

City Hall—Council Chambers, 590 40th Ave NE Monday, May 03, 2021 5:30 PM

## **AGENDA**

# NOTICE THAT THIS MEETING MAY BE CONDUCTED BY A COMBINATION OF IN PERSON AND ELECTRONIC MEANS

Following a determination by City Manager Kelli Bourgeois, and emergencies declared by the United States, The State of Minnesota, and the Columbia Heights Mayor & City Council, this meeting may, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.021, occur by a combination of in-person and electronic means. In all meeting formats, members of the public who wish to attend may do so by attending in-person, by calling 1-312-626-6799 and entering meeting ID 872 1220 2150, or by Zoom at <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87212202150">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87212202150</a> at the scheduled meeting time. For questions regarding this notice, please contact the City Clerk at (763) 706-3611.

## CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

1. Appointment of New Chairperson

### **APPROVE MINUTES**

2. Approval of October 5, 2020 Minutes

### **OLD BUSINESS**

3. Revise Stop Sign Locations on 51st Avenue Between Washington Street and Central Avenue; Add Crosswalks at the Park Entrances

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- 4. Request for No Parking During Student Arrival and Dismissal Times on the South Side of 42nd Avenue and the West Side of 4th Street for Prodeo Academy
- 5. Request for Traffic Calming Measures on Reservoir Boulevard from 37th Avenue to 40th Avenue
- 6. Request for Traffic Calming Measures on Stinson Boulevard from 45th Avenue to Silver Lake Beach Park

#### **REPORTS**

## **City Engineer**

Meeting Date and Time

**Police Chief** 

Commissioners

### **ADJOURNMENT**

### UNAPPROVED

# OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS COLUMBIA HEIGHTS TRAFFIC COMMISSION

MONDAY, October 5, 2020

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:26 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** 

Members present: Clerkin, Doty, Finkelson, Nekora, Schluender

Staff present: Kathy Young, Assistant City Engineer

Erik Johnston, Police Captain

Sue Schmidtbauer, Administrative Assistant

Council Liaison: Robert Williams (Absent)

### APPOINTMENT OF NEW CHAIRPERSON

Leonard Olson decided to not reapply to the Traffic Commission. His term ended April 1, 2020. The Traffic Commission needs to appoint a new chairperson.

Motion by Doty, seconded by Schluender, to appoint Sean Clerkin as the new chairperson of the Traffic Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Doty, seconded by Schluender, to approve the minutes of November 4, 2019 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **OTHER OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

A. REQUEST FOR STOP SIGNS AT THE INTERSECTION OF 6<sup>TH</sup> STREET AND 43<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE REQUEST FOR STOP SIGNS AT THE INTERSECTION OF 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET AND 43<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE

Ms. Katy Hahn has requested stop signs at the intersections of 6<sup>th</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Street at 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. Her concern is accidents and near misses at these intersections.

The intersection of 6<sup>th</sup> Street and 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue was reviewed by the Traffic Commission in December 2011. The request for stop signs was denied due to not meeting the MMUTCD guidelines.

On 6<sup>th</sup> Street traffic stops at 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue. On 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue traffic stops at 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Jefferson Street. Visibility at the intersection is somewhat limited on the south side due to higher ground elevations, similar to grade issues at many intersections in the city. There have been no

reported accidents at this intersection in the previous five years.

The intersection of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue has been reviewed by the Traffic Commission several times, most recently in April 2017. The request for stop signs was denied based on the topography of the intersection. The concern being that stop signs at the top of the hill would make it difficult for vehicles to stop and start up in the winter months. An "Intersection Ahead" warning sign was installed for southbound traffic on 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

On 7<sup>th</sup> Street traffic yields at 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue and stops at 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue. On 43rd Avenue traffic stops at 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Jefferson Street. The intersection is at the top of a hill. Visibility is limited for southbound traffic and westbound traffic until near the intersection; then it is good. There has been one *reported* accident at this intersection in the previous five years.

