

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 15, 2003 – 7:30 p.m.
LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM
TROY CITY HALL
500 W. BIG BEAVER ROAD

1. Roll Call
2. Minutes – September 17, 2003

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 3330 Rochester at Torpey
4. Request for Sidewalk Waiver– 143 Evaline
5. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 6728 Eckerman
6. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 6850 Adams

REGULAR BUSINESS

7. Install STOP sign in place of YIELD sign on Leetonia at Tallman
Requested by Bruce Bloomingdale, 4264 Tallman
 8. Visitors' Time
 9. Other Business
 10. Adjourn
- cc: Traffic Committee Members, Including Ex-Officio Members
Gary A. Shripka, Assistant City Manager/Services
Steven Vandette, City Engineer
Captain Dane Slater, Police Department
Lt. Scott McWilliams, Police Department
Lt. Robert Matlick, Fire Department
Lori Grigg Bluhm, City Attorney
John K. Abraham, Traffic Engineer

cc: Appropriate Sections to Interested Citizens:

3. Residents within 300 feet of 3330 Rochester Road at Torpey
Old Troy LLC, 12830 Rattalee Lake Road, Davisburg, MI 48350
4. Residents within 300 feet of 143 Evaline
Michael Johnson, 422 E. Square Lake Rd., Troy, MI 48085
5. Residents within 300 feet of 6728 Eckerman
Michael Johnson, Alvarado Homes LLC, 350 Nawakwa Rd., Rochester Hills MI 48307
6. Residents within 300 feet of 6850 Adams
Paul Padiyar, Stellar Consulting Services, 1000 W. Maple Rd., Suite 102, Troy 48084
7. Residents within 300 feet of the intersection of Leetonia and Tallman
Bruce Bloomingdale, 4264 Tallman, 48085

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

MESSAGE TO VISITORS, DELEGATIONS AND CITIZENS

The Traffic Committee is composed of seven Troy citizens who have volunteered their time to the City to be involved in traffic and safety concerns. The stated role of this Committee is:

- a. To give first hearing to citizens' requests and obtain their input.
- b. To make recommendations to the City Council based on technical considerations, traffic surveys, established standards, and evaluation of citizen input.
- c. To identify hazardous locations and recommend improvements to reduce the potential for traffic accidents.

Final decisions on sidewalk waivers will be made by the Committee at this meeting.

The recommendations and conclusions arrived at on regular items this evening will be forwarded to the City Council for their final action. Any citizen can discuss these recommendations before City Council. The items discussed at the Traffic Committee meeting will be placed on the City Council Agenda by the City Manager. The earliest date these items might be considered by City Council would normally be 10 days to 2 weeks from the Traffic Committee meeting. If you are interested, you may wish to contact the City Manager's Office in order to determine when a particular item is on the Agenda.

Persons wishing to speak before this Committee should attempt to hold their remarks to no more than 5 minutes. Please try to keep your remarks relevant to the subject at hand. Please speak only when recognized by the Chair. These comments are made to keep this meeting moving along. Anyone wishing to be heard will be heard; we are here to listen and help in solving or resolving your particular concerns.

**AGENDA EXPLANATION
TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING**

OCTOBER 15, 2003

1. **Roll Call**
2. **Minutes – September 17, 2003**

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. **Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 3330 Rochester Road and Torpey**

Dennis M. Torpey is requesting a waiver for the sidewalk at 3330 Rochester Road and Torpey. The sidewalk ordinance requires that sidewalk be installed in conjunction with the development of this parcel due to a recent lot split, combined and replatted. The Public Works Department recommends denial of this waiver request. Petitioner has signed an “Agreement for Irrevocable Petition for Sidewalks.”

This parcel abuts both Rochester Road and Torpey Drive. There is an 8-foot sidewalk existing on Rochester Road. There are no sidewalks on Torpey Drive. Torpey is a dead-end street that ends at Baker Middle School. The Engineering office often receives concerns from residents regarding pedestrian safety.

