

A regular meeting of the Troy Traffic Committee was held Wednesday, May 18, 2022 in the Council Boardroom at Troy City Hall. Pete Ziegenfelder called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Richard Kilmer
Cindy Nurak
Al Petrulis
Sunil Sivaraman
Abi Swaminathan
Cynthia Wilsher
Pete Ziegenfelder
Tyler Koralewski, Student Representative

Absent: None

Also present: Sgt. Brian Warzecha, Police Department
Lt. Chuck Roberts, Fire Department
Paul Lukas 1850 Axtell
Vivek Kumar 1840 Axtell
Rocco Spagnuolo 4120 Cypress
Jade Nason 237 Carter
Maggie Howard 238 Carter
Catie Krebs 469 Scottsdale
Suhavi Grewal 336 Bracken
Ameen Chbihi 1966 Pelican
Caleb Miko 5348 Clearview
Heather Novetsky 1637 Oakcrest
Jefrey Fishman 1777 Axtell
Roger Ludim 1870 Axtell
Bill Huotari, City Engineer/Traffic Engineer

2. Minutes – April 20, 2022

Resolution # 2022-05-09

Moved by Kilmer

Seconded by Sivaraman

To approve the April 20, 2022 minutes as printed.

Yes: Kilmer, Nurak, Petrulis, Sivaraman, Swaminathan, Wilsher, Ziegenfelder

No: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. No Public Hearings

REGULAR BUSINESS

4. Request for Revisions to No Parking Signs – Torpey Road, east of Rochester Road

Troy PSA Buckbee requested that the existing No Parking signs on the south side of Torpey Road be reviewed as the current language is confusing and is left open to interpretation.

The north side of Torpey Road is the fire hydrant side and is posted No Parking with no limitations and applies at all times. The south side is currently posted “NO PARKING EXCEPT SUNDAYS & HOLIDAYS”. “SUNDAYS” are evident but “HOLIDAYS” is open ended and up for interpretation.

The existing No Parking signs have been in place since the early 1980’s but background information for the reason behind the language included on the signs is not available in a review of records. Current “holidays” are difficult to ascertain due to the increasing number of holidays observed.

In order to remove the ambiguity, Troy Police Department requests that the existing No Parking signs on the south side of Torpey be modified to be consistent with the language used near other schools, such as the No Parking signs on Boyd (i.e. time limited based on arrival and dismissal times on School Days Only). No parking signs on Boyd are noted as “7:15 AM – 8:15 AM and 2:00 PM – 2:45 PM, SCHOOL DAYS ONLY” based on the International Academy (IA) arrival time of 7:45 AM and dismissal time of 2:35 PM.

Baker Middle School arrival time is 8:19 AM and dismissal time is 3:03 PM.

There was no public comment on this item.

Mr. Kilmer supports the Police Department but he cannot support this item. The signs have been in place since the early 1980’s and residents have not come forward to request a change in the signs. He sees no issues on Torpey. The times he has been out there, he has seen no cars even parking on the street. He sees no reason to change the signs. Cars should be in the driveway and not in the street. Residents should support the change.

Mr. Petrulis stated that the Police Department is just looking for consistency in the No Parking signs, not the removal of no parking restrictions.

Mr. Sivaraman asked Sgt. Warzecha to clarify the Police Department request.

Sgt. Warzecha explained the “HOLIDAYS” can mean many different days to many people. The Police Department is looking for consistent signage so the public and Police Department all have the same understanding of any restrictions.

Mr. Ziegenfelder supports the change as it is clear and consistent.

Resolution # 2022-05-10

Moved by Sivaraman

Seconded by Swaminathan

RESOLVED, that the existing No Parking signs on the south side of Torpey Road, east of Rochester Road be **MODIFIED** to NO PARKING 7:45 AM – 8:45 AM and 2:30 PM – 3:30 PM, SCHOOL DAYS ONLY.