Young advised that the City is in the process of changing out street signs. The new signs are larger and are white and green making them more visible. This may help the situation because when driving westbound on 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue you can actually see the street name signs at the intersection.

Doty stated when he was there he didn't see any traffic, parked cars or issues that would be problematic, except for the hill. Captain Johnston stated he doesn't see any major concerns at this intersection. The one accident he cited was due to sleety weather conditions. Schluender stated he lives in the general area and due to the number of stop signs he doesn't feel that drivers can build up speed between intersections. Also, 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue is fairly narrow and has the hill, and is in a residential area, which he thinks causes drivers to be a little more cautious. He supports the recommended motion due to not meeting the MMUTCD guidelines.

Motion by Clerkin to deny the request for stop signs at the intersection of 6<sup>th</sup> Street and 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and at the intersection of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue due to not meeting the MMUTCD guidelines, seconded by Doty. Motion passed unanimously.

B. REVISE STOP SIGN LOCATIONS ON 51<sup>ST</sup> AVENUE BETWEEN WASHINGTON STREET AND CENTRAL AVENUE; ADD CROSSWALKS AT THE PARK ENTRANCES

Mr. Mark Matzke has requested revisions to the traffic control along 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue as well as installation of crosswalks near Sullivan Lake Park.

The first request is for a crosswalk across Washington Street at the entrance of Sullivan Park, or at a minimum, to trim the trees/shrubs adjacent to the path so pedestrians are more visible. Young advised that we have steered away from crosswalks unless they're in an area that has sidewalk. The reason being, that you are directing pedestrians into the street, not to another sidewalk or a safe refuge. As there is no sidewalk on the west side of Washington Street, the Park Department will trim the trees/shrubs to make the Park Entrance signs and pedestrians leaving the park more visible.

Mr. Matzke requested the 2-way stop at Washington Street and 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue be revised to a 4-way stop. The concern is visibility at this intersection.

Currently traffic stops on Washington Street. The topography combined with vegetation along #

north side of 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue limits visibility. Southbound vehicles on Washington Street must proceed cautiously into the intersection before crossing into the westbound traffic lane.

Young advised there are some large lilac bushes on the northeast corner of the property on the north side that do block visibility somewhat, vehicles need to inch out at the stop sign to check for cross traffic before pulling out. Her first recommendation is to contact the property owner and request to have the lilac bushes trimmed back. If the owner refuses, the City will intercede. We do have approximately 9' of right-of-way along the north side of 51st Avenue.

If a 4-way stop were to go in at Washington Street and 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue, then Mr. Matzke is requesting the 3-way stop be removed at Jefferson Street for east-west traffic. Young feels it's worthwhile for staff to study both Washington and Jefferson Streets to determine which intersection makes the most sense for traffic control.

Mr. Matzke requested the 1-way stop be revised to a 3-way stop at 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Monroe Street, and a crosswalk be added. The concern is the speed of traffic near the park.

This is a T-intersection with northbound traffic stopping at 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue. Visibility at the intersection is good. There is no sidewalk on the south side of 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue. Once again, a crosswalk would direct pedestrians into the street, not a refuge from traffic. Staff suggests installing playground warning signs on 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue for Sullivan Lake Park.

Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and Jackson Streets are all approximately 300' apart. Traffic to the park could come from any of those intersections, not necessarily just Monroe Street. Doty stated Jefferson Street and 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue has a hill and with cross traffic vehicles could not start up again. He would like to keep the three stop signs at this intersection as it's difficult to get up hills due to weather conditions.

