



Memorandum

DATE: July 2, 2014

TO: Board of Public Works

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

RE: Request to Prohibit Parking along the South Side of Ninth Street at Ida Street and Arthur Street

A request has been submitted to consider prohibiting parking along the south side of Ninth Street east of Ida Street. Alderman Keehan also requested that we review the need to do likewise at the Ninth Street intersection with Arthur Street.

The request is to remove parking, possibly only on school days, from the Ida Street intersection to an existing power pole approximately 80 feet east of Ida Street, space for up to 3 legally parked vehicles when considering the existing crosswalk location. Similarly, at Arthur Street, the logical section to consider for prohibiting parking would be from the intersection to the existing driveways east and west of the intersection. These segments are also approximately 80 feet in length.

Parking is in high demand in this vicinity due to the proximity of Clovis Grove School. I have observed vehicles parked tight to the crosswalks along the south side of Ninth Street, especially at student drop off and pick up times. While this does create a more difficult vision situation for vehicles approaching Ninth Street from a side street, to prohibit parking will likely result in these vehicles parking on other neighborhood streets that are narrower than Ninth Street, creating other safety concerns. It also limits on street parking options for affected residents along Ninth Street.

The request only seeks removal of parking for the segment east of Ida Street. As Ald. Keehan suggests in his email, other sections of Ninth Street have similar parking characteristics as the Ida Street area. The intersections at John Street and Arthur Street also warrant a review of the need for parking regulation revisions. Parked vehicles are commonplace both east and west of these intersections during peak school drop off/pick up times, creating vision concerns in both directions. To prohibit parking both east and west of John Street and Arthur Street would result in very little remaining parking space, in the middle of the blocks, along the south side of Ninth Street. There is a crossing guard at the John Street intersection, but only at limited school departure and arrival times.

State statutes prohibit parking within 15 feet of the near side of a crosswalk. As I previously indicated, I have observed vehicles parking tight to the crosswalk during student drop off/pick up times. In order to approach this issue in a more measured way, I would recommend that the City initially mark the curbs yellow within the prescribed 15 foot distance from the crosswalks in this area. This will afford some added vision perspective for approaching vehicles at the intersections, while preserving most of the existing parking on the wider Ninth Street.

Enclosures

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From: Tim Styka
Sent: Wednesday, July 02, 2014 4:34 PM
To: Mark Radtke
Subject: RE: Ninth Street parking (Ida-Arthur)

Mark,

Yes I did have a chance to review the request. There is nothing that would support the removal of parking on 9th St from a crash perspective. I would agree that if the curb would be painted to reflect the distance parking is not allowed that would likely help and accomplish what is being requested, better visibility at the intersection. The distance would be 15 feet from the crosswalk (346.53) and I think this would be the best option.

Tim

From: Mark Radtke
Sent: Wednesday, July 02, 2014 4:09 PM
To: Tim Styka
Subject: Ninth Street parking (Ida-Arthur)