Yes: Kilmer, Nurak, Sivaraman, Swaminathan, Wilsher, Ziegenfelder

No: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

5. Request for No Parking Zone – Axtell Road at Bayberry Place Condominiums

Homestead Property Management is responsible for the Bayberry Place Condominiums on the east side of Axtell Road, north of Maple Road. The property management firm has received comments and concerns from their residents regarding vehicles parking on the east side of Axtell, near the entrance/exit to the site. These parked vehicles create a hazardous condition by limiting visibility of oncoming traffic.

The west side of Axtell Road is posted No Parking at all times due to it being the fire hydrant side of the street.

Traffic Engineering received five (5) emails in support of establishing a No Parking zone and one (1) email in opposition.

I won't be able to attend the 5/18 meeting @ 7:30p, so I just wanted to note that, following accidents some years ago, there had already been a No-Parking zone put in (some feet of yellow curb immediately preceding the site entrance when coming from Maple), but, some years later, when roadwork was done (including redoing the curbs), that yellow paint was never reapplied. Was that an oversight for a Zone that still exists or was the Zone actually removed intentionally? I'm in favor of having it, as coming out of that driveway is dangerous without that road visibility, but worse is coming in, as 1 can't see pedestrians in or near that driveway. When the zone was there, it made that possible & safe.

Ted Samuel
248-602-0833
1880 Axtell Dr #3
Bayberry Place

Good morning,

I have been an owner at Bayberry Place for the last 15 years and have been parking on Axtell for the last 3 years in front of my building, the door exiting to Axtell (1902). I realize that

this is not really your concern however there is no parking in the complex. The nearest parking spot is a half of block away from my building, there are cars just sitting there not being used because they don't start, cars park in unauthorized parking spaces, children riding their bikes in the parking lot like its a park and just a bunch of careless individuals. I prefer to park my car on Axtell. I have parked in the complex parking lot given I have owned it for 15 years and yes at times it is difficult to see pulling out however Axtell is not really a high traffic area. Its only one sided street parking and its not a ton of cars. Yes, the speed limit is 25 and I do see that people at times exceed the limit - there's always someone, however overall its fine . I personally would like a sidewalk that leads from Axtell to the street, in addition to having a light at the end of Axtell and Maple, that is where the concern should really be.

Thank you,

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Melissa M. Fernandez

Hi Mr. William J Huotari,

I see the Traffic committee meeting on May 18th, 2022 - 1890 Axtell Drive at Bayberry Place condominium agenda and support the No Parking Zone.

Reason for my support:

Every day I see cars parked very close to Bayberry Condo entrance /exit corner causing a blindspot turning left as we are to exit Bayberry near the 1890 building.

Why we need No parking Zone:

There is a very likely chance of an accident at this corner as cars race through this street at more than 40 MPH (while coming from Somerset or Maple side). parked cars create the blind spot at this corner.

Potential solution:

I am requesting at least 4 cars in length from the Bayberry condo entrance/exit corner. Assuming one car length as 15 feet, I suggest we implement 60 feet car length as no parking zone.

To support my statement - I have attached some pictures that affirm my statement and show how careless people are when they park their car at the very corner of the entrance/exit.

Thank & Regards,
Vivek Kumar

Hello Mr. Huotari,

I'm a resident of 1820 Axtell Dr, Troy, MI 48084 (Bayberry) and I'd like to provide my comments for the proposed no parking zone on Axtell.

I think due to the residents whom live near the Axtell side of the complex we need to keep

parking on Axtell. However, it's very difficult to pull out onto Axtell from the entrances due to the cars parking so close to the driveway. I propose preventing parking so close to the driveways and leaving enough space on Axtell so that drivers don't have such a difficult time pulling out of the complex. I have nearly gotten hit while pulling out numerous times. My son is a new driver and I am worried for him too. Visibility is very limited.