Schluender commented on the crosswalk. Stated he understands the concern of installing a crosswalk that directs pedestrians to no landing space on the other side. He recognizes if you have mobility concerns or are not familiar with the area how you could get stuck on the other side of the However, there are two pedestrian paths coming out of the park that, even without a crosswalk, are directing pedestrians into the street. Pedestrians are still hitting the street and are clearly crossing it if they're parked along 51st Avenue, or they are heading deeper into the neighborhood by walking along the streets that these paths butt up against. He suggested a study of what it would take to install a landing area on the other side of the park, whether it's a modest stretch of sidewalk or a corner curb cut set-out that doesn't go anywhere. This is not an ideal solution but feels a crosswalk and crosswalk signs would at least slow traffic down. He would also like to see the crosswalk aligned to Monroe Street. He thinks we should study this a little more in depth before we deny the request. Finkelson agrees with examining this in more detail. Young advised that we can put in the crosswalks and the signs, but this was done on 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Jefferson Street and the crosswalks are ignored so often that now we've tried putting up "Stop for Pedestrian" signs along centerline to try to grab the drivers' attention. Schluender stated he's seen some new approaches to crosswalk painting where they're painted in 3-D so they stand out more. Young advised they have this type of crosswalk at French Park. She will get some photographs to see how they've held up over the years.

Nekora asked where the playground warning signs will be placed. Young advised they will be positioned on each side of the park, approximately 200' from the entrance. We have these signs at the majority of our parks so should add them to this one as well.

Motion by Clerkin to deny the request for 3-way stop signs at 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Monroe Street, seconded by Doty. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Clerkin to direct staff to study the intersections on 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue at both Washington Street and Jefferson Street to consider which intersection should be controlled with an all-way stop, seconded by Schluender. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Schluender to study the feasibility of a sidewalk or alternate landing area for pedestrians on the opposite side of the street for crosswalks at both Washington Street and Sullivan Drive and 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Monroe Street, including possibly aligning the end of the pedestrian path on the north side of 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue with the intersection; and to also study best practices for painting crosswalks for better driver visibility. Motion seconded by Finkelson. Motion passed unanimously.

## VII. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

None

#### VIII. REPORTS

#### A. CITY ENGINEER

As requested by owners, Disabled Parking signs have been installed at the following locations:

- 4010 4<sup>th</sup> St, Permit F29089
- 4141 4<sup>th</sup> St, Permit 1-017-995
- 1419 Parkview Ln, Permit J10787
- 4032 Washington St, Permit D56411

The City Council is requesting that the Traffic Commission choose a different night for their meetings. The City Council has meetings at 6:00 p.m. and sometimes earlier on Monday evenings. Because of this the Council Liaison is unable to attend the Traffic Commission meeting. This item will be on the next agenda.

## B. POLICE CHIEF

Captain Johnston advised they have slowed down with being proactive due to COVID but will be bringing this back up on Central Avenue due to traffic safety issues, one being a pedestrian/vehicle accident.

The 2-6 AM parking ban is scheduled to start soon. Police distribute citywide flyers regarding overnight parking warnings and postcards about the ordinance on two separate weekends in October; these are placed on vehicles parked on the street. Parking permit requests increase every year, the Police Department is trying to be reasonable with issuing.

## C. COMMISSIONERS

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Doty stated that when he was at 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Washington Street today he had the right of way but the other driver ran the stop sign so he stopped. The other driver then stopped halfway through the intersection. He cannot believe how many drivers run stop signs. He asked Captain Johnston if he's noticed this. Captain Johnston advised that if they focus on this it makes an impact, but once they stop the problem slowly creeps back up. It's a challenge to patrol all these locations and enforce violations. When they receive a complaint at a particular intersection, then they give it attention.

