

AGENDA – TSC 6/7/10

ITEM NO. 2: Consider request to establish a MID-BLOCK CROSSWALK on Kentucky Street between 12th Street & 13th Street.

Facts:

1. Kentucky Street is a one-way street, classified as a “collector” street, with two northbound lanes of traffic with a posted speed limit of 30mph.
2. Kentucky Street carries approximately 8500 vehicles per day.
3. A nation-wide survey of crosswalks found no significant difference in the crash-rate for marked vs. unmarked crosswalks under similar conditions.
4. Staff has been tracking pedestrian crashes for the past eight (8) years; during that time period, there have been no reported pedestrian crashes in this area.
5. If approved, a sidewalk and ramp would have to be constructed on the west side of the street and a ramp would have to be constructed on the east side of the street in order to separate pedestrians from vehicular traffic entering and exiting the parking lot, in addition to pavement markings, signing at the crosswalk and advance signing.

MINUTES – TSC 6/7/10

ITEM NO. 2:

Consider request to establish a MID-BLOCK CROSSWALK on Kentucky Street between 12th Street & 13th Street.

David Woosley presented the information provided in the staff report.

Commissioner Ziegelmeyer asked if city staff could do any of the work; Woosley advised that most of the work could be done by staff depending on the time frame.

Commissioner Woods asked if sidewalk ramps were a necessity; Woosley advised that is a requirement of the Americans With Disabilities Act.

Public comment:

Cris Denning, representing Saint John Catholic Church: We do have several parishioners who are blind and have to cross the street at least eight times and it can be tricky if someone doesn't meet them and help them cross.

Commissioner Woods noted that the church had provided a letter with substantial support for the crossing.

Commissioner Woods: I understand we haven't had anybody hit there, but I think it is only a matter of time.

Commissioner Woods asked how many mid-block crosswalks were in town similar to this location; Woosley advised that there were no other mid-block crosswalks only on collector streets; all the existing ones either had a raised crosswalk, pedestrian refuge islands or signals as a part of the installation.

Commissioner Harden asked what the street width was; Woosley advised that it was approximately 30 feet.

Commissioner Harden asked if signals had ever been installed for a church; Woosley advised not that he was aware of.

Commissioner Harden asked how many parking spaces were in the parking lot; a representative from Saint John's estimated about 30.

Commissioner Harden: An unmarked crosswalk is probably an inappropriate solution.

Commissioner Heckler asked Ms. Denning how she would like to proceed; Denning advised that they would leave it up to the Commission as to what the best solution would be.

Commissioner Rothrock: A crosswalk without any others controls is pointless.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HARDEN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMITH, TO RECOMMEND CONSTRUCTING A SIGNALIZED MID-BLOCK PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON KENTUCKY STREET BETWEEN 12TH STREET & 13TH STREET; THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0.



RECEIVED
 APR 27 2010
 PUBLIC WORK

April 23, 2010

Traffic Safety Commission
 City of Lawrence
 6th & Massachusetts
 Lawrence, KS 66044

Dear Traffic Safety Commission:

We are writing you to request some type of cross walk to be installed at St. John the Evangelist Church and School between 12th and 13th Streets of Kentucky Street.

St. John Church holds 7 worship services over the course of each weekend. The church also has a daily service each morning at 7:30 am. There is an average of 200 people attending each weekend service and 40 people each weekday service. Parishioners of St. John park in the parking lot on the west side of Kentucky (across the street from the church) and attempt to cross two lanes of traffic to attend services.

St. John School has a number of school parents who also use this parking lot and walk their child/ren across the street, again, attempting to cross two lanes of traffic to attend school. The preschool is of the most concern as there is not a drive through traffic pattern on our property for parents to use.





The church also hosts a number of "special events" such as weddings, funerals, socials, etc. Thus, the attempt to cross two lanes of traffic is a constant challenge.

This has been a concern for a number of years and seems to be increasingly dangerous with the increased traffic on Kentucky Street. We would leave the specifics of the type and location of the crosswalk up to the best discretion of the commission.

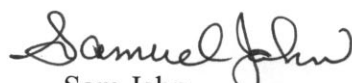

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact one of us.

