

## COUNCIL WORKSHOP ITEM

**ITEM:** File #03-02  
**DATE:** March 13, 2002  
**PREPARED BY:** Jack Bajor, Director of Public Works  
**PURPOSE:** Belmont Road and Prairie Avenue Regulatory Control

### DISCUSSION:

On Wednesday, January 9, 2002, the Parking and Traffic Commission moved to recommend to the Village Council that westbound Prairie Avenue traffic at Belmont Road be designated as “No Turn on Red, When School Children are Present”.

Pursuant to Village Council discussion on February 12, 2002, further discussions were requested. The options were presented at the March 5, 2002 Public Services Committee. The Public Services Committee recommended that westbound Prairie Avenue traffic at Belmont Road be designated as “No Turn on Red, When Pedestrians are Present”. Further discussions determined all existing “No Turn on Red, When School Children are Present” signage should be modified to be consistent and state “No Turn on Red, When Pedestrians are Present”.

### ATTACHMENTS:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TRAFFIC REGULATIONS AT CERTAIN INTERSECTIONS

Recommendation of Public Services Committee – March 5, 2002

March 5, 2002 Minutes of the Public Services Committee

### RECOMMENDATION:

Place this item on the Workshop Agenda for April 9, 2002 for Council review and consideration.

DRAFT

Orig. 02/06/02  
02/13/02  
02/14/02  
03/19/02

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TRAFFIC REGULATIONS AT CERTAIN INTERSECTIONS**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Village of Downers Grove, in DuPage County, Illinois, as follows: (Additions are indicated by **shading**; deletions by **strikeout**.)

SECTION 1. That Section 14-8 of the Downers Grove Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

**14-8. "No turn on red" intersections.**

(a) On the basis of traffic investigations at the below named intersections, it is found that traffic conditions do not safely allow turns on a red light and that the following intersections should be designated as "No turn on red" intersections:

- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ Belmont Road and Prairie Avenue, east approach only.~~
- Fairview Avenue and Lincoln Street, north and south approaches only.
- Main Street and Burlington Avenue.
- Main Street and Curtiss Street.
- Main Street and Grant Street.
- Maple Avenue and Main Street, east approach only.
- 39th Street and Fairview Avenue, west approach only.

(b) On the basis of traffic investigations at the below named intersections, it is found that traffic conditions do not safely allow turns on a red light and that vehicles facing a steady red signal shall be prohibited from turning right after stopping at all times when **children pedestrians** are present in the vicinity of the following intersections:

- Belmont Road and Prairie Avenue, east approach only.**
- Fairview Avenue and Hill Street, south approach only.
- Fairview Avenue and Prairie Avenue, north approach only.

(Ord. No. 1765, § 4; Ord. No. 1881, § 1; Ord. No. 2063, § 3; Ord. No. 2687, § 2; Ord. No. 2843, § 3; Ord. No. 2975, §§ 3, 6.)

SECTION 2. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication in the manner provided by law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Passed:

Published:

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Village Clerk

[NTR-sch]

March 13, 2002

**MAYOR BRIAN KRAJEWSKI AND COUNCIL MEMBERS**

RE: P & T File # 03-02 Belmont Road and Prairie Avenue  
Regulatory Control

**Dear Mayor Krajewski and Council Members:**

On Wednesday, January 9, 2002, the Parking and Traffic Commission moved to recommend to the Village Council that westbound Prairie Avenue traffic at Belmont Road be designated as "No Turn on Red, When School Children are Present".

Pursuant to Village Council discussion on February 12, 2002, further discussions were requested. The options were presented at the March 5, 2002 Public Services Committee. The Public Services Committee recommended that westbound Prairie Avenue traffic at Belmont Road be designated as "No Turn on Red, When Pedestrians are Present". Further discussions determined all existing "No Turn on Red, When School Children are Present" signage should be modified to be consistent and state "No Turn on Red, When Pedestrians are Present".

Sincerely,

Marilyn Schnell, Chairman  
Public Services Committee  
**VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE**

MS/cc  
P&T/2002/03-02/Recommendation

Approved March 11, 2002  
**PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
*Minutes of Public Meeting*  
*March 5, 2002*

Village of Downers Grove  
Committee Room  
801 Burlington Avenue, Downers Grove

Commissioner Schnell called the March 5, 2002 meeting of the Public Services Committee to order at 5:37 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: Commissioner Marilyn Schnell, Chair Public Works Committee  
Commissioner Martin Tully, via telephone connection and  
Mr. Jack Bajor, Director of Public Works

STAFF: Kerstin von der Heide, Forestry & Grounds  
Bob Schiller, Director of Operations & Traffic  
Megan Dugard, Recording Secretary

ABSENT: None

*Visitors:* None

**Commissioner Schnell** called the Publics Works Services Committee Meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. The minutes for February 18, 2002 will be approved at the next meeting, March 11<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Tully will e-mail corrections, changes or additions of the meeting minutes. Commissioner Schnell asked for the report on Belmont Road and Prairie Avenue sign that reads "No Turn on Red".

