

## **AGENDA – TSC 11/1/10**

ITEM NO. 3: Consider request to establish Rhode Island Street between 7<sup>th</sup> Street & 8<sup>th</sup> Street as a TWO-WAY Street.

Facts:

1. Rhode Island Street was established as a ONE-WAY Street northbound in 1990.
2. The Bicycle Advisory Committee requests that the street be returned to TWO-TRAFFIC in order to facilitate its use by southbound bicycles.
3. The partial diverter would be retained at the north end of the street prohibiting entrance by vehicles other than bicycles; a permanent diverter similar to the one constructed at 6<sup>th</sup> Street & Schwarz Road could be constructed at this location.

## **MINUTES – TSC 11/1/10**

### **ITEM NO. 3:**

**Consider request to establish Rhode Island Street between 7<sup>th</sup> Street & 8<sup>th</sup> Street as a TWO-WAY street.**

David Woosley presented the information provided in the staff report and noted the receipt of an e-mail from Eric Struckhoff, Chair of the Bicycle Advisory Committee (attached).

Public comment:

Tony Peterson, 724 Rhode Island: There are vehicles right now that are violating the one-way street and there is no enforcement of it not being a truck route; there are trucks that run down Rhode Island Street regularly, concrete trucks and semi's; I have a lot of concerns about having any sort of traffic running the other direction; I don't support this request at all.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HECKLER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ROTHROCK, TO RECOMMEND ESTABLISHING RHODE ISLAND STREET BETWEEN 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET & 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET TO A TWO-WAY STREET AND TO RETAIN THE PARTIAL DIVERTER AT 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET; THE MOTION CARRIED 7-1 (Ziegelmeyer: it may be too confusing).**

**David Woosley**

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**From:** Eric Struckhoff [ecs@ku.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 25, 2010 4:29 PM  
**To:** David Woosley  
**Cc:** Todd Girdler; Jessica Mortinger  
**Subject:** 700 Block of Rhode Island

David,

I'm writing to request that TSC add an agenda item considering changing the 700 block of Rhode Island to a two-way street, with further consideration given to continued restrictions on SB motor traffic.

In response to a citizen inquiry, the BAC at its September, 2010, meeting discussed the possibilities for opening the 700 block of Rhode Island--currently a one-way NB street--to SB bicycle traffic. BAC was disinclined to 1) recommend allowing transit of bicycles against the flow of motor traffic in any configuration, and 2) encourage more motor traffic on this segment.

However, the meeting led to further discussion of opening the street to two-way motor and bicycle traffic, with measures to restrict entering SB traffic, which is apparently the reason for the current one-way configuration. So, for instance, perhaps the street could be made two-way for cars while leaving the islands--with a small gap for bikes--at the north end, thus preventing SB auto traffic from entering from 7th while still allowing SB transit of bikes and egress of resident cars from either end.

BAC does not wish to encourage more motor traffic in the 700 block of RI. However, we would like TSC to consider ways to allow SB bicycle transit while preserving the benefits to residents of the current configuration. Would TSC place this matter on its agenda for consideration? Thanks.

Regards,

Eric

Eric Struckhoff  
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**City of Lawrence**  
**Lawrence – Douglas County Bicycle Advisory Committee**  
**September 21, 2010 Minutes**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Eric Struckhoff-Chair, Tyler Longpine, Becky McClure,  
Jay Bialek, Tom Jerome, Gerard Arantowicz  
MEMBERS ABSENT: Gary Calton, Neil Taylor  
STAFF PRESENT: Todd Girdler, Jessica Mortinger, Shoeb Uddin  
PUBLIC PRESENT: Becky Pepper, Aaron Fritz, Kris Norton, Dickie Hecker

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**1. Call Meeting to Order and Assurance of Quorum**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm and introductions were made. There was a quorum present.

