommendation.

