



City of Florissant

Honorable Timothy J. Lowery, Mayor

****MINUTES****

MAYOR'S ADVISORY TRAFFIC COMMISSION TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

The Mayor's Advisory Traffic Commission met at the James J. Eagan Center, Room 3, on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., with Zach Schneider presiding.

Members present were: Donna Smith-Pupillo (Ward 1), Don Adams (Ward 2), Greg Keil (Ward 4), Zach Schneider (Ward 7), Dave Clasby (Ward 8) and Kim Redden (Ward 9). Also present were Lieutenant Pfaff and Officer Feldman, Police Department; Jason Timme, Street Department, and MaryAnn Fitzpatrick, Recording Clerk. Pete Fischer (Ward 6) was excused. Teri Reiter (Ward 5) and Mike Mott (Ward 3) were absent.

A quorum being present the chair declared the Traffic Commission was in session for the transaction of business.

Minutes of the May 11, 2021 meeting were approved as published. The June 8, 2021 and July 13, 2021 meetings were cancelled due to the lack of Agenda items. The August 10, 2021 meeting was cancelled due to the lack of a quorum.

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UNDER OLD BUSINESS:

All old business was addressed and dropped from the Agenda at the May 11, 2021 meeting.

UNDER NEW BUSINESS:

**09/21 REQUEST SIGNS STATING "COMMERCIAL VEHICLES PROHIBITED EXCEPT FOR LOCAL DELIVERIES" AT FRANCISCA AND LINDSAY, CORTEZ AND LINDSAY, AND MANOR AND LINDSAY
Postponed until October 12, 2021
Ward 2**

Request was made to place signs stating "Commercial Vehicles Prohibited Except for Local Deliveries" at Francisca and Lindsay, Cortez and Lindsay, and Manor and Lindsay. Zach Schneider read the email from Councilman Manganeli dated May 28, 2021. He stated that there is an issue with big box trucks and other commercial vehicles being parked in the neighborhood. Don Adams said he was very familiar with this issue. He said he has called our finest numerous times about this. He said he knows it is not a high priority on the Police Department list, and sometimes they can't get there. He said the only problem that he knows of is at 265 Francisca. He said this guy has a 24-foot box truck. He said at one point this guy was spending the night on Friday night, Saturday and Sunday, and would park his truck in the street. Don Adams said he called the police several times and sometimes they would get there while he was still there. He said it got kind of convoluted at that point. He said he is not a believer of all these warnings when people are doing something wrong. He said if you are doing something wrong, and you get called out once, that's all you need to be told. He said supposedly the police gave him a warning, but they didn't fill out a report and it didn't go into the computer. He said the

next time he called police, the police told him that they gave him a warning and they were entering it into the computer right then. He was told by the police officer that if they ever get called out to this house again for that truck, he will get a citation. Don Adams said several more times it happened and he called. He said now he is normally there between 4:00 and 6:00 in the evening or he will be there around 7:00 or 8:00 in the morning. He said sometimes he stays for a half an hour or sometimes longer. He said Florissant has a lot better things to do than to run over there and see about a stupid truck parked on the street. He said he doesn't really think the signs are needed. He said that is the only truck problem that he knows of. Donna Smith-Pupillo said she drives up and down there and she has been trying to pay attention. She said she has only seen the one on Francisca. She said she doesn't see it on Cortez and she doesn't see anything on Manor. She said she uses that route to go to work so she is back and forth all the time over there. Zack Schneider asked if they are using it as a cut-through. He was told there are trucks like UPS that go through there, but they are usually making deliveries. Donna Smith-Pupillo said that is different. This guy they are referring to has a box truck and he is parked. Zach Schneider asked if this guy lives there. Don Adams said he thinks he has a relative that lives there. He said the guy spends the night. He has seen the guy carry clothes in and out but he doesn't know what his routine is. He said it is very hard to catch him so he doesn't blame Florissant. He said this guy has a 24-foot box truck and we have a lot of trees in the neighborhood that aren't that big. He said this guy smacks trees and branches all over the place and is breaking them off when he hits them. He said that truck doesn't need to be there. Dave Clasby asked if there are ordinances against parking there. Jason Timme said these signs have an ordinance, but he thinks we are talking about two different things now. Lieutenant Pfaff said he has been getting a lot of

