



Memorandum

DATE: December 16, 2009

TO: Board of Public Works

FROM: Mark Radtke, Director of Public Works *MR*

RE: 90 Day Trial Period Requests for Stop Signs -
Ice Street at Second Street and First Street at Ice Street

At the September 3rd Board of Public Works meeting, Alderman Zelinski requested the Board of Public Works direct the implementation of 90 day trial periods for stop signs on Ice Street at Second Street and First Street at Ice Street. The trial periods were instated and now have expired. The Board needs to take action to either direct the removal of the stop sign(s) or direct the preparation of the appropriate ordinance to continue the stop sign control at one or both intersections.

In my observations of the involved intersections, the stop sign on Ice Street at Second Street appears to be useful given the amount of activity at this intersection due to its proximity to Jefferson School. The stop sign accomplishes the following:

1. Promotes traffic on Ice Street to stop in advance of the crosswalk,
2. Provides motorists additional time to clearly see approaching traffic from both directions, given the limited sight distance to the west, and
3. Assigns a clear right of way for pedestrians crossing Ice Street at this intersection, which is critical with the number of students using this crossing

From observing the intersection of First Street and Ice Street, I do not have a sense of much usefulness for that stop sign. Traffic on Ice Street typically does not approach at speeds above 20 – 25 mph due to the short length of the street, visibility is adequate at the intersection, and there are fewer overall vehicles approaching this intersection. Also, by State Statute, right of way is assigned to the traffic on Ice Street because that is the continuing street at a "T" intersection.

Based on these observations, I recommend the removal of the stop sign on First Street at Ice Street and the continuation of the stop sign on Ice Street at Second Street.

Enclosure (memo from 9/3/09 BPW meeting)

M:\word\BPW memo re 90 day trials Ice St 12-16-09.doc

Mark Radtke

From: Bridget Mowbray [MowbrayB@mjsd.k12.wi.us]
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2009 4:11 PM
To: Mark Radtke
Subject: RE: Stop Signs Trial Periods

Mark,

The stop signs have been very helpful in controlling the speed and movement of traffic near our school. It has increased safety for our students. I have received positive feedback about the signs from parents and staff who were grateful that the city put them in place temporarily.

Thank you,
Bridget Mowbray

From: Mark Radtke [mradtke@ci.menasha.wi.us]
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2009 3:45 PM
To: Bridget Mowbray
Subject: Stop Signs Trial Periods

Bridget,

The 90 day trial periods for the stop signs on Ice Street at Second Street and on First Street at Ice Street have expired. The Board of Public Works will be considering action to either remove the stop signs or make them permanent. Do you have any input regarding these signs that I can pass on to the Board for its meeting Monday? If so, please respond to me and I will relay your thoughts or you could contact one of the aldermen yourself to provide input.

Thanks, Mark

Mark Radtke
Director of Public Works
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CITY OF MENASHA
Board of Public Works
Third Floor Council Chambers
140 Main Street, Menasha
September 8, 2009
MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chairman Taylor at 7:48 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL/EXCUSED ABSENCES

PRESENT: Ald. Pamenter, Taylor, Wisneski, Pack, Hendricks, Zelinski, Englebert, Benner
ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Merkes, Atty. Rich Carlson, PC Stanke, DPW Radtke, CDD Keil,
C/T Stoffel, Clerk Galeazzi, and the Press

C. MINUTES TO APPROVE

1. August 17, 2009

Moved by Ald. Englebert, second by Ald. Wisneski to approve minutes.
Motion carried on voice vote

D. ACTION ITEMS

1. Payment – Vinton Construction Company; Contract Unit No. 2009-01; Midway Business Park
Concrete Street and Walk Construction; \$93,797.03
(Payment No. 3)

DPW Radtke reported all work on the project is completed. The final invoices have yet to be received.

Moved by Ald. Pack, seconded by Ald. Pamenter to recommend approval to Common Council.
Motion carried on voice vote

2. Request for a 90 Day Trial Period for Stop Sign on Ice Street at Second Street (Ald. Zelinski)

DPW Radtke does recommend a 90-day trial period for a stop sign on Ice Street at Second Street as it was recommended earlier in the year by the Parking Committee for safety concerns around the school area. The Board can instruct staff to conduct the 90-day trial period and then come back with any necessary changes to the ordinance.

Moved by Ald. Zelinski, seconded by Ald. Pack to recommend a 90-day trial period for a stop sign on Ice Street at Second Street
Motion carried on voice vote

3. Request for a 90 Day Trial Period for Stop Sign on First Street at Ice Street
(Ald. Zelinski)

DPW Radtke reported he has looked at the intersection of First and Ice Street and sees no urgent need for a stop sign at this time. The Board should allow a traffic engineering study as recommended previously.

Discussion ensued on it is a busy intersection with Third Street corridor closed; traffic engineering study numbers could be skewed with the reconstruction of Third Street; previous traffic engineering study was not recommended.

Moved by Ald. Zelinski, seconded by Ald. Benner to recommend a 90-day trial period for a stop sign on First Street at Ice Street.
Motion carried on voice vote.

E. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Ald. Hendricks, seconded by Ald. Pamenter to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.
Motion carried on voice vote

Respectfully submitted by
Deborah A. Galeazz, WCMC
City Clerk



Memorandum

DATE: September 3, 2009

TO: Board of Public Works

FROM: Mark Radtke, Director of Public Works *MR*

RE: 90 Day Trial Period Requests for Stop Signs –
Ice Street at Second Street and First Street at Ice Street

Alderman Zelinski has requested the Board of Public Works consider authorizing 90 day trial periods for the installation of stop signs on Ice Street at Second Street and on First Street at Ice Street. At its July 20th meeting, the Board considered action to authorize a traffic engineering study for the placement of yield signs at these same intersections. Based on recommendation from the Police Department, the Board decided to delay the traffic study until after the reconstruction of Third Street so as not to use skewed traffic volumes due to increased traffic resulting from the Third Street closure.

Trial periods allow City staff time to study and report on the particular traffic issue and provide the public with an opportunity to respond to the impact of the proposed traffic issue. I share the concern of the Police Department regarding assessing the proposed new traffic control signage in these locations while Third Street is closed, but Alderman Zelinski thinks there is immediacy because of the proximity to Jefferson School which is now in session.

At an earlier meeting this year, the Parking Committee recommended the Board of Public Works consider a trial period for the placement of a stop sign on Ice Street at Second Street due to observed safety concerns particularly at school arrival and dismissal times. I am in agreement with a trial period to study the effectiveness of placing a stop sign at this location.

From my observations, I think the trial period for a stop sign on First Street at Ice Street should not be authorized at this time, but rather the Board should allow the previously mentioned traffic engineering study to occur with a report including recommendations brought back to the Board for its consideration.

11-09-09 11:00 AM