

BOROUGH OF WEST READING TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2016

The Borough of West Reading Traffic Committee met on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 immediately following the Infrastructure meeting. The following persons were present: Chair Christopher Lincoln, Mayor Valentin Rodriguez, Jr., Public Works Team Leader Kerry Grassley, Police Chief Stephen Powell, and Borough Secretary Cathy Hoffman.

Visitors:	B. Scott Fiegel	Resident
	Oswald Herbert	Resident

The meeting was called to order at 7:49 p.m.

400 Block of Penn Avenue

Mayor Rodriguez reported that he had met with business owners from the 400 block of Penn Avenue who are very concerned about the down turn of business due to the detour, and specifically the prohibition of left turns on Penn Avenue. As a result of the meeting, it was suggested that left turns be allowed at certain times of the day. Unfortunately, due to the inconsistency of the traffic flow, this would not be permitted. The business owners had also asked if plant basket hangers could be installed on the lamp posts along with some low voltage tree lighting that would make the area more noticeable to potential customers. It was suggested that this be discussed with the Main Street Manager.

Pedestrian Crossing at 5th and Pine

The proposed changes will cost about \$800 to complete, which include the installation of a 'piano key' crosswalk, and the removal of the 2nd crosswalk, as well as new signage. Chief Powell indicated that he might be able to find some funding if there aren't funds available in the budget for this work. **Moved** by Chief Powell and seconded by Mr. Grassley to recommend to Council the installation of a higher visibility pedestrian crosswalk at 5th and Pine. **Motion carried.**

Trucks Restrictions

The restriction of truck traffic on certain streets in the Borough was discussed again. Changes were made to the list of restricted streets, and it was noted that an advance warning sign should be placed on the southbound side of Third Avenue between Franklin and Chestnut.

It was also noted that letters will need to be sent out to businesses in the area to let them know when the new ordinance is approved and that fines will be levied for non-compliance with the new regulations. It was also suggested that a sign may need to be installed on northbound Parkview Road before the bridge to ensure that trucks do not enter the residential area.

Visibility in Alley

Chief Powell said he had spoken with a resident of Sycamore Road concerning a neighbor's hedge that prevents him from seeing traffic in the alley. This will be investigated further and an attempt made to have the resident trim their hedges.

Public Comment

Mr. Herbert complained about the difficulty he is having getting out of his driveway because of the traffic change as a result of the detour. He asked to have the double line removed on 4th Avenue and to have parking spaces removed to facilitate a better flow of traffic. This will be discussed further.

Moved by Mr. Grassley and seconded by Chief Powell to approve the Traffic Committee minutes of May 11, 2016. **Motion carried.**

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Hoffman, Borough Secretary