complaints, not specifically with Lindsay, but with Mullanphy. He said he doesn't know if it is because of the traffic on 270 or what is going on down on the bottoms, but there is a lot of tractor trailer trucks coming through. He said he has about a dozen images from some of these ring cameras with tractor trailer trucks going through. He said he doesn't know if this is specifically dealing with the tractor trailers coming through because he has gotten a lot of complaints the last two weeks about Mullanphy. He said he doesn't know if this is in reference to that. Kim Redden asked if there was an ordinance prohibiting commercial vehicles from parking overnight in a residential neighborhood. Lieutenant Pfaff said yes. It depends on the weight of the truck. It was stated that we passed an ordinance on this not too long ago. Lieutenant Pfaff said it has to do with the pounds of the truck and something to do with the plates. He said he can have the code enforcement guys look into this. He said this is all they do, so they will just keep track of that. Don Adams said it is hard to catch the guy. Lieutenant Pfaff said they come on at 6:00 in the morning and then he has some other guys between 4:00 and 6:00, so if this is an ongoing issue they can handle it. He said unless it is the big tractor trailers coming through, we already have an ordinance against commercial trucks, tractor trailers, all that stuff being in the streets. He said you can't park there. Jason Timme said what we are voting on here is these signs that prohibit you from driving through there unless you are making a delivery on that street. These signs really aren't for parking overnight. Lieutenant Pfaff agreed and said we already have an ordinance already in place. He said you really don't need signs that say no parking here because everyone should know that per ordinance. Don Adams said he called the Street Department just to verify that we had an ordinance on the books about this. He said at that point the guy was parked there Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday night, and he was there all night. He said that was in

the winter time and now it's not as often and it is just a stroke of luck to catch him.

Donna Smith-Pupillo said his truck was there last week in the evening. She said when she goes through there it is about 5:00 because she is coming home from work. She said she has not seen anything on any of the other streets, but she does notice this box truck and it is sitting on the street on Francisca. Don Adams said he hates to see the Street Department running around putting up all these signs, plus the expense of it. He thinks if this guy can be ticketed and fined it would solve the problem. Lieutenant Pfaff asked if we could table this until the next meeting. He said then he can do an investigation into this specific guy. He said he can send out a traffic officer to look into it to see if there is a lot of commercial vehicles going through Lindsay and going through Mullanphy, then maybe the sign is justified. He said right now if it is just this guy, they can take care of him, and we don't need the signs. Greg Keil said that was his question. Was this request directly related to the one individual. Don Adams said he thinks it is. Officer Pfaff said we can find out between now and next meeting.

Motion was made by Kim Redden to make a recommendation to postpone this item until the October meeting so the police can look into this a little further to see if the signs are justified.

Motion was seconded by Zach Schneider. On the roll call the commission voted:

Donna Smith-Pupillo - yes, Don Adams – yes, Greg Keil – yes, Zach Schneider – yes,

Dave Clasby – yes and Kim Redden - yes. Motion carried. Item 09/21 was postponed until the October 12, 2021 meeting.

**10/21 REQUEST REMOVAL OF NO PARKING SIGNS FROM THE WEST SIDE OF
ST. DENIS STREET ALONG SACRED HEART CHURCH
Postponed until October 12, 2021
Ward 6**

Request was made to remove the no parking signs from the west side of St. Denis Street along Sacred Heart Church. Kim Redden asked why the signs were put up in the first place. Zach Schneider said he believes they are gone already. Jason Timme said the only ones that were removed were the ones across from Hendel's. He said there was never an ordinance for those. Those were handicapped parking only. He said he believes they scrapped that ordinance. Zach Schneider said he noticed that everything across from Hendel's was gone. He asked what are we talking about here. Jason Timme said that on Sacred Heart's side, right where the kindergarten building is at Jefferson, there were two or three handicapped only parking signs there. It said no parking except handicapped parking, and that was for the church. Technically there was no parking except for handicapped parking. From that point down to St. Jean there is no parking the rest of the way, and it still is. That is what they want removed, and he has no idea why. Don Adams said he drives by there quite a bit. He said if you take the no parking signs down, obviously, we know Hendel's is going to be loading up with cars because they do a good business there. But is that going to make that street narrower. Dave Clasby said absolutely. Zach Schneider said there will be room for only one car to get through there. Jason Timme said it will be like that from St. Jean all the way down to Jefferson. It will be narrow just like Jefferson is right now. Donna Smith-Pupillo asked if he wanted the signs removed so he would have parking there for the church. Jason Timme said he doesn't know why he is requesting this or where it even came from. He said all we were told is to put this on the Traffic Commission. No real reason

why. He said we could put this off and question the Monsignor about it and see what his exact reasoning is. Dave Clasby said parking on both sides of the street is going to make that street a little bit tight. He thinks it might be a good idea to talk to the Monsignor. Jason Timme said that last month we didn't have a quorum, but there were people here who wanted to speak on it, but they couldn't make it this month. He said he will speak for them because he knows what their thoughts were. They said it would make it harder for them to pull out of their driveways if there was parking on both sides. He said people park on their side already because you can park on one side, but if there are cars on both sides, it is going to make it impossible to get in and out of their driveways. Zach Schneider said it would be similar to driving down Jefferson from St. Denis going towards Lindbergh. On a busy night at Hendel's there are cars on both sides and it can get pretty tight going through there. Greg Keil said sometimes he wonders if a firetruck could get through there. Don Adams said if you go over there at lunchtime, both sides of that street are packed. Donna Smith-Pupillo said she would like to know from the Monsignor what this is about. Don Adams said St. Denis gets quite a bit of traffic. Greg Keil said it is not like Jefferson. It is like an access for Patterson and Lindsay. Don Adams said he thinks it would be creating a problem. Dave Clasby suggested we table this until we get more information. Kim Redden said she would talk to the Monsignor. Dave Clasby said he doesn't see any reason to remove the signs to be honest. Don Adams and Kim Redden agreed.

