

**BLOOMINGTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION
AGENDA
April 24, 2019
4:30 P.M. – COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes – 10.25.2018
- III. Public Comment
- IV. Communications from Commission
- V. Reports from Staff
 - A. Introduction + Update
- VI. Old Business
- VII. New Business
 - A. 11th Street and Fairview Avenue intersection discussion
- VIII. Traffic Inquiries
- IX. Adjournment

Next meeting – May 22, 2019

**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.

**City of Bloomington Traffic Commission Minutes
October 25, 2018 in the Council Chambers, City Hall**

Traffic Commission minutes are transcribed in a summarized outline manner. Audio recordings of the meeting are available in the Planning and Transportation Department for reference.

Attendance

Traffic Commission: Dan Backler, Colin Elliott, Chris Etter (Chair), Larry Haywood, Judy Maki, and Sarah Ryterband

Others in Attendance: Hannah Lencheck, Brian Payne (ESD), Neil Kopper (staff), and Scott Robinson (Staff)

- I. **Call to Order** (~4:40 PM)
- II. **Approval of Minutes** – July 25, 2018- Ms. Ryterband motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Elliott seconded the motion. **The motion passed 6-0.**
- III. **Public Comment** – none.
- IV. **Communications from Commission** – Mr. Backler provided an update on the Tapp and Rockport project. Ms. Ryterband speculated the Commission will need to play some roll regarding the scooter share programs that have recently launched.
- V. **Reports from Staff** – Mr. Robinson said a Title 15 amendment is scheduled to be heard by Council in December based on the Commission’s past work. The Transportation Plan is going before the Plan Commission on November 8th. Recent Crash Reports are available to review at:
<https://bloomington.in.gov/mpo/clearinghouse>
- VI. **Old Business** – none
- VII. **New Business**
 - A. **Trades District – Stop Controls and Speed Limits*** - Mr. Robinson and Mr. Payne reviewed the staff report and the request to codify speed limits and stop signs for 10th Street, Madison Street, and Trades Street. After discussion, there were no public comments. Ms. Ryterband motioned to approve the staff recommendations and Mr. Haywood seconded the motion. **The motion passed 6-0.**
 - B. **West Allen Street – Traffic Calming** – Mr.Kopper provided an overview of the traffic conditions along W. Allen Street from Patterson Drive to Adams Street and explained the topography mixed with high traffic speeds is not preferred. After discussion, Ms. Lencheck explained she works and lives in the area for several years and is very concerned about pedestrian safety. There is good transit service

and many clients visit Mothers Hubbard Cupboard. The consensus of the Commission supports staff moving forward with evaluating traffic calming techniques outside the Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program.

VIII. Traffic Inquiries – none

IX. Adjournment (~5:20 PM)

Next meeting – August 22, 2018

**Action requested*



MEMORANDUM

To: Traffic Commission
From: Neil Kopper, Interim Transportation and Traffic Engineer
Date: April 18, 2019
Re: W 11th St at N Fairview St - Intersection Stop Control

Background

The City has received multiple inquiries about the intersection of 11th Street and Fairview Street which is located just east of the railroad bridge. These inquiries have come from pedestrians concerned about their visibility while crossing the street as well as motor vehicle drivers concerned about the risk of a collision. One specific concern from motorists is that vehicles going eastbound on 11th Street and going straight through the intersection (which appears as a left turn maneuver based on the intersection's geometry) travel too fast through the curve and frequently cut into the path of oncoming westbound traffic.

Currently this intersection has a stop sign for northbound Fairview Street, a yield sign for westbound 11th Street, and no control for eastbound 11th Street (Figure 1). The intersection has unconventional geometry due to its proximity to the railroad bridge and the bridge support limits sight distance for both vehicles and pedestrians. The City does not have recent traffic volumes for this intersection, but older traffic counts indicate that volumes on 11th Street are approximately 4,000 vehicles per day and volumes on Fairview Street are approximately 700 vehicles per day.

Visibility for westbound 11th Street is limited by the bridge such that the southbound left turn onto Fairview (which appears as a straight maneuver based on the intersection's geometry) does not meet sight distance recommendations (Figure 2).

The Indiana Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) requires that "...stop signs and yield signs shall not be installed on different approaches to the same unsignalized intersection if those approaches conflict with or oppose each other." This intersection appears to violate that requirement.

This intersection does not meet MUTCD guidance for all-way stop installations based on traffic volume or crash history. However, the MUTCD also notes that all-way stop control may be beneficial at "Locations where a road user, after stopping, cannot see conflicting traffic and is not able to negotiate the intersection unless conflicting cross traffic is also required to stop...."

Recommendations

Staff recommends removing the existing yield sign and installing stop control for all three approaches to this intersection. A more detailed Title 15 amendment would be prepared if this request is forwarded to the common Council for their consideration.



Figure 1 – 11th and Fairview aerial image



Figure 2 – Photo of westbound 11th Street (taken from adjacent to yield sign, looking west)