Thank you for your time in considering this request.

Sincerely,





 Fr. John Schmeidler, OFM Cap Mrs. Pat Newton Cris Denning Jeff Jenicke
 Pastor Principal Operations Manager Maintenance


 Jim Benson
 Facilities Committee



 Sam Jahn Michael Kennedy
 Facilities Committee Facilities Committee

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
 1229 Vermont Street
 Lawrence, KS 66044
 Phone: 785.843.0109
 Fax: 785.749.5064

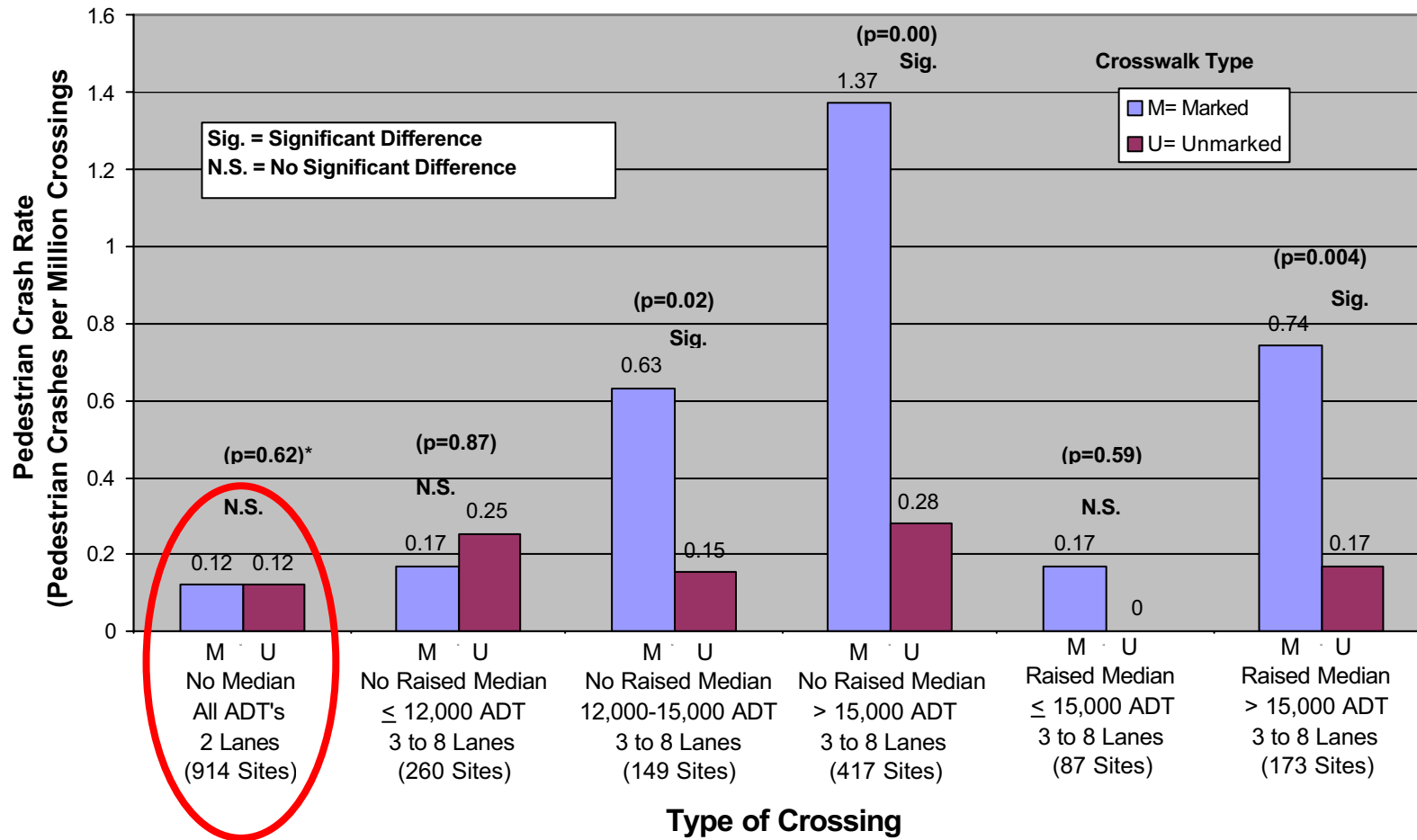
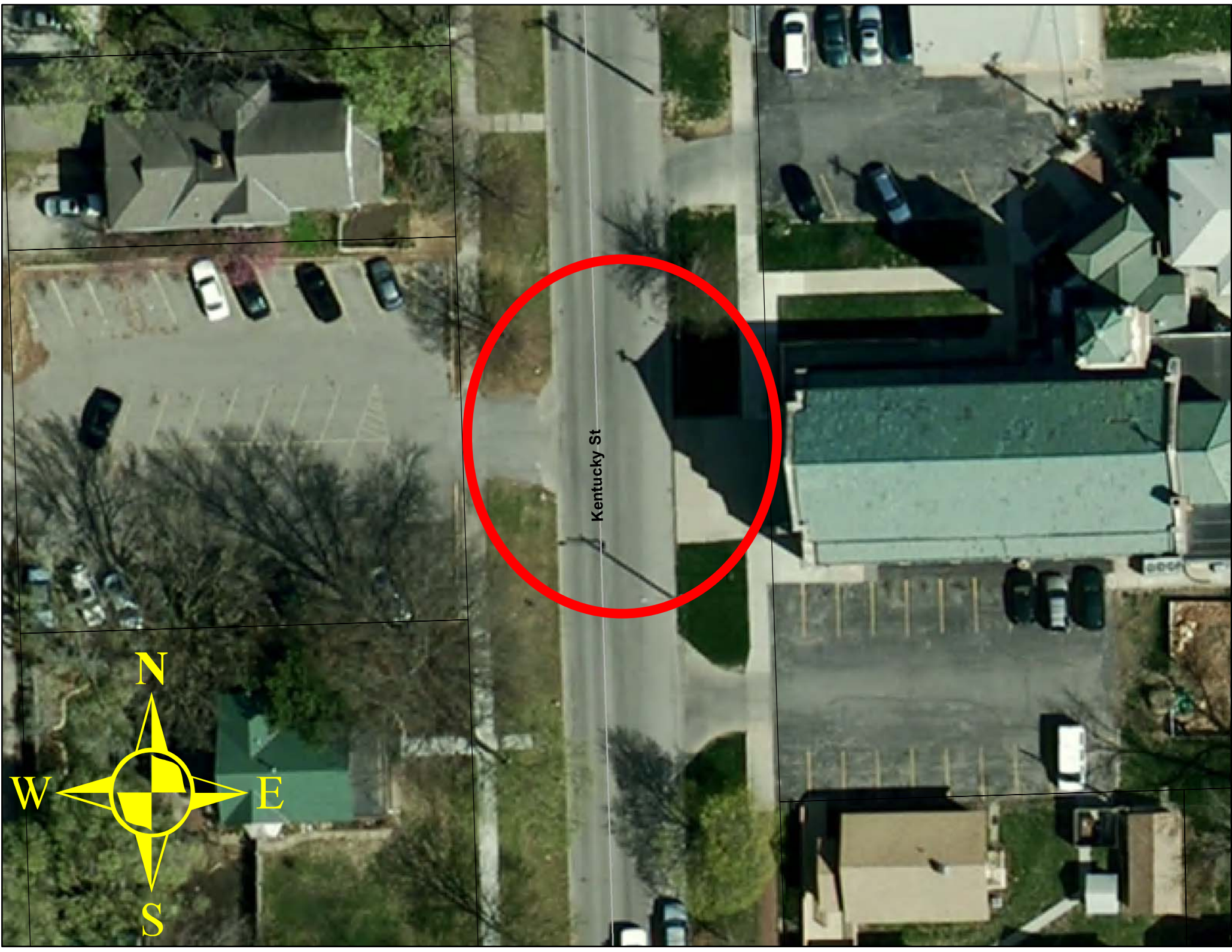


Figure 4. Pedestrian crash rate vs. type of crossing.



Kentucky St

N

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