

**CITY OF PEORIA – TRAFFIC COMMISSION
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
AGENDA
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2008
3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.**

DATES SET:

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2008 at 3:30 PM

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2009 at 3:30 PM

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2009 at 3:30 P.M

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING – To be held at Peoria City Hall, 419 Fulton Street, Room #404, Peoria, Illinois 61602. (309) 494-8549.

**CITY OF PEORIA – TRAFFIC COMMISSION
AGENDAS AND MINUTES
ISSUED BY:
JOHN HAVERHALS, CHAIRMAN
via TRAFFIC ENGINEERING, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**419 Fulton Street
(309) 494-8802**

INTERNET ADDRESS: www.ci.peoria.il.us

*CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS AN ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA SHOULD CONTACT A COMMISSION MEMBER PRIOR TO THE MEETING. ALL OTHER PUBLIC INPUT WILL BE HEARD UNDER PUBLIC COMMENT NEAR THE END OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING.

NOTE: THE ORDER IN WHICH AGENDA ITEMS ARE CONSIDERED MAY BE MOVED FORWARD OR DELAYED BY AT LEAST 2/3 VOTE OF THE COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT.

THE CITY OF PEORIA – TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETS IN REGULAR BUSINESS SESSIONS THE THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 3:30 P.M. AT CITY HALL, CONFERENCE ROOM #404, 419 FULTON STREET, PEORIA, ILLINOIS. (309) 494-8549.

NOTICES OF ANY SPECIAL MEETING ARE POSTED AT LEAST 48 HOURS PRIOR.

**CITY OF PEORIA – TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
CITY HALL, CONFERENCE ROOM #404
3:30 P.M.**

ROLL CALL

ANNOUNCEMENTS, ETC.

MINUTES

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

DATED: NOVEMBER 18, 2008

AGENDA ITEMS

ITEM NO. 1 DISCUSSION REGARDING A CITY-WIDE NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC CALMING PLAN
– SECTION #2 ACCESSIBILITY OF PLAN

ITEM NO. 2 DISCUSSION REGARDING NEWSPAPER BOXES AT BUS STOPS

ITEM NO. 3 ELECTION OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION OFFICERS

ITEM NO. 4 PROJECT UPDATES

- WASHINGTON STREET/ADAMS STREET STUDY
- SHERIDAN TRIANGLE BUSINESS DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT
- MAIN STREET TRAFFIC STUDY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENT

NEXT MEETING

ADJOURNMENT

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION



To: Traffic Commission

**From: Nick Stoffer
Acting City Engineer**

AGENDA DATE REQUESTED: November 18, 2008

ACTION REQUESTED: DISCUSSION OF A CITY-WIDE NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC CALMING PLAN, SECTION #2 ACCESSIBILITY

BACKGROUND: At the September Traffic Commission meeting the Commissioners approved staff to begin the process of developing a City-Wide neighborhood traffic calming plan to address Peoria's growing concern with speeding and cut-through traffic within neighborhoods. The process as outlined will involve the plan being developed in four sections:

- Applicability
- Accessibility
- Process
- Tool Kit

To provide the citizens of Peoria with an effective Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan the Traffic Commission will be asked to discuss these components during regular meetings, to ensure that the plan will meet the needs of neighborhood residents, emergency vehicles and other users of the roadways. When completed the entire plan will be presented to the Peoria City Council for approval.

At the October Traffic Commission meeting the first part of the neighborhood traffic calming plan "Applicability" was discussed. This discussion will be used to help determine which roadways are appropriate for inclusion into the plan. The discussion centered around which classifications of roadway are appropriate for a neighborhood plan and if minimum and maximum traffic counts should be considered. The results of this discussion will be reviewed at future meetings.

The second part of the neighborhood traffic calming plan that should be addressed is "Accessibility" into the plan. This will determine how interested citizens and neighborhoods apply for traffic calming solutions to their traffic concerns. The completed neighborhood traffic calming plan should clearly state how to apply so that a specific traffic concern will be evaluated for participation. The Traffic Commission should discuss the various methods that the public can apply to the plan, such as a letter to Public Works or a petition from the affected properties.

Research shows that applications in existing traffic calming plans are accepted from a

wide range of sources. Some cities accept applications from a single citizen, while others require a majority petition of affected property owners along the proposed traffic calming route. Staff feels that the Commission should consider the petition method as it shows initial area support and indicates a measurable traffic concern. Requests received by a single citizen would not show support or concurrence of the effected properties owners. Consideration of accepting requests from established neighborhood groups, in addition to petitions, may also be discussed.

At the next meeting the "Process" of the neighborhood traffic calming program will be discussed. This will determine how an accepted application is handled. The plan must be clear on what criteria is to be met to determine that the measureable and solvable traffic problem exists. Also the types of neighborhood involvement and/or public meetings that should be held to determine the extent of the problem and scope of the solution should be discussed.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Not known at this time.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERNS: Neighborhood concerns of cut-thought and speeding traffic will be addressed.