**Bob Schiller** stated the packet includes the Staff Report and recommendation from the Parking & Traffic Commission. We were not aware the County changed signs three years ago. In the past the sign read, "No Turn On Red When Children are Present". The County changed their sign to read, "No Turn On Red When Pedestrians are Present". Staff recommends changing our sign to read, No Turn On Red When Pedestrians are Present" to be consistent. Additionally, this will provide protection outside the school walking times.

**Commissioner Schnell** asked if this recommendation encompassed all the signs within the village.

**Mr. Schiller** responded this would encompass all the present signs reading, "when children are present" be changed to "when pedestrians are present".

**Commissioner Schnell** inquired about the signs stating a time.

**Mr. Schiller** answered these are not the village signs. The sign at 39<sup>th</sup> & Highland is not a village sign. This sign belongs to DuPage County.

Approved March 11, 2002

**Commissioner Schnell** stated we are only able to change those signs that are within the village jurisdiction.

**Mr. Schiller** agreed we could only change those signs within the village jurisdiction. We can ask the County to change the remaining signs.

**Commissioner Schnell** stated her concern is to remain consistent within the village. Uncertain if we want to pursue this matter.

**Mr. Schiller** stated there are two signs within the village that need to be changed, one located at Hill & Fairview, and the second located at Fairview & Prairie.

**Commissioner Schnell** asked if Commissioner Tully had any further questions.

**Commissioner Tully** responded he had no questions and it makes sense to be consistent. He asked if any attempts were made to get input from Puffer School or the crossing guards.

**Mr. Schiller** stated the police department and a representative who supervises the crossing guard were present at the meeting. They did not have a problem with the change. The police department completely agrees with sign change to read, "when pedestrians are present". We did not speak with Puffer School. The school crossing is a controlled intersection by the village police department.

**Commissioner Tully** stated that it seems the "no turn on red when pedestrians are present" is much broader than "when children are present". The only other alternative is to restrict the hours. This becomes annoying when it is ignored because there is no one at the intersection. He has no problem in making the signs uniform and to read "No Turn On Red When Pedestrians Are Present".

**Commissioner Schnell** asked Kerstin for the update on gypsy moths.

**Kerstin von der Heide** distributed the Website information sheet that describes and explains the gypsy moth life cycle, and an explanation of Slow the Spread Program. This program is overseen by eight states in the USDA Forestry Service. The map highlights each state where the gypsy moths have been found and the boarders where they have been seen. Downers Grove is now part of the boarder area. Our two areas will be treated as shown on the maps. She met with the Forester from the Park District. They discussed various matters involving Lyman Woods, which is one of the areas to be sprayed. The concerns discussed were contacting various groups and advising them of the spraying procedures. A Public Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m. at Village Hall. Those present at the Public Meeting will include officials from the Illinois Department of Agriculture, the Park District Forester, as well as Kerstin. Several peers from surrounding municipalities who do not have gypsy moths and would like information will also be present. In addition to this, a mailing is being prepared to advise the public of this meeting. There are just under 5000 notifications to be delivered. Low flying helicopters will apply the slow spread spray. Making residents aware of this procedure is necessary after the New York incident to avoid frantic phone calls.

**Commissioner Schnell** inquired about allergic reactions to the chemical being sprayed.

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**Ms. von der Heide** confirmed there are no known allergic reactions to the chemical. The chemical, referred to as BT, is a bacterium. This chemical is specific to eradicating caterpillars. The chemical remains in the environment 3 to 5 days after the initial application. Two known pests that will be affected by the spray, which are not targeted are the eastern tent caterpillar and the canker worms.

The village will burlap band trees. An Eagle Scout candidate and his troop have offered to cut burlap strips and put up the strips in Hoopers Hollow at the end of April. We will see how effective the sprays work.

**Commissioner Schnell** asked if the hospital had been contacted.

**Ms. von der Heide** responded the following entities will be notified of the helicopter spraying BT, the three schools in the area, the hospital, internal village departments, Churches, as well as downtown management. Because of the New York incident all flight plans are filed with the FAA in Washington D.C.

**Commissioner Schnell** added the Park District has a list of residents in the area sensitive to controlled burns. We should definitely notify these people.

**Ms. von der Heide** stated notification would be printed in the newspapers to get the word out to the public.

**Commissioner Schnell** suggested putting notification on Cable TV.

**Ms. von der Heide** agreed to place notification on Cable TV.

**Commissioner Schnell** suggested filming a cable spot talking about the gypsy moth, the destruction, measures taken by the village, how we are applying the chemical. The more information available the better. Especially in dealing with our senior residents at Peace Manor. Rest Haven nursing home is also in close proximity. Doug could also make a tape available to drop off at locations for viewing if Cable TV is not available.

**Ms. von der Heide** stated last year over 2000 copies of the Homeowners Guide was mailed to residents and will be mailed this year. A copy is included in the packet.