Petitioner states that there are no other sidewalks in the area, the sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to nothing; the existing ditch would have to be filled, and it would not be feasible to move or alter the storm drain/catch basins in their present location.

This matter was originally brought before the Committee on September 17, 2003.

An E-Mail from a resident was received in September by the Engineering office stating that the sidewalk waiver should be denied. There is a school at the end of the street and the children’s safety should be a high priority.

At the September meeting, Mr. Diefenbaker questioned whose responsibility the cost of redesigning the drainage in this area would be and was informed that the party that puts in the sidewalk will also be responsible for all drainage changes due to the installation.

The Traffic Committee asked for a copy of the plan for the commercial building Mr. Torpey is constructing. Mr. Torpey produced a copy of the site plan for the committee to review. This would involve installation of around 240 feet of sidewalks.

After seeing the plan, Mr. Deel said that he would be against granting a waiver because there is a school at the end of the street; and with driveways for the building going to be on Torpey, there would be more traffic on Torpey where children are walking from the school. The sidewalk would connect to the one on Rochester Road and will improve pedestrian safety at this corner where the commercial building will be located on an otherwise residential roadway. He added that he sees a lot of kids

walking in the area since he works in the area.

Ms. Hubbell stated that she would vote against the waiver due to the mentioned reasons and the fact that this is a corner lot, and sidewalks will have to start somewhere, and this would be a logical "beginning."

A motion was made to approve the waiver, but the vote was evenly split and the motion failed. A second motion was made and carried to table further discussion of the waiver until the October meeting.

SUGGESTED RESOLUTIONS:

1. WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, Section 8(D) allows the Traffic Committee to grant temporary waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

WHEREAS, Dennis M. Torpey has requested a temporary waiver of the requirement to construct a sidewalk on the property because there are no other sidewalks in the area, the sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to nothing; the existing ditch would have to be filled, and it would not be feasible to move or alter the storm drain/catch basins in their present location.

WHEREAS, THE Traffic Committee has determined the following:

- a. A variance will not impair the public health, safety or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, and
- b. A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and
- c. The construction of a new sidewalk on the property line would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee grants a _____-year waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 3330 Rochester Road and Torpey, which is owned by Dennis M. Torpey.

2. WHEREAS, the Traffic committee has determined, after a public hearing, that Petitioner failed to establish the standards justifying the granting of a waiver,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee denies a waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 3330 Rochester Road and Torpey, which is owned by Dennis M. Torpey.

4. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 143 Evaline

Michael Johnson is requesting a waiver for the sidewalk at 143 Evaline. The sidewalk ordinance requires that sidewalk be installed in conjunction with the development of this parcel due to a recent lot split, combined and replatted. The Public Works

Department recommends denial of this waiver request. Petitioner has signed an "Agreement for Irrevocable Petition for Sidewalks."

Petitioner states that there are no other sidewalks in the area, the sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to nothing.

It should be noted that six other parcels on the same street were granted sidewalk waivers in the recent past.

SUGGESTED RESOLUTIONS:

1. WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, Section 8(D) allows the Traffic Committee to grant temporary waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

WHEREAS, Michael Johnson has requested a temporary waiver of the requirement to construct a sidewalk on the property because there are no other sidewalks in the area, the sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to nothing; and

WHEREAS, THE Traffic Committee has determined the following:

- a. A variance will not impair the public health, safety or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, and
- b. A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and
- c. The construction of a new sidewalk on the property line would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee grants a _____-year waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 143 Evaline, which is owned by Michael Johnson.

2. WHEREAS, the Traffic committee has determined, after a public hearing, that Petitioner failed to establish the standards justifying the granting of a waiver,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee denies a waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 143 Evaline, which is owned by Michael Johnson.

5. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 6728 Eckerman

Michael Johnson is requesting a waiver for the sidewalk at 6728 Eckerman. The sidewalk ordinance requires that sidewalk be installed in conjunction with the development of this parcel due to a recent lot split, combined and replatted. The Public Works Department recommends denial of this waiver request. Petitioner has

signed an “Agreement for Irrevocable Petition for Sidewalks.” Petitioner states that there are no other sidewalks in the area, the sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to nothing.

SUGGESTED RESOLUTIONS:

1. WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, Section 8(D) allows the Traffic Committee to grant temporary waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

WHEREAS, Michael Johnson has requested a temporary waiver of the requirement to construct a sidewalk on the property because the area is already developed with no other sidewalks in the area, the sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to nothing, and there are ditches on both streets,

WHEREAS, THE Traffic Committee has determined the following:

- a. A variance will not impair the public health, safety or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, and
- b. A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and
- c. The construction of a new sidewalk on the property line would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee grants a _____-year waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 6728 Eckerman, which is owned by Michael Johnson.

2. WHEREAS, the Traffic committee has determined, after a public hearing, that Petitioner failed to establish the standards justifying the granting of a waiver,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee denies a waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 6728 Eckerman, which is owned by Michael Johnson.

6. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 6850 Adams

Paul Padiyar, on behalf of Bharatiya Temple, is requesting a waiver for the sidewalk at 6850 Adams. The sidewalk ordinance requires that sidewalk be installed in conjunction with the development of this parcel due to a recent lot split, combined and replatted. The Public Works Department recommends denial of this waiver request. Petitioner has signed an “Agreement for Irrevocable Petition for Sidewalks.” Petitioner states that there are no other sidewalks in the area, the sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to nothing.

SUGGESTED RESOLUTIONS:

1. WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, Section 8(D) allows the Traffic Committee to grant temporary waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

WHEREAS, Bharatiya Temple has requested a temporary waiver of the requirement to construct a sidewalk on the property because the area is already developed with no other sidewalks in the area, the sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to nothing, and there are ditches on both streets,

WHEREAS, THE Traffic Committee has determined the following:

- a. A variance will not impair the public health, safety or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, and
- b. A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and
- c. The construction of a new sidewalk on the property line would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee grants a _____-year waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 6850 Adams Road, which is owned by Bharatiya Temple.

2. WHEREAS, the Traffic committee has determined, after a public hearing, that Petitioner failed to establish the standards justifying the granting of a waiver,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee denies a waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 6850 Adams Road, which is owned by Bharatiya Temple.

REGULAR BUSINESS**5. Replace YIELD sign with STOP sign on Leetonia at Tallman.**

Bruce Bloomingdale, 4264 Tallman, has requested a STOP sign instead of a YIELD sign on Leetonia at Tallman. He feels that motorists speed on Leetonia, and since there are no sidewalks, it is especially dangerous for pedestrians. He also believes that motorists cut through the subdivision from Livernois to Leetonia, to Tallman, to Longfellow, to Rochester.

The intersection of Leetonia and Tallman is a 3-way "T" intersection with Leetonia ending at Tallman, and there are only five houses on the south end of the "T." Eastbound Leetonia to northbound Tallman carry the majority of the traffic. There are no significant sight obstructions at the intersection.

It should be noted that STOP signs are not speed control devices. Unwarranted signs may dilute the credibility of existing signs and increase violations as motorists try to "make up" for lost time at STOP signs.

Traffic counts indicate that 301 vehicles per day approach the intersection on Leetonia, and 443 per day on Tallman. The usual range of traffic volumes on Troy residential roads is between 300 to 5000 vehicles per day. Traffic volumes on Leetonia and Tallman are low when compared to an average residential street.

The Traffic Engineer has sent Mr. Bloomingdale our brochure on the Neighborhood Traffic Harmonization Program.

SUGGESTED RESOLUTIONS:

- a. Recommend replacing YIELD sign with STOP sign on Leetonia at Tallman.
- b. Recommend no changes.

6. Visitors' Time**7. Other Business**

Items not on the agenda which Traffic Committee members may wish to discuss.

8. Adjourn