Thank you,
natalie nelson

Hello William, thank you for the work you do for our community. I wanted to attend the meeting this evening regarding a request for no parking zone on Axtell Drive, but my schedule will not permit.

I would like to request that the east side of Axtell Drive be made a no parking zone within at least 300 feet of 1890 Axtell Dr. There is ample parking for residents in Bayberry Place, covered and non. Often, when I am leaving the parking lot onto Axtell, there are vehicles parked on the east side very close to the entrance, making it difficult to see oncoming traffic clearly.

Some residents who park on the street regularly may need to walk a little bit further to their vehicles if parking in a new location, but this will keep the roadway clear of any obstructions and allow for greater visibility for those turning onto Axtell.

I encourage you to adopt this measure and thank you for your consideration.

Scott Fink
1924 Axtell Dr, Troy, MI 48084

Mr. Vivek Kumar of 1840 Axtell was at the meeting and stated that vehicles park too close to the entrances to the development. These parked cars obstruct the visibility of traffic on Axtell and pedestrians along the sidewalk. There is parking for the development in the parking lot but some residents choose to park along Axtell as it is closer to their unit. The south entrance is also the school bus stop and the school bus currently has to stop in the middle of the road to pick up students due to the parked cars along the curb at the southerly entrance.

Mr. Roger Ludim of 1870 Axtell stated that vehicles drive at high speeds on Axtell and you can't see them coming due to the close proximity of the parked vehicles. He stated that there are 50-75 children in the complex. He would like to see a No Parking zone that provides enough space for the school bus to be able to pull up next to the curb at the southerly entrance.

Ms. Nurak stated that parking along Axtell has always been a problem.

Resolution # 2022-05-11
Moved by Sivaraman
Seconded by Nurak

RESOLVED, that a No Parking zone be **ESTABLISHED** on the east side of Axtell Road between the southerly entrance to Bayberry Place Condominiums to a point fifty (50) feet to the south; between the southerly entrance to Bayberry Place Condominiums to a point fifty (50) feet to the north; and the northerly entrance to Bayberry Place Condominiums to a point fifty (50) feet to the south.

Yes: Kilmer, Nurak, Petrulis, Sivaraman, Swaminathan, Wilsher, Ziegenfelder
No: None
Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

6. Request for Traffic Control – Brook Hollow Drive at Lamb Road

Traffic Committee member Kilmer requests that the intersection of Brook Hollow Drive at Lamb Road be reviewed for purposes of traffic control at the intersection. He stated that the lack of traffic control signage creates a hazardous situation for drivers and pedestrians.

Traffic Engineering received two (2) emails in support of establishing a No Parking zone and no emails in opposition.

Hello Mr William,

This Venkateswarlu Inturi residing at 1270 Lamb Dr Troy. Due to another schedule, I am not able to make it to the meeting on May 18 2022. We are witnessing lot of vehicles going above 25mph and I think it will put pedestrians and kids waiting for School bus (This junction is Larson School Bus stop), riding bikes under risk. I would request you to put a STOP sign at BrookHollow and Lamb Dr Interaction.

Thanks & Regards
Venkateswarlu Inturi

Hello,

My family resides at 1281 Lamb Dr., almost directly across from the exit/entrance to Brook Hollow. I would like to comment on the proposal for a Stop Sign to be installed at this intersection on Brook Hollow. We have had many incidents where we are backing out of our driveway and a vehicle is coming out of Brook Hollow at the same time. Typically, the vehicle coming out of Brook Hollow tries to speed up and get past us before we complete our exit from our property. There is a definite blind spot for us as we are baking out and the people exiting are not yielding to us at all. Last year a driver was exiting from Brook Hollow and ran into our mailbox and completely broke the wood post holding the mailbox. The young driver said he momentarily lost control as he was making the left turn out of Brook Hollow. We had to replace the mailbox. Lamb Drive continues to have an increase in traffic due to new housing at Rochester Road and on Brook Hollow. In addition, Lamb Road is used as an approach to both Costello Elementary School and as a back entrance to drop off students attending Athens High School, via Rockfield (off of Eleanor).

