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WISCONSIN

PUBLIC WORKS
Engineering Division
1717 E. Park Street
P.O. BOX 87
Two Rivers, WI 54241-0087



Memorandum

Department of Public Works

Date: July 9, 2024

To: City Council
Greg Buckley, City Manager

From: Matthew R Heckenlaible, PE
Public Works Director / City Engineer

Re: 2200 Block Jefferson Street – Traffic / Parking Concerns

This is a long, ongoing concern, issue. The Public Works Committee had some discussions on this issue at the November 2023 meeting with the recommendation of monitor and if further concerns were noted to bring it back to the committee for further discussion and possible action.

Over the past month similar concerns have again been raised – Large vehicles and trailers parked on both sides of the street making it hard to navigate and possibly impossible for a fire truck or other large vehicle to pass through. – Suggested restricting parking to one side of the street.

Two Rivers Buses have had numerous issues over the years and have tried to adjust their routes to aid in avoiding this congestion. Two Rivers Buses recently provided an email to DPW-Engineering regarding their concerns regarding this issue.

Recent day time photos illustrate a pick-up truck and camper on the west side of the street with a long flatbed trailer (no tow vehicle) on the east side of the street directly across from the truck and camper. In front of the flatbed trailer is a minivan. South of the pickup and camper is another pick-up truck and south of the flatbed trailer is a car partially parked on the terrace which is north of the eastside no parking restriction within the 2200 block of Jefferson Street.

Observations taken around noon, July 3, 2024, did not show any of these larger vehicles and trailers but did encounter three vehicles illegally parked within the eastside no parking zone north of 22nd Street and the same car partially parked upon the terrace area north of the no parking zone.

2018 Recap

A Special Public Works Committee meeting was held March 13, 2018 with an agenda item for **Public Input: Discussion and Action regarding request for No Parking in the West Side of the 2200 Block of Jefferson Street** due to a request that was received for a 15mph speed limit or ‘children playing’ signs to be installed because there were 12 kids in 3-house radius and concerns about kids running between vehicles. There were concerns that if parking is eliminated on one side of the street, it would force people



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who live on that side of the street without parking to cross street; kids would need to cross street. Not changing the parking situation, the bus company was unable to get down the street; large trailers have been noted to obstruct traffic (2 years ago, now that has drop off).

It was conveyed to the Committee that the primary issue was vehicles going down the street at a high rate of speed and that people park on both sides in an attempt to slow the traffic down. They noted that they would consider speed bumps, that the street is deteriorating and there are heavy traffic volumes.

Alternatives to be considered were:

- eliminate parking on 1 side
- eliminate parking at corners and put speed bump

At the April 2, 2018, Public Works Committee Meeting the minutes reflect –

Public Input – 2200 block on Jefferson St parking – parking noted up to stop signs makes turn movements difficult; safety issues w/bicycle riders; concerned someone will get hurt on street; one house has 8+/- vehicles, some may not be functioning.

Staff is recommending painting crosswalks and yellow curb where parking is not allowed by statute (20' from crosswalk); also, send notice to residents about parking regulations near driveways and inform residents of action being taken

At the May 21, 2018, Public Works Committee Meeting the minutes reflect -

Requests for Traffic/ Parking Controls for the 2200 Block of Jefferson Staff plans on painting cross walks and installing “No Parking Here to Corner” signs 20' from cross walk. Signs are technically not required but will be installed to make compliance more likely. Staff will also mail information to area residents about typical parking regulations such as No Parking 4' from driveways, 20' from crosswalks and parking within 12" of curbs

At the June 4, 2018, Public Works Committee Meeting the minutes reflect -

Requests for Traffic / Parking Controls for the 2200 Block - Jefferson (Some actions on the way when weather/time permits) – need to place traffic counters; DPW informed to paint crosswalks and stop bars at 22nd & Jefferson and 23rd & Jefferson; staff will also send letters with parking regulation information to residents.

2019 Recap

A letter was sent to property owners within 200 feet of the 2200 block of Jefferson Street providing them notice of an October 7, 2019, meeting where the topic of parking restrictions would be discussed.



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At the October 7, 2019, Public Works Committee Meeting the minutes reflect -

Requests for Traffic / Pedestrian / Parking Controls - Recommendation for Elimination Parking on East side of Jefferson Street, 2200 Block, due to complaints/issues involving traffic turning from 22nd St:

- issues noted: vehicles with trailers – truck is on blocks (was waiting for parts and trailer to be removed from street)
- accident data does not indicate an accident history; prior complaints include children running between vehicles; speeding (which can seem exaggerated due to viewed narrow street)
- COMMENT: has lived there for 50 years and has not noticed any problems; also noted, 2219 Jefferson is a vacant house
- COMMENT: no need to change parking
- PD noted enforcement/patrol by officers may not see offenses due to sporadic nature of offenses; recommendation to eliminate parking is a way to cure offenses
- COMMENT: would like to not eliminate parking on east side due to physical limitation of resident at north end
- Options include converting to one-way street, widen road, leave as is; street widening would likely involve assessments and lead service lateral replacements
- Other options: time limited parking or alternating sides

A motion by Jay Remiker, and seconded by Pat Gagnon, to recommend to Council to eliminate parking on East side of Jefferson St. from 22nd St to North lot line of 2211 Jefferson St. Motion carried upon unanimous voice vote.

A motion by Pat Gagnon, and seconded by Jay Remiker, to install “Children at Play” signs at both ends of 2200 block of Jefferson St. Motion carried upon unanimous voice vote.

Note: Per Wis. Stats. 346.53 [parking prohibited] (3) Within 10 feet of a fire hydrant...(4) Within 4 feet of the entrance to an alley or a private road or driveway, and (5) Closer than 15 feet to the near limits of a crosswalk. Some of the above minutes reflect 20 feet from a crosswalk and it should be 15 feet.

It should also be noted Per Wis. Stats. 346.52 parking is also prohibited within intersections; this includes the top leg of a T-intersection such as that located at 24th and Jefferson or at the far north end of Jefferson at 25th Street.

At the July 3, 2024, Public Works Committee meeting, an overview of the previous actions had been provided and further discussion as to what action should be taken. The committee agreed that there is a problem there and took action to recommend the elimination of parking along the east side of Jefferson Street from 22nd Street to 23rd Street (2200 block). The Committee acknowledged that after this parking restriction goes into effect to monitor the area to see if the issue migrates to a different area and if further action will be necessary in the future.



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