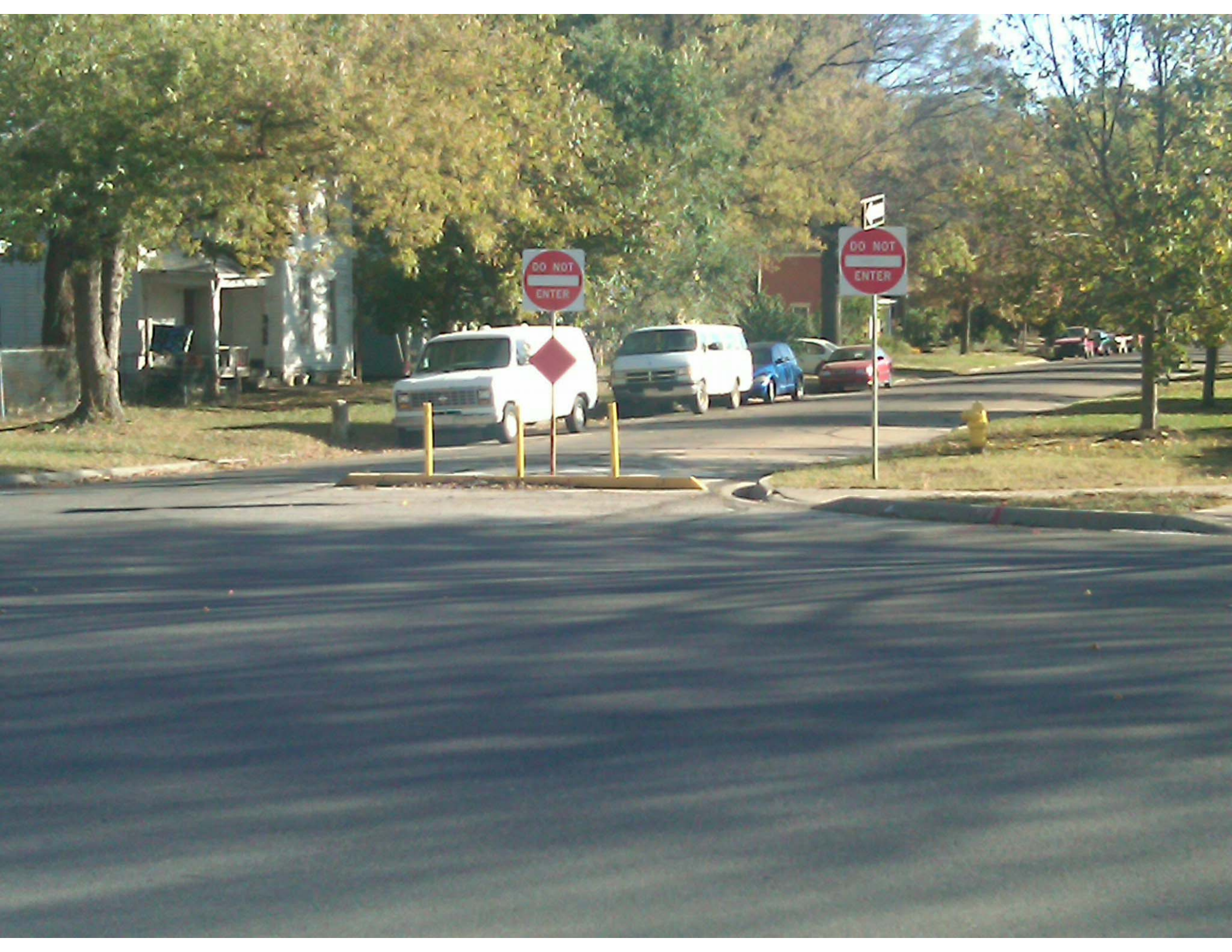
**2. Approval of the May 18, 2010, June 22, 2010 and July 20, 2010 Meeting Minutes and Notes**

A motion to approve the minutes and notes from the three previous meetings was moved by Jay Bialek, seconded by Tom Jerome and passed unanimously.

**3. Discussion Item: 15<sup>th</sup> Street and K-10 Interchange Corridor Study Input for Bicycle and Pedestrian facilities.** KDOT representatives Kris Norton and Aaron Fritz presented design options for the 15<sup>th</sup> Street and K-10 Interchange. The project is currently funded only through the preliminary design phase. KDOT has already completed a review of existing planning documents including the Transportation 2030 metropolitan transportation plan. The current design options include two variations of a diamond interchange, one with signals and one with roundabouts. The design plans call for a continuation of the bicycle facilities present in the corridor, although there are options about how to design those facilities through the interchange area. BAC committee members discussed the benefits and disadvantages to each design element and suggested that the number of points where the bicycle has to leave or re-enter the roadway should be minimized. There should be a continuous flow of travel available for the bicycle. As a result BAC members indicated that bike lanes through the interchange area would be the most desirable design. That design would also leave the sidewalks for pedestrians only who could then travel in either direction on either side of the bridge and not interfere with bicyclists.

**4. Discussion and Action Item: 700 Block of Rhode Island:** Todd Girdler explained that the roadblock and decision to make the 700 block of Rhode Island a one way was the result of the development of the Riverfront Shops & Parking Garage and the expected demand for travel in and out of that commercial site. As the demand for this movement is not as great as it used to be, the traffic control making this block one-way northbound may be unnecessary. By acclamation the BAC members recommended to forward the issue to the Traffic Safety Commission to determine the best possible design for turning this block back into two-way operation and to determine the next course of action.











Robinson Park

W 6th St

E 6th St

Riverfront Plz

New Hampshire St

Connecticut St

E 7th St

W 7th St

Massachusetts St

Rhode Island St

Connecticut St

New York St

New Jersey St

E 8th St

W 8th St

New Jersey St

E 8th St