I was very surprised that the City of Troy did not install a stop sign when the subdivision was built. It basically allows the drivers exiting from Brook Hollow freedom to speed up and try to make their turn as traffic is approaching. There are more children and teenagers living on both Lamb Drive and Brook Hollow. Since the sidewalks are not contiguous on Lamb Drive, many people walk and bicycle in the street. For the safety of all children at the bus stop at Lamb and Brook Hollow, as well as bicyclists and walkers, it is essential that the Traffic Committee install a stop sign at this intersection.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Berger
Marvin Correia
1281 Lamb Dr

Ms. Nurak stated that this is a t-intersection and a sign would remind motorists who has the right-of-way.

Mr. Ziegenfelder stated that he supports stop signs at intersections.

Ms. Wilsher agreed that stop signs are the best.

Ms. Swaminathan is concerned that if a Yield sign is placed it may need to be replaced with a Stop sign in the near future.

Resolution # 2022-05-12
Moved by Kilmer
Seconded by Sivaraman

RESOLVED, that the intersection of Brook Hollow Drive at Lamb Road be **MODIFIED** from NO traffic control to a STOP sign on the Brook Hollow Drive approach to the intersection.

Yes: Kilmer, Petrulis, Sivaraman, Swaminathan, Wilsher, Ziegenfelder
No: Nurak
Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

7. Request for Traffic Control – Eleanor Avenue at Rockfield Avenue

Traffic Committee member Kilmer requests that the intersection of Eleanor Avenue at Rockfield Avenue be reviewed for purposes of traffic control at the intersection. He stated that the lack of traffic control signage creates a hazardous situation for drivers and pedestrians.

Traffic Engineering received no emails in support of the request and one (1) email in opposition.

I would like to express my opinion about a possible stop sign at Eleanor and Rockfield. I'm

completely against it. We don't need one there at all. I don't notice speeding on Eleanor, if that's the purpose and I live on Eleanor. If any sign at all, maybe a yield sign but don't really feel that's necessary either. Eleanor is a short street and it certainly doesn't need a stop sign in the middle of it! Thank you, Ann Hanson

Mr. Kilmer stated that the request he made came via a resident in the area.

Mr. Petrulis pointed out that the only resident input that the Traffic Committee received is in opposition to the request.

Mr. Ziegenfelder clarified that the request would be for a Stop sign on Rockfield.

Mr. Nurak stated that she would prefer a Yield sign.

Resolution # 2022-05-13

Moved by Kilmer

Seconded by Petrulis

RESOLVED, that the intersection of Eleanor Avenue at Rockfield Avenue be **MODIFIED** from NO traffic control to a STOP sign on the Rockfield Avenue approach to the intersection.

Yes: Kilmer, Petrulis, Sivaraman, Swaminathan, Wilsher, Ziegenfelder

No: Nurak

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

8. Request for Traffic Control – Carter Avenue at Virgilia Avenue

Jade Nason of 237 Carter Avenue requests that the intersection of Carter Avenue at Virgilia Avenue be reviewed for purposes of ALL-WAY STOP at the intersection. Virgilia Avenue is controlled by Stop signs on the northbound and southbound approaches to Carter Avenue.

Ms. Nason stated that the intersection to the south (Carter Avenue at Lange Avenue) is an ALL-WAY STOP and is a mirror image of Carter Avenue at Virgilia Avenue. She added that Carter Avenue at Virgilia Avenue is the bus stop location and she is concerned about the children in the road waiting for the bus.

Traffic Engineering received five (5) emails and two (2) calls in support of the request and no emails in opposition.