Doty asked the average speed of the speed sign on 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Johnston wasn't sure, he advised that sometimes they just put the speed signs out so they're visible but don't always pull a report. Doty felt it was excellent idea to put the speed sign by the school prior to school starting. Johnston advised they do try to keep them out and move them around.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motioned by Doty, seconded by Shluender to adjourn the meeting at 6:04 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Schmidtbauer Administrative Assistant





AGENDA SECTION	OLD BUSINESS
MEETING DATE	MAY 3, 2021

ITEM:	REVISE STOP SIGN LOCATIONS ON 51 <sup>ST</sup> AVENU AVENUE; ADD CROSSWALKS AT THE PARK EN	UE BETWEEN WASHINGTON STREET AND CENTRAL TRANCES
DEPARTMENT: Public Works		BY/DATE: Kathy Young/April 28, 2021

**BACKGROUND:** Mark Matzke requested revisions to the traffic control along 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue as well as installation of crosswalks near Sullivan Lake Park. Traffic Commission members requested the following items be discussed at a future meeting:

- Crosswalks at the entrances to Sullivan Lake Park on Washington Street and 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue.
- Review visibility and traffic accidents on 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue at Washington Street and Jefferson Street to consider whether the 3-way stop at Jefferson Street should be eliminated and a 4-way stop installed at Washington Street.

### WASHINGTON STREET AT SULLIVAN PARK ENTRANCE

Provide a painted crosswalk and pedestrian crossing signs on Washington Street and a pedestrian ramp on the corner of Washington Street and 51st Avenue.

There is no sidewalk on the west side of Washington Street. A crosswalk would direct pedestrians into the street, not a refuge from traffic. An alternative may be to eliminate parking on both sides of Sullivan Drive and add bike lane striping. Removal of parking requires a public hearing with nearby property owners.

### 51st AVENUE AND MONROE STREET AT SULLIVAN PARK ENTRANCE

Relocate the park trail to be across from Monroe Street, provide a pedestrian ramp on the SW corner of Monroe Street and 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue, and install a painted crosswalk with pedestrian crossing signs on 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue.

There is no sidewalk on the south side of 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue. A crosswalk would direct pedestrians into the street, not a refuge from traffic. Another concern is winter maintenance of the pedestrian ramp without other sidewalk. The proposed work at this location is not included in the 2021 budget.

Playground warning signs will be installed on 51st Avenue for Sullivan Lake Park.

WASHINGTON STREET AND JEFFFERSON STREET AT 51<sup>ST</sup> AVENUE

## Average Annual Daily Traffic Counts

The Average Annual Daily Traffic on the State Aid Streets listed below was counted in 2016:

Washington Street	53 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue to 51 <sup>st</sup> Avenue	1,250 AADT
51 <sup>st</sup> Avenue	Washington Street to Jefferson Street	1,250 AADT
51 <sup>st</sup> Avenue	Jefferson Street to Central Avenue	950 AADT
Jefferson Street	49 <sup>th</sup> Avenue to 51 <sup>st</sup> Avenue	820 AADT

Staff reviewed the visibility at each intersection. There have been two reported accidents at each intersection since 2018. Staff does not recommend stopping traffic on 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue at both Washington Street and Jefferson Street.

## Washington Street at 51st Avenue

Currently traffic stops on Washington Street. West bound cross traffic on 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue can be seen 140' to 145' from the intersection. Traffic has stopped at Jefferson Street and may be travelling at less than 30 mph.

Visibility is clear on 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue, west of Washington Street.

There have been two reported accidents at this intersection since 2018.

11/18/2018 Vehicle on 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue hit utility pole after swerving to miss southbound vehicle on Washington Street that did not stop for stop sign.

Wet, icy, snow – was a contributing factor to accident.

11/21/2019 Vehicle on Washington Street hit vehicle on 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue Sleet, hail, however, did not contribute to accident.

The topography combined with vegetation along the north side of 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue limits visibility. Southbound vehicles on Washington Street must proceed cautiously into the intersection before crossing into the west bound traffic lane. Staff has contacted the corner property owner about removing the lilacs to the property line. Public Works staff will cut the shrubs if they are not removed by the owner.

## 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue at Jefferson Street

Currently traffic stops in each direction. West bound cross traffic on 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue can be seen 225' from the intersection and east bound cross traffic can be seen 205' from the intersection.

There have been three reported accidents at this intersection since 2018.

06/17/2018 Vehicle on Jefferson Street made a right hand turn and hit parked vehicles. Weather was clear.

