

## TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION AGENDA/MINUTES – APRIL 6, 2009

ITEM NO. 2: Consider request to establish a 35MPH SPEED LIMIT on 4<sup>th</sup> Street between McDonald Drive and Maine Street.

Report:

1. 4<sup>th</sup> Street between McDonald Drive and Maine Street is classified as a 'collector' street, paved 30 feet wide with sidewalks along both sides of the street and serves as an access to Lawrence Memorial Hospital.
2. The posted speed limit on this portion of 4<sup>th</sup> Street is 30mph.
3. Traffic data collected on March 23-24 found 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile Speeds ranging from 34.2mph to 43.4mph with an average of 39.2mph. Traffic volumes ranged from approximately 3500-5000 vehicles per day.
4. Based on the 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile Speed, the posted speed limit should be 40mph; however, since this is generally a residential area, it is recommended that the speed limit not be posted over 35mph.
5. Other 'collector' streets posted 35mph include Crossgate Drive between Clinton Parkway & 27<sup>th</sup> Street; Harper Street between 19<sup>th</sup> Street & 23<sup>rd</sup> Street; Michigan Street between 2<sup>nd</sup> Street & Riverridge Road; Monterey Way between 15<sup>th</sup> Street & Peterson Road; Riverridge Road between Michigan Street & Iowa Street; and 27<sup>th</sup> Street between Crossgate Drive & Wakarusa Drive.

**ACTION: Provide recommendation to the City Commission.**

### **ITEM NO. 2:**

**Consider request to establish a 35MPH SPEED LIMIT on 4<sup>th</sup> Street between McDonald Drive and Maine Street.**

David Woosley presented the information provided in the staff report.

Public comment:

None.

Commissioner Hagen asked if posting a 35mph speed limit is likely to have an effect on the speed of traffic. Woosley advised that it is unlikely that the speed of traffic would change significantly, but it would bring more of the motorists into compliance with the speed limit.

Commissioner Novotny: Based on the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed I would support bringing more people into compliance, but would not support a 40mph speed limit due to the residential neighborhood.

Commissioner Smith: The only area I have a concern about is between Maine Street and Michigan Street; 30 seems appropriate for that.

Commissioner Woods: Based on the improvements that have been made to the street the last few years, 35 would be appropriate.

Commissioner Criqui: I travel this street daily; I feel 35 is appropriate.

Commissioner Heckler: I can not support the request; 35 may cause an increase in the speed of traffic.

Commissioner Hagen: I don't have a strong opinion one way or another.

Commissioner Ziegelmeyer: I would be in favor of increasing it to bring more people in line.

Commissioner Miller: I would support the 35, but would request a subsequent speed study approximately six months after the change.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WOODS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CRIQUI, TO RECOMMEND ESTABLISHING A 35MPH SPEED LIMIT ON 4<sup>TH</sup> STREET BETWEEN MCDONALD DRIVE AND MAINE STREET; THE MOTION CARRIED 7-1.**

**From:** Robert F. Bechtel [mailto:bojobe22@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 12, 2008 3:04 PM  
**To:** Charles Soules  
**Subject:** Discrepancies

Mr Soules,

I hope I am contacting the correct official. This about street and speed limits. East 4th from McDonald to the Hospital remains 30 miles an hour, while Monteray was increased to 35 miles an hour some time ago. Both have much traffic. Monteray has a park with numerous children and adults trying to cross Monteray (such as for sledding). It seems to me that east 4th should be increased to 35 miles an hour with less risk involved.

Thanks,

Bob Bechtel

ITEM NO. 2  
TSC 4/6/09

