

AGENDA – TSC 2/7/11

ITEM NO. 4: Consider request to establish RESERVED PARKING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES in front of 1130 Emery Road.

Facts:

1. Emery Road is classified as a “local” street and is paved 25 feet wide.
2. Parking is currently prohibited along the west side of Emery Road.
3. Parking is currently prohibited along the east side of Emery Road from Stratford Road, north 207 feet; and parking is currently prohibited along the east side of Emery Road 7am-5pm Mon-Fri from 207 feet north of Stratford Road to West Hills Parkway.

MINUTES – TSC 2/7/11

ITEM NO. 4:

Consider request to establish RESERVED PARKING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES in front of 1130 Emery Road.

David Woosley presented the information provided in the staff report and noted correspondence received from Betty Alderson and Robert Casad (attached).

Commissioner Woods asked if there was a policy on a single spot handicap space; Woosley advised that this has been done at several locations in town.

Public comment:

Robert Lewis, 1105 West Hills Parkway: The area is full of students; hundreds and hundreds of students walk in this area; there are school buses; there are bicycles; it is a dangerous area; with a car parked there, you're setting-up for an accident; there are nine (9) fraternities and sororities that feed students into this area; speeding is a big problem and students often disobey the stop signs; you're asking for problems.

Scott Jenkins, 1133 Emery Road: I understand the resident's reason for making the request, but I'm very concerned about the safety of the intersection; allowing parking would push traffic closer to the sidewalk and I'm worried about the effect it would have on the safety of bicyclists, runners and students.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HARDEN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WOODS, TO RECOMMEND DENYING THE REQUEST TO ESTABLISH RESERVED PARKING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN FRONT OF 1130 EMERY ROAD; THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

In addition, the Commission recommended that Mr. Casad contact the Public Works Department to pursue construction of a recessed parking space.

From: casad@sunflower.com
To: trafficsafety@lawrenceks.org
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: parking permit
Date: Mon, 10 Jan 2011 09:29:22 -0600
Forwarded message from casad@sunflower.com

Forwarded message from casad@sunflower.com

I live at 1130 Emery Rd. We have lived here since 1967. At the time we moved here there were no parking restrictions of the east side of Emery Rd. Sometime in the late 1960s, an influential lady who lives near our neighborhood arranged to have parking removed from the east side as well as the west side of Emery Rd. My neighbor, Frank MacDonald, and I protested the total removal of parking from the east side, and we were able to modify the prohibition. The ordinance now prohibits parking from Stratford Road to the north end of our lot, and bans parking from that point north Monday thru Friday from 7 to 5.

To get to our house from our driveway requires us to climb 9 or 10 steps. That was not much of a problem for us at that time, but today I am 81 years old and climbing stairs is very difficult and painful for me. If we could arrange for parking that did not require such a climb, we would be able to stay in our house indefinitely. And so I wrote to the City's website explaining our predicament.

I asked them to refer me to the appropriate persons, and Mr McCulloch of the Planning Commission suggested you.

What I suggested was either a personal hangtag permit allowing us to park one car in front of our house on Emery Road. Our house faces a point on Emery Rd. where the road is very wide from curb to curb: it is the intersection of Emery and High Drive. If we were to park one car there it would not impede the flow of traffic on either street.

As an alternative, I suggested that we could cut the curb in front of our house and create a parking place that would not encroach on the road at all. The parking place would be in the city's right of way, but not in the roadway itself.

Neither of those alternatives would change the status quo for our neighbors.

The city planner suggested that the ordinance could be changed to remove the parking restriction up to the north end of our lot, but that alternative would affect our neighbors. We are very close to the university, and those spaces would be filled with students' cars, and would not solve our problem.

I believe temporary parking permits can be allowed under present ordinances, so I think the individual permit would be the best alternative. I have a Handicapped Parking hang tag, but I don't think that applies in a No Parking area. Given our ages, the duration of the permit would probably be short enough to qualify as "temporary." We are somewhat in the position of the owner of land on which there is a non-conforming use, which can be exempted from later zoning changes.