10/17/2018 Vehicle on Jefferson Street rear ended vehicle in front of it.

Weather was clear.

1/18/2018 Vehicle on Jefferson Street went north through the intersection and hit a shed. Weather was clear.

Driver was intoxicated.

Traffic on 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue would be approaching Jefferson Street at 30 mph. With the surrounding topography, it may be difficult for a north bound driver on Jefferson Street to stop on the hill and turn left or right unless the traffic on 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue also stops. This would be especially true during the winter months.

## **RECOMMENDED MOTION(S):**

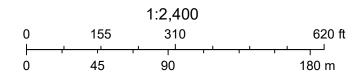
MOTION: Move to call a public hearing to designate NO PARKING on Sullivan Drive from 7<sup>th</sup> Street to Washington Street for June Traffic Commission Meeting.

MOTION: Move to maintain the 3-way STOP signs at Jefferson Street and 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue and 2-way STOP signs at Washington Street and 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue.

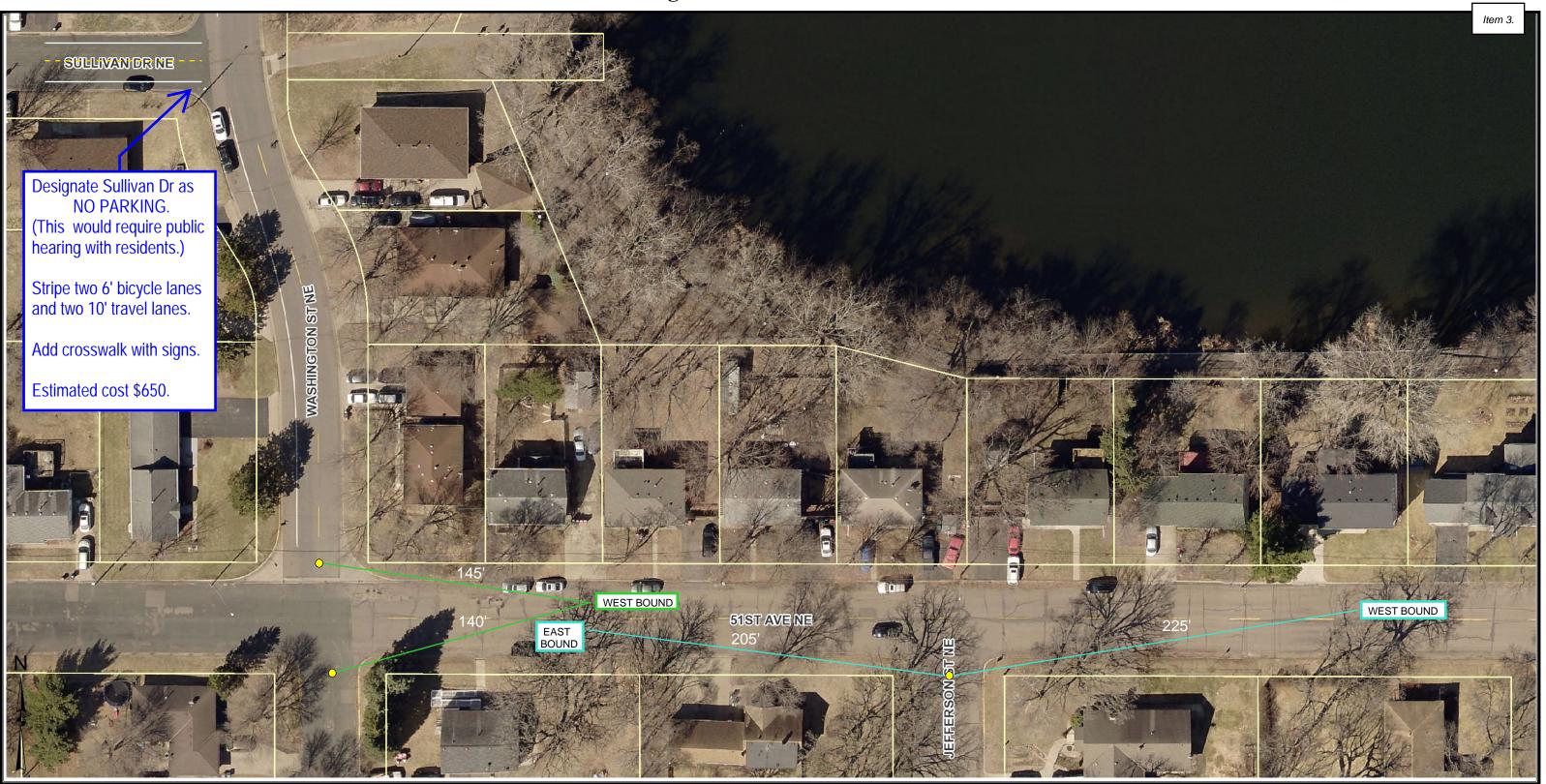
**ATTACHMENT(S):** Aerials (3)