IMPACT IF APPROVED: The City will develop a Traffic Control Plan to meet the needs of its citizens.

IMPACT IF DENIED: NA

ALTERNATIVES: NA

REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION



To: Traffic Commission

**From: Nick Stoffer
Acting City Engineer**

AGENDA DATE REQUESTED: October 21, 2008

ACTION REQUESTED: DISCUSSION REGARDING NEWSPAPER BOXES AT BUS STOPS

BACKGROUND: Recently, complaints have been heard concerning newspaper boxes at downtown corners conflicting with accessibility to bus stops, especially for disabled users. Specifically sighted was the intersection of Jefferson Avenue and Main Street in front of the Court House, pictured below. The Traffic Commission is requested to discuss possible solutions regarding this matter.



REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION



To: Traffic Commission

**From: Nick Stoffer
Acting City Engineer**

AGENDA DATE REQUESTED: November 18, 2008

ACTION REQUESTED: ELECTION OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION OFFICIERS

The Traffic Commission, as defined in the Peoria City Code, shall elect officers for one year terms. Requested is that the Traffic Commission nominate and elect its officers for 2009. Currently the Traffic Commission officers consist of a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman.

Below is Section 28-64 from the Peoria City Code.

Sec. 28-64. Chairman; secretary; other officers.

(a) The chairman of the traffic commission shall be elected by the members for a term of one year, annually, beginning November 1, 1971.

(b) A vice-chairman and such other officers as the commission may deem necessary may be elected for terms running concurrently with that of the chairman.

(c) The secretary of the commission shall be the traffic engineer of the city and shall maintain all records of the traffic commission.

(Code 1957, § 2-111)



REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION

To: Traffic Commission Members

**From: Nick Stoffer
Acting City Engineer**

AGENDA DATE REQUESTED: November 18, 2008

ACTION REQUESTED: Update on US 24 (Washington Street/Adams Street) Study

BACKGROUND: The Traffic Commission has asked for an update on this project. The following is a summary of what is happening on this effort.

The City and IDOT have both entered into agreements with Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. to complete a study of a portion of this corridor. Since IDOT only had \$325,000 available for this work, an additional \$54,328.32 was added from the City to complete the project and separate agreements are in place. On May 27, 2008, the City Council approved this work at their meeting. Due to the need for a contract sign-off by IDOT staff in Springfield, the IDOT agreement was not signed until July.

The original scope of the work considered in 2007 for this effort was much broader than the final scope of work. Due to the costs associated with the initial scope of work the project was reduced in size to match available funds. The project, as it is currently configured, includes a review of Washington Street from I-74 south to Adams Street and Adams Street from Washington Street to I-474. This review will look at current and future traffic to determine the appropriate number of lanes and possible pavement configurations. Streetscape enhancements will be suggested along these routes. There is no work in this study along the other sections of Adams Street and Jefferson Avenue through downtown as was proposed in the initial scope of work. This review will not consider changing the current one-way streets to two-way streets. This study also does not include a review of Adams Street and Jefferson Avenue north off I-74 to War Memorial Drive.

The project includes six tasks:

- Washington Street Alternatives & Enhancements
- Adams Street Alternatives & Enhancements
- Truck Traffic Analysis
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Path
- Public Involvement
- Feasibility Report

Based on work completed through the end of September, the consultant is about 20% complete. Most of this work, to date, has involved gathering existing condition information, working on a survey to perform the truck traffic analysis and to develop a few preliminary thoughts on street configurations that need to have IDOT's input and direction prior to spending too much time going in the wrong direction. There is nothing else complete and there have been no items delivered on this project from the consultant so far in this effort.

The project will involve a Public Involvement process, which will begin after some preliminary work is completed and prepared in a form that is ready for presentation. The initial meetings will involve some preliminary ideas and the public will be able to share their ideas and thoughts on these before a final plan is selected. This process will be similar to what we recently followed on the Sheridan Road Triangle Project.

The schedule for this project was estimated based on a start date for work in early June 2008. Completion was expected by the end of May 2009. Since this effort started about a month later, due to the signing issue with IDOT, it appears work may continue through June 2009. The public participation process was anticipated to begin in mid-January (notices) with initial meetings scheduled about a month later at the end of February. It appears this effort will be delayed by about one month and start in February with meetings in March 2009.



REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION

To: Traffic Commission Members

**From: Nick Stoffer
Acting City Engineer**

AGENDA DATE REQUESTED: November 18, 2008

ACTION REQUESTED: Update Regarding Sheridan Triangle Business District Improvement Project

Full report will be submitted to the City Council on November 25, 2008.



To: Traffic Commission Members

**From: Nick Stoffer
Acting City Engineer**

AGENDA DATE REQUESTED: November 18, 2008

ACTION REQUESTED: Update Regarding Main Street Traffic Study

Full report will be submitted by the Consultant to the City Council on December 9, 2008.