I ask you to consider this request. If you would like me to appear in person before the commission, I would do so.

Very truly yours,

Robert C. Casad
785-842-8120
casad@sunflower.com



W Hills Pkwy

1116 WEST HILLS PKWY

1602 HIGH DR

Oxford Rd

High Dr

1124 EMERY RD

1133 EMERY RD

1130 EMERY RD

1145 EMERY RD

1520 STRATFORD RD

1514 STRATFORD RD 1510 STRATFORD RD

Stratford Rd

Emery Rd

February 7, 2011

Lawrence Traffic Safety Commission

Agenda Item No. 4

Statement of Robert C. Casad

I will be unable to attend the meeting this evening, so I ask that this statement be read in lieu of my personal appearance.

First, I want to say that, contrary to the statement of Item 4 in the agenda, **I did not request the establishment of “reserved parking for persons with disabilities” in front of our property.** I requested a personal parking permit to permit me to park one car at the curb in front of our house. This may amount to the essentially same thing, but without the humiliation of having a sign erected to that effect. I just want a hangtag permit to enable me to avoid \$55 tickets.

As an alternative, I asked for permission to create one parking space off the roadway itself, but within the range of the city’s easement of way, as the fraternities have done for several cars a little farther north on the west side of Emery Rd. Under either alternative, our car would be put in the driveway in the evening. I am seeking only possible daytime use, as with other temporary parking permits.

Because the roadway at that point is very wide (see the aerial view attached to the agenda), neither of these alternatives would impede the flow of traffic on either Emery Rd. or High Drive. Neither alternative would affect our neighbors’ use of their own property.

My reasons for this request are stated in the letter I initially sent, which is attached to the agenda. There is no need to repeat them here.

If you cannot grant either of these requests, then I thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,

Robert C. Casad

David Woosley

From: Alderson, Betty J [adkab@ku.edu]
Sent: Sunday, February 06, 2011 6:04 PM
To: dwoolsey@ci.lawrence.ks.us
Subject: February 7 Traffice commission meeting

Dave,

I rather doubt that I will try to get out tomorrow night for the meeting. I find that I prefer to get out when the footing is a bit more predictable than it may be by evening tomorrow.

I have just reviewed the agenda items for the meeting and would make the following recommendations.

1. I do not like the idea of having these Japanese mini trucks parked all over town. I can see them as appealing to some university students and then they would be parked all over in so-called single family residential neighborhoods. There would need to be a lot of restrictions on speed, where they could be driven, and parking. Those of us living in single-family zoned areas have enough problems already with too many single individuals living in houses where there are no regulations for adequate parking places, driving over curbs and yards to park in a particular spot on a driveway. It creates a real mess.

I can support taking the additional parking off Ousdahl between 19th Street and 19th St. Terr. Those are very tight corners with the parking there now.

I can support the request from Bob Casad for a special permit for parking one car in front of their house, especially since he already has the handicap parking permit. There needs to be some consideration given to older persons who want to continue to live in their own homes and their mobility is decreased.

Thanks for sending the agenda.

Betty Alderson

David Woosley

From: Alderson, Betty J [adkab@ku.edu]
Sent: Monday, February 07, 2011 3:47 PM
To: David Woosley
Subject: Addendum

David,

In talking with a friend today about the Traffic Commission agenda items for tonight I mentioned Bob Casad's request and that I supported it. She commented that if a parking space is granted it should be clearly marked as for the use of the resident at that particular address and should have a handicap designation. Something I hadn't considered. If it would be just a marked parking space it would be tempting for anyone to use it.

I still think that I will stay in this evening just in case it begins to re-freeze in some of the walking areas.

Thanks for sending the agenda, I do appreciate that.

Betty Alderson