September 22, 2020



# Washington/Jefferson and 51st Ave





**Parcel Information:** 

Approx. Acres:

Plat:

Commissioner:

Owner Information:

Anoka County GIS 1:600 Date: 4/27/2021

## **Monroe St and 51st Ave**



Parcel Information:

Approx. Acres:

Plat:

Commissioner:

**Owner Information:** 

Anoka County GIS

1:600

Date: 4/27/2021

Disclaimer: Map and parcel data are believed to be accurate, but accuracy is not guaranteed. This is not a legal document and should not be substituted for a title search, appraisal, survey, or for zoning ver





AGENDA SECTION	NEW BUSINESS	
MEETING DATE	MAY 3, 2021	

REQUEST FOR NO PARKING DURING STUDENT ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL TIMES ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF 42 <sup>ND</sup> AVENUE AND THE WEST SIDE OF 4 <sup>TH</sup> STREET FOR PRODEO ACADEMY				
DEPARTMENT: Public Works		BY/DATE: Kathy Young/April 28, 2021		

**BACKGROUND:** Christopher Elsenbast has requested NO PARKING adjacent to Prodeo Academy on the south side of 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and the west side of 4<sup>th</sup> Street from 6:00 am to 8:00 am and from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. An email from Mr. Elsenbast and an aerial showing the extent of the NO PARKING is included in the agenda packet.

## **RECOMMENDED MOTION(S):**

MOTION: Move to call a public hearing for the June Traffic Commission meeting to designate No Parking from 6:00 am to 8:00 am and from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm adjacent to Prodeo Academy; on the south side of 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE from University Avenue Service Road to 4<sup>th</sup> Street and on the west side of 4<sup>th</sup> Street NE from 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue to 493' south of 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue

**ATTACHMENT(S):** Email Request

Aerial

On Fri, Mar 12, 2021 at 2:58 PM Christopher Elsenbast <a href="mailto:christopherelsenbast@prodeoacademy.org">christopherelsenbast@prodeoacademy.org</a> wrote:

We are requesting No Parking on the west side of 4th street (the side of the road abutting our property), and we are requesting No Parking on the south side of 42nd Ave (the side of the road abutting our property).

The timeframes we would request are 6:00am - 8:00am and 1:00pm - 3:00pm for our arrival and dismissal windows.

## Chris Elsenbast

Network Director of Operations he|his 815-354-7491

4141 University Ave NE Columbia Heights, MN 55421 www.prodeoacademy.org



**Prodeo Academy** 



Parcel Information:

Approx. Acres: Commissioner:

Owner Information:



Plat:

Anoka County GIS 1:1,200 Date: 4/26/2021





AGENDA SECTION	NEW BUSINESS	
MEETING DATE	MAY 3, 2021	

	REQUEST FOR TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES ON RESERVOIR BOULEVARD FROM 37 <sup>TH</sup> AVENUE TO 40 <sup>TH</sup> AVENUE			
DEPARTMENT: Public Woks		BY/DATE: Kathy Young/April 28, 2021		

**BACKGROUND:** Carrie Gille has requested traffic calming measures on Reservoir Boulevard from 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue. The concern is traffic speed. Suggestions include reducing the speed limit, adding parking bays to narrow the street, and install flashing speed limit signs. The email is included in the agenda packet.