To whom it may concern:

I want to express my full support for a four way stop at the intersection of Carter and Virgilia. I personally live at that intersection (238 Carter) and see daily, the need for a stop sign. I have lived here for seven years and have witnessed how a stop sign would be beneficial. This neighborhood (myself included) has many children and active adults that enjoy being out and about. We do not have sidewalks or street lights and an extra stop

sign would ensure some extra safety for all. I have seen people blow through the current stop sign and I have seen a car accident at this intersection as well. This intersection is also a bus stop for the middle school as well as the high school.

The safety of this neighborhood and it's residents should be taken into consideration when reviewing the option for a four way stop.

Thank you for your time,

Maggie Howard

Good afternoon,

I am writing today to request stop signs to be installed at the corner of Carter and Virgilia. The middle school bus stop is at that corner. In the winter, it is still dark outside when the kids are walking to the bus. A stop sign is necessary to slow traffic down from potentially hitting a child on the way to their bus stop. We do not have street lights and it's difficult to see some mornings. Our neighborhood does not have sidewalks and there is no choice but to walk in the street. I hope you will consider installing stop signs to help keep pedestrians safer in our neighborhood.

Thank you

Erika Herron
364 Paragon Dr.

I would like to add my support for making this intersection a 4 way stop. The additional stop signs on Carter would be consistent with the Lange/Virginia intersection. I think this would be a safer situation. I live on Paragon and drive this route multiple times a week.

Thanks for considering this.

John Eagan
109 Paragon Dr

Hello,

Our neighbors are speaking at the meeting tonight and I wanted to reiterate the importance of a stop sign at the intersection of Carter and Virgilia. As a resident in this area, we can attest that this intersection is not safe for those in our neighborhood. It is a busy intersection just one street off the main road, and many cars cut through this way during rush hour traffic. Additionally, it's a spot for multiple bus stops and is located dead center in our neighborhood, so it's a busy area for those out for walks and bike rides with their family. There are no sidewalks nearby, so all residents are forced to walk in the street. As a mother of three young boys, it is nerve-wracking to ride our bikes around this intersection because of how unpredictable the cars are as well as the speed they drive down the road. A stop sign would drastically cut down on many of these issues.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cody Schwartz

442 Paragon

My name is Tom Howard and I would like to express my support for a four way stop at the intersection of Virgilia and Carter. We have 2 children who like to ride bikes and as careful as they are, a second stop sign would help ensure their safety. We also have quite a few elderly neighbors who enjoy walking, but this neighborhood does not have sidewalks (or street lights). We also get quite a bit of cut through traffic at times and a four way stop would help with the recklessness that I have seen. This intersection is also a location for two separate Troy school bus stops which is a cause for concern. There's many children that wait for the bus here and walk home from this stop.

Thank you,

Tom Howard (238 Carter Dr.)

Traffic Engineering received a call from Martha Curry at 201 Carter in support of a Yield sign at the Carter Avenue at Virgilia Avenue intersection.

Ms. Curry stated that she has lived at her home for 53 years, about 300' from the intersection.

She added that there are small children in this area and feels Stop signs would be appropriate at the intersection to help control traffic.

Traffic Engineering received a call from Edith Marson at 212 Carter in support of a Stop sign at the Carter Avenue at Virgilia Avenue intersection.

Ms. Marson stated that she lives in the 2nd home from the corner.

She added that she is all for Stop signs at the intersection.

Ms. Jade Nason of 237 Carter discussed the need for ALL-WAY STOP at this intersection. She stated that it is for safety as there are no sidewalks or street lights in their subdivision and residents are very active. There are two (2) bus stops at this intersection. Many young children in the area. It is dark in the morning when children are walking to the bus stop. There is also cut-through traffic when the major roads get backed up. The intersection to the south is an ALL-WAY STOP and she feels Carter at Virgilia is a mirror image and should also be an ALL-WAY STOP.

Ms. Nurak supports ALL-WAY STOP at this intersection.

Mr. Petrulis stated that he supports Stop signs on Virgilia as-is.

Ms. Nurak added that the Safe Approach Speed was near 10 mph.