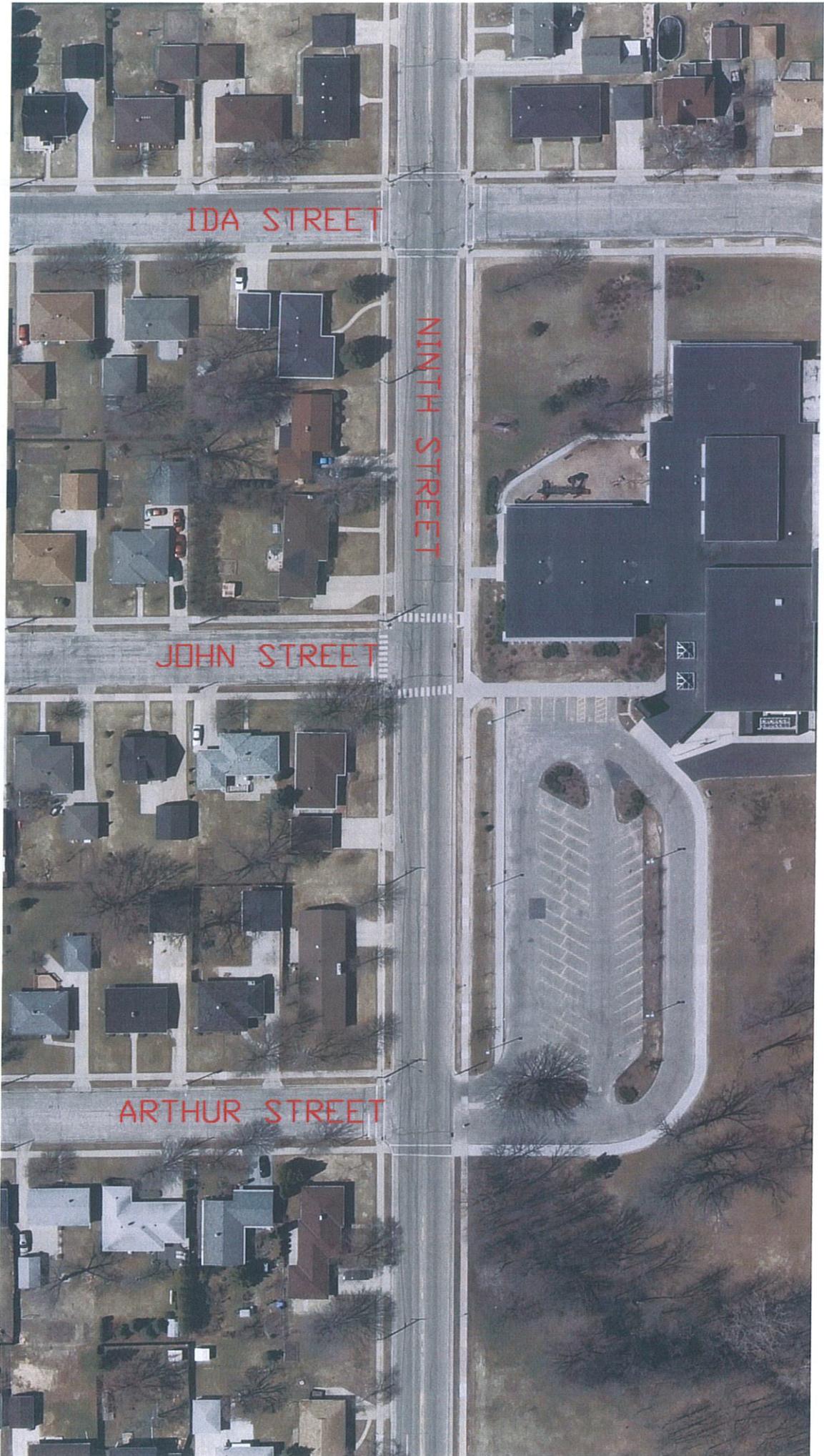
Hi Tim,

Have you had a chance to review the request to remove parking along the south side of Ninth Street east of Ida and east of Arthur? If so, do you have any comments that we could include in our report? Usually, I would have Tim Montour investigate the accident history but Tim is on vacation this week, and I don't know where he accesses this information. Do you have a resource I could access for accident history?

I'm thinking of recommending that we paint the curb yellow within 20 feet of the crosswalks which is what statutes prescribe I believe. If we remove parking per the request we would be prohibiting parking for 3 vehicles at each location, forcing those vehicles elsewhere in the neighborhood. Unless the accident history indicates a problem resulting from poor vision clearance, my recommendation will be to paint the curb within 20 feet of the crosswalk and monitor the situation. Any thoughts you have on this would be appreciated.

Thanks, Mark

Mark Radtke, P.E.
Director of Public Works
City of Menasha



From: Carol Porsche <cporsche28@gmail.com>
Subject: Parking SE corner of 9th st.
Date: June 2, 2014 9:26:07 AM CDT
To: Mark Radtke <mradtke@c1.menasha.wi.us>

Good morning Mark,

Re: our phone conversation this morning, Monday, June 2, 2014. A number of us Ida St. residents are concerned about the safety of driving North across 9th. st. at Ida st. and having to creep almost halfway into 9th st. to see any uncoming traffic from the East. Cars are parked to the corner, many times, obstructing the view. It would help tremendously if parking could be restricted from the corner of Ida and 9th to the telephone pole on the SE corner, a matter of 2 or 3 car lengths. I know now that school is almost out and the matter will be mostly eliminated but beginning the Fall term the issue will present itself again. Perhaps the restriction could be for school days only???

Thank you for anything you can do to help our cause.

Carol Porsche
820 Ida st.
Menasha