The information provided below is for Reservoir Boulevard from 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue. North of 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Reservoir Boulevard is Anoka County CSAH 2. The Average Annual Daily Traffic (2016) is 1,400 between 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 1,750 between 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

The City Council is reviewing the speed limit reductions in the City of Minneapolis and surrounding communities. Staff is preparing information for Council consideration on both striping for bike lanes and flashing speed limit signs.

Parking lane striping was added to Arthur Street from 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue to visually narrow the street for drivers. According to residents, this did not effectively reduce speed. In the past, physical narrowing of streets is only considered when a street rehabilitation project is done.

**ATTACHMENT(S):** Email Request

Aerial

SENT: Tue 4/6/2021 8:00 AM

## Good morning—

My family lives on Reservoir Blvd, between 40th and 39th Ave.

Speeding traffic is a big issue for those living on and using Reservoir Blvd for walking/biking. I call CHPD on a frustratingly regular basis to get the speed trap put on our street. That does help slow down traffic while the speed trap is actively visible.

The speed limit is 30mph but vehicles regularly go by over 45mph and it's not uncommon that cars go twice the speed limit (verified by the speed traps). There are lots of young families that live on this road and many pedestrians that use it for walks and to get to bus stops.

With city hall being put in at the end of Gould Ave, traffic coming up reservoir and turning onto Gould will become a bigger issue.

What can we do to get traffic slowed down on Reservoir? Can we get the speed limit reduced like it is in Mpls? Can we add parking bays to parts of Reservoir to slow traffic? Install flashing speed signs?

There are sidewalks from 37th to 41st, so that is my primary area of concern as many pedestrians use that section.

Carrie Gille

## Reservoir Blvd, 37th Ave to 40th Ave



ANOKA

**Parcel Information:** Approx. Acres: Commissioner:

Plat:

Owner Information:





AGENDA SECTION	NEW BUSINESS
MEETING DATE	MAY 3, 2021

ITEM:	REQUEST FOR TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES SILVER LAKE BEACH PARK	FIC CALMING MEASURES ON STINSON BOULEVARD FROM 45 <sup>TH</sup> AVENUE TO PARK	
DEPAR	TMENT: Public Works	BY/DATE: Kathy Young/April 28, 2021	

**BACKGROUND:** Alexis James has requested traffic calming measures on Stinson Boulevard. The concern is traffic speed combined with the amount of pedestrian traffic in the area. Suggestions include installing "current" speed signs, reducing the speed limit, and other signage on both Stinson and in the park. The email and video are included in the agenda packet.

Stinson Boulevard is 25' wide from back of curb to back of curb.

The City Council is reviewing the speed limit reductions in the City of Minneapolis and surrounding communities. Staff is preparing information for Council consideration of flashing speed limit signs.

At the park entrance, staff will replace the EXIT ONLY sign with a DO NOT ENTER sign and add reflective strips to the posts.

**ATTACHMENT(S):** Email Request

Aerials (2) Video Link

#### 4/5/2021

Columbia Heights Traffic Commission:

Attn: Jared Finkelson, Commission Member

Stacy Nekora , Commission Member Joe Schluender, Commission Member Amáda Márquez Simula, Council Liaison

C/O: Kathy Young, Assistant City Engineer – <a href="mailto:kyou@columbiaheightsmn.gov">kyou@columbiaheightsmn.gov</a>

Traffic Commission Members,

On behalf of myself and several immediate neighbots, I would like to submit the below request for consideration by the Commission Members for traffic calming within the City of Columbia Heights on Stinson Blvd NE south of 45<sup>th</sup> Ave NE down to Silver Lake Beach.