Resolution # 2022-05-14

Moved by Wilsher

Seconded by Swaminathan

RESOLVED, that the intersection of Carter Avenue at Virgilia Avenue be **MODIFIED** from Stop control on the Virgilia Avenue approaches to ALL-WAY STOP control at the intersection of Carter Avenue at Virgilia Avenue.

Yes: Kilmer, Nurak, Sivaraman, Swaminathan, Wilsher, Ziegenfelder
No: Petrulis
Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

9. Request for Traffic Control – Oakcrest Drive at Highland Drive

Heather Novetsky of 1637 Oakcrest Drive requests that the intersection of Oakcrest Drive at Highland Drive be reviewed for purposes of traffic control. She states that the lack of traffic control is creating a hazardous condition. Ms. Novetsky added that the intersection is a bus stop and she is concerned about the children in the road waiting for the bus.

Traffic Engineering received one (1) email in support of the request and no emails in opposition.

Hello,

I received a notice in the mail regarding a request from a resident for a stop sign at Highland and Oakcrest. I do believe it would be a good idea to have a stop sign at this intersection as there is a bus stop right there. Also cars seem to sometimes go to the end of Highland and turn onto Oakcrest without really stopping. Oakcrest is a pretty busy street at this intersection so it seems like it would help for everyone's safety.

Thank you,

Dori Scott
3803 Highland

Ms. Novetsky of 1637 Oakcrest Drive stated that this intersection is the bus stop. There is currently no signage at the intersection. Children have to cross the road to get to or from the school bus.

Ms. Nurak noted that there are vehicles parked around the curve to the east which helps slow down traffic.

Mr. Sivaraman was concerned that this intersection is a school bus stop and there is no traffic control signage at the intersection.

Resolution #
Moved by Sivaraman
Seconded by Wilsher

RESOLVED, that the intersection of Oakcrest Drive at Highland Drive be **MODIFIED** from NO traffic control to an ALL-WAY STOP at the intersection.

Yes: Kilmer, Sivaraman, Wilsher
No: Nurak, Petrulis, Swaminathan, Ziegenfelder
Absent: None

MOTION FAILED

Ms. Nurak supports a Stop sign on Highland Drive but not an ALL-WAY STOP at the intersection.

Sgt. Warzecha stated that he does not see the need for ALL-WAY STOP at the intersection. A school bus has stop signs that the bus driver deploys when they stop to pick up or drop off children. The bus is there for 4-5 minutes per day and a single Stop sign would be sufficient to assign right-of-way at the intersection.

Mr. Petrulis stated that the curve to the east acts to slow down traffic. He feels that a single stop sign is appropriate at this intersection.

Resolution # 2022-05-15
Moved by Sivaraman
Seconded by Wilsher

RESOLVED, that the intersection of Oakcrest Drive at Highland Drive be **MODIFIED** from NO traffic control to a STOP sign on the Highland Drive approach to the intersection.

Yes: Kilmer, Nurak, Petrulis, Sivaraman, Swaminathan, Wilsher, Ziegenfelder
No: None
Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

10. Public Comment

There was no further public comment at the meeting.

11. Other Business

Mr. Ziegenfelder has concerns about eastbound Wattles, between Rochester and John R during the afternoon peak hours. Vehicles are using the center left turn lane as a through lane to go around stopped traffic. He has witnessed vehicles using the center left turn lane as a through lane for almost the entire mile.

Sgt. Warzecha noted that this is a violation (crossing a yellow line and passing a stationary vehicle). Troy Police is aware of this and will provide enforcement as officers may be available.

Mr. Kilmer asked if Troy Police routinely enforce new traffic control signs.

Sgt. Warzecha said that new Traffic Control Orders are noted in the police department morning roll call so officers are aware of new traffic control signs and can spend time in the area when they are not on higher priority calls.

12. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM.



Pete Ziegenfelder, Chairperson



William J. Huotari, City Engineer/Traffic Engineer

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