

City of Lawrence
Traffic Safety Commission Agenda
March 3, 2008-7:00 PM
City Commission Room, City Hall

ITEM NO. 4: Consider request to establish a marked crosswalk at the intersection of Dakota Street & Louisiana Street.

Facts:

1. A recent national crosswalk study found that marking such a crosswalk does not improve the crosswalk safety.
2. Other crosswalks have been marked on Louisiana Street on the basis of a traffic calming study; however, each of those locations included a raised pedestrian refuge island.
3. There was one reported pedestrian crash in 2005 on Louisiana Street approximately half-way between 23rd Street and Dakota Street.

ACTION: Provide recommendation to the City Commission.

City of Lawrence
Traffic Safety Commission
March 3, 2008 Minutes

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Woosley presented the information provided in the staff report.

Public comment:

Carol Bowen, 403 Dakota Street: We don't expect a crosswalk to protect us from the traffic; we are asking for the crosswalk to define the area where pedestrians should be crossing; this is a major commercial area and many of us walk there.

Michael Pomes, 528 Kansas Street: I would propose that the crosswalk look like the others on Louisiana with the pedestrian refuge islands.

Commissioner Woods asked how far south of Dakota the existing crossing was; Woosley advised it was a couple of blocks.

Commissioner Hagen: Adding a crossing with islands at this location would help the one at Utah function better.

Commissioner Woods asked if there were any sidewalks on Dakota Street to the east; Woosley advised that there were not.

Commissioner Hamby: I would be concerned about putting a crosswalk there without some protection like a median refuge island.

Commissioner Woods: I'd be interested in seeing what kind of traffic we have walking in the area before we do anything.

Commissioner Hagen: Refuge islands would complete more effective traffic calming for that stretch of Louisiana which would be beneficial to other side-street traffic.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HAGEN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMITH, TO RECOMMEND ESTABLISHING A MARKED CROSSWALK TOGETHER WITH PEDESTRIAN REFUGE ISLANDS ON LOUISIANA STREET ADJACENT TO DAKOTA STREET; THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

David Woosley

From: Bowen [carolb@sunflower.com]
Sent: Sunday, January 27, 2008 4:32 PM
To: David Woosley
Cc: EddieDavalos@CBMcGrew.com
Subject: PhNA request

David, As a result of the Parkhill Neighborhood Association meeting Sunday, January 27, we are requesting a crosswalk at Dakota Street across Louisiana Street. There are many pedestrians in our neighborhood who cross Louisiana Street with difficulty to shop at The Malls. We understand that a crosswalk does not guarantee safety, but it would define where we should cross. Sidewalks leading to the crosswalk would help pedestrians navigate the terrain. Our reasons are as follows:

1. Parkhill is a very pedestrian neighborhood.
2. The Malls is an activity center across the street from the neighborhood.
3. Dakota Street functions as a collector street for vehicular and pedestrian traffic.
4. There is no defined place for pedestrians to cross from Dakota Street to The Malls.
5. Sidewalks would be a plus, but our request is really focused on a crosswalk.

Thank You,

Carol Bowen
403 Dakota Street
Lawrence, KS 66046



Louisiana St

akota St



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