#### Request:

Residents of Stinson Blvd NE are requesting the assistance and insight from the Traffic Commission Members to help reduce the risk of accident from vehicles traveling at high rates of speed between 45<sup>th</sup> Ave NE and Silver Lake Beach on Stinson Blvd NE.

We are requesting increased traffic calming measures for this stretch of Stinson Blvd NE.

Residents have observed consistency of vehicles traveling at high rate of speed up and down Stinson Blvd NE. There is a blind crest at the top of the road near 45<sup>th</sup> and as such vehicles have limited view of approaching vehicles from the opposite direction. Furthermore, on weekends during the summer, with vehicles parked along the road there is even less visibility of pedestrians crossing the road or walking down to the beach after parking their vehicles.

Vehicles are also observed often traveling the wrong way at the south end of Stinson where it splits into two 1-way sections. Southbound vehicles are often traveling too fast to navigate the right hand turn at the turn and have to brake heavily to stop. Northbound vehicles are often observed racing up the street from the beach traveling the wrong way. It is a recipe for a head on collision.

There are several families with young children at the south end at the bottom of the hill. To add, there are many families with young children who visit the park and walk up and down the street to parked vehicles etc.

Considerations for use of increased signage, solar powered "current speed" signs, a reduced speed limit, Children at Play signs or any other modern low intrusive options available to reduce the speed of vehicles traveling north or south along Stinson Bvld NE. As a worst case scenarios, perhaps a speed bump at the south end of Stinson before it splits (south of 4320 driveway) may be a final option if the above options do not impact the problem.

We are also open to other suggestions the Commission Members may have.

Thank you, sincerely

Alexis James 4320 Stinson Blvd NE Columbia Heights, MN, 55421

612 462 9558

alexisgjames@gmail.com

alex@truemansac.com

Stinson Blvd, 45th Ave to Beach



**Parcel Information:** 

Approx. Acres: Commissioner:

**Owner Information:** 



Plat:

1:2,400 Anoka County GIS

Date: 4/26/2021





From: Alexis James
To: Kathy Young

Subject: Re: Letter to Columbia Heights Traffic Commission

**Date:** Friday, April 9, 2021 10:30:39 AM

This message originated from outside the City of Columbia Heights email system. **Use caution** when clicking hyperlinks, downloading pictures or opening attachments. If necessary, contact sender by phone. **WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT!** 

## Hi Kathy

I also made a video showing the street and the issues as I see it. Please share with the Commission.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QPgiZkNlmtM

Thank you,

Alexis

On Thu, Apr 8, 2021 at 12:28 PM Alexis James <a href="mailto:alexisgjames@gmail.com">alexisgjames@gmail.com</a>> wrote:

Hi Kathy

I spoke with you earlier in the week.

Please see attached letter drafted to the Traffic Commission.

It comes from myself and Alex Trueman (my neighbor) cc'd on this email.

Please let me know how they respond and if this will be considered.

Thanks,

Alexis

## **April 2021**

## Public Works

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	City Offices Closed- Good Friday	3
4	CANCELLED- Traffic Commission EDA Meeting Council Work Session 7 pm Public Safety Training Rm	6 Planning Commission 6 pm Council Chambers	7 Library Board Meeting 5:30 pm Community Room	8	9	10
11	12 City Council Meeting 7 pm Council Chambers	13	14	15 Sister Cities Meeting 1 pm Council Chambers Charter Commission 7 pm Zoom	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 Brushstrokes Painting Class- Active Agers 55+ 10 am-12 pm JPM- Senior Center	24
25	26 Local Board of Appeal & Equalization Meeting 6 pm Council Chambers City Council Meeting 7 pm Council Chambers	27	28 Park & Recreation Commission 5:30 pm JPM- Keyes Room	29	30 Sister Cities Tree Planting Ceremony 2 pm Lomianki Park	