Motion was made by Don Adams to make a recommendation to postpone this item until the October meeting so we could get more information from the Monsignor as to why he wants the signs removed. Motion was seconded by Kim Redden. On the roll call the commission voted: Donna Smith-Pupillo - yes, Don Adams – yes, Greg Keil – yes, Zach Schneider – yes,

Dave Clasby – yes and Kim Redden - yes. Motion carried. Item 10/21 was postponed until the October 12, 2021 meeting.

**11/21 REQUEST TO PLACE STOP SIGNS ON ST. JOSEPH STREET AT BOONE TO
CREATE A FOUR-WAY STOP INTERSECTION
Denied
Ward 6**

Request was made to place stop signs on St. Joseph Street at Boone to create a four-way stop intersection. Zach Schneider read the e-mail from Councilman Mulcahy, August 17, 2021, requesting the stop signs. He said he went over there and checked it out. He said we have already had this request two streets over on St. Denis and Boone. He said there was a gentleman who wanted a stop sign at every intersection. We collectively already so no to that. Secondly, why are children under the age of six in the street. They should be out of the street. Lastly, that street doesn't go all the way to Lindbergh. It ends at St. Jean, so that doesn't even make sense. Kim Redden said she went through there in different directions just so she could see what sight obstruction was in each direction. She said she did not see any obstructions. Greg Keil said he didn't see any obstructions either. Kim Redden said it seemed to be clear on all sides. She said as a matter of fact, the person that was coming down St. Joseph stopped. She said she was already stopped for the stop sign, but the other car stopped and they didn't have to. She said she thinks maybe people are being a little more mindful and are slowing down, but she didn't see any obstructions at all. She said she could see up and down the street and to the left and right and saw nothing. Donna Smith-Pupillo said we have talked about this before and stop signs are not deterrents for speeding if that is what this guy is thinking for his kids. She said we have talked

about this and the ordinances before and that is not a reason to put stop signs in. It was stated that it really doesn't meet any of the criteria for the stop sign warrant. Don Adams said he thinks that putting in stop signs is just going to give these kids a false sense of security. They think if they have stop signs now they don't have to get out of the street. They think its okay. He said as we all know, stop signs and even stop lights, don't really mean too much anymore. Kim Redden said people think they are just suggestions. He said the stop signs are not meant to control speeds. Officer Feldman said he just wants to clarify this. Boone Street has a stop sign at St. Joseph, Clark has a stop sign at St. Joseph, N. Lafayette does as well, and North Jefferson does, but St. Joseph does not have any stop signs until you get to Jefferson. He was told no. Lafayette to New Florissant Road there are no stop signs, similar to St. Michael, St. Antoine and St. Denis. Officer Feldman said his thought is again traffic control. He said someone who is coming to that first block off of Florissant Road, traffic gets that false sense that they made that quick turn and they have a long straight-away and they don't have to stop until they get to Lafayette or Jefferson. He said he doesn't have any idea where this guy is going with this, but again, he may be thinking it would control the speeding. Zach Schneider said it is technically a two block area. Jason Timme said it is technically not, but it is. He said Brown doesn't go through. If you look at a map there is an easement for it, but it doesn't go through. It stops so it is technically One block. Greg Keil said we also had the speed monitor up on St. Antoine for awhile because we had that issue there. Officer Kieffer brought in all the statistics from that area and it did not meet the criteria then either. Jason Timme said there was not as much speeding as they thought. Officer Feldman asked if there was a stop sign at St. Joseph and Clark. Jason Timme told him no. He said from Lafayette to Florissant Road there are no stop signs, but the cross streets all

have stop signs. Officer Feldman stated that everything on the north side of St. Joseph are all dead-end streets anyway. Jason Timme said yes, except for Clark and Boone. He said in reality, there isn't much traffic going across those streets anyway. He said there may be 20 houses on the dead-end of each one maybe, so there is not a ton of traffic just crossing. He said that is probably why there was never a stop sign there before.

Motion was made by Zach Schneider to make a recommendation not to place stop signs on St. Joseph Street at Boone since it does not meet any of the criteria of the stop sign warrant.

Motion was seconded by Don Adams. On the roll call the commission voted:

Donna Smith-Pupillo - yes, Don Adams – yes, Greg Keil – yes, Zach Schneider – yes, Dave Clasby – yes and Kim Redden - yes. Motion carried. Item 11/21 was dropped from the Agenda.

MISCELLANEOUS:

There were no miscellaneous items sent to the Traffic Commission for review.

Next Traffic Commission meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

No other items were brought before the Commission this evening. The meeting was adjourned.

For the Chairman
Mayor's Advisory Traffic Commission



MaryAnn Fitzpatrick
Recording Clerk