**Commissioner Tully** stated this looks like a very good public information plan on this program. He thanked Kerstin for putting it all together using a lot of thought. He recalls at a past County meeting it was indicated there was a program in place with respect to gypsy moths. Has there been any coordination with DuPage County in this regard?

**Ms. von der Heide** responded she was not aware of DuPage County program involving gypsy moths. She had heard from a commissioner the Forest Preserve District is undecided on what they are going to do about gypsy moths. There is a meeting coming up on March 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> and she is trying to get as many municipal foresters to attend this meeting. If the Forest Preserve does not take the proper measures it will not help us.

**Commissioner Schnell** inquired on the cost for spraying.

**Ms. von der Heide** stated we are not being charged for this application.

Approved March 11, 2002

**Commissioner Tully** stated he was uncertain about a program available at County. It seems Wally Brown or Tom Bennington mentioned this in the past.

**Commissioner Schnell** suggested Kerstin contact Wally Brown at DuPage County.

**Ms. von der Heide** stated this is not a problem. She does plan on attending the meeting as soon as she can confirm the date.

**Commissioner Tully** stated Wally Brown would have the necessary information. According to the map, it appears the concentrated area is District 2 for County and the new area of the Forest Preserve.

**Commissioner Schnell** added the Forest Preserve area does not take affect until after the November election. Wally Brown will have the information. She thanked Kerstin, great job and very proactive.

The Main & Franklin project. Mr. Phil Bartnicki requested a copy of the Metro Report. She responded via e-mail that staff has not yet reviewed the report and a short synopsis of the recommendations was provided to Mr. Bartnicki.

**Mr. Bajor** stated a copy of the draft Metro report is in the packet, which was received via fax on February 19<sup>th</sup>. The recommendation was two-way traffic operation on Franklin Street and a traffic signal installed at the intersection Main Street and Franklin Street. He continued to read the further recommendations provided by Metro as stated in the report.

- time of day restriction imposed on westbound traffic for one hour per day during student pick-up and drop-off times at the school
- traffic signal interconnected to the Prairie Street signal to the north and the Warren/Burlington signal to the south to facilitate the flow of traffic
- Crossing guard protection should continue to be provided during appropriate school periods even under full traffic signal control
- existing school crossing light shall be removed in conjunction with full signal installation
- additional signing and striping revisions should be installed to provide positive identification of lane usage at this location

**Commission Schnell** asked if removing the striping was referring to the right turn lane.

**Mr. Schiller** stated he did not believe the striping to be removed was the right turn lane. This issue has not been completely discussed. The striping involved may be referring to better identification for turning movements, two-direction roadway on the eastside of Franklin and on Main Street south of Franklin where two lanes of traffic begin.

**Commissioner Schnell** inquired about staff discussing the matter of making Franklin two-way traffic, east of Main. We need to know why it was originally made a one-way traffic route. There is some historical background. It would be beneficial for making Council aware and how it has worked.

**Mr. Schiller** agreed to check into this matter.

Approved March 11, 2002

**Commissioner Schnell** requested Mr. Bajor discuss the recommendations with Metro and secure a final draft to present to Council.

**Mr. Bajor** agreed to discuss the matter with Metro and to present to Council between 3 to 5 weeks. Metro is waiting to hear from the village.

**Commissioner Schnell** stated this would put us at the end of April beginning of May.

**Commissioner Tully** asked if he was correct to understand these are two different issues. One issue is the ramification and installation of the traffic signal at Main Street and Franklin Street. The second issue is altering the traffic operation on Franklin Street, east of Main Street.

**Mr. Schiller** confirmed these are indeed two separate issues.

**Commissioner Tully** agrees with the installation of the traffic signal at Main Street and Franklin Street. This would not only increase safety but will improve traffic flow more appropriately on Forest, Prairie, and Franklin west of Main Street. With respect to the three alternatives proposed for traffic operation on Franklin Street, one recommendation was to leave it as it is, make it one-way going west, or to make the street two-way traffic. His question is at one time the installation of the traffic signal was reviewed and considered by the Parking & Traffic Commission. Were these three options, as proposed in the draft by Metro, reviewed and considered by the Parking & Traffic Commission?

**Mr. Schiller** replied the Parking & Traffic Commission have not yet reviewed the proposed options in the draft from Metro.

**Commissioner Tully** suggested in addition to contacting the school for their involvement, which is essential, the Parking & Traffic Commission, should process the information as well. The recommendation is for two-way traffic, which will increase traffic on Highland Avenue between Franklin & Prairie, portions of Prairie & Franklin east of Highland. There will be residents in the area that would like to understand and perhaps have input to what is being proposed. The way to deal with this issue would be at the Parking & Traffic Meeting.

**Mr. Schiller** stated this would be on the April agenda for Parking & Traffic. Any additions, corrections, or concerns will be forward to Metro the day after the meeting.

**Commissioner Tully** agreed this sounds like a fantastic way for the church, the school and the residents in the area to provide their input into the decision making process on which of the three options should be pursued.

**Commissioner Schnell** adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m.