



24-1180

CITY OF MANITOWOC

WISCONSIN, USA
www.manitowoc.org

MEMO

TO: Public Infrastructure Committee
FROM: Greg Minikel, PE, Engineering Division Manager
DATE: February 2, 2024
RE: Request for Turn Arrow at the Traffic Signals at the South 21st and Western Ave. Intersection

Members of the Public Infrastructure Committee:

The City has received a request to install a left turn arrow at S. 21st and Western Ave. for the northbound traffic that wants to turn left. The person requesting the turn arrow indicated that the hill to the north on S. 21st St. impedes the view of traffic. In addition, the view or line of sight is also blocked because the 2 left turn lanes do not lane up.

This traffic signal was last updated in 1981. According to discussions with our signal technician, the current and outdated equipment does not have ability to simply add the left turn arrows. A complete reconstruction of the traffic signals would be required. The estimated cost for a complete signal replacement for this intersection is \$325,000.

Since the traffic signals at this intersection are more than 40 years old and are not in compliance with the current standards, we feel that the signals should be upgrade/replaced in the next 5 years.

Therefore, we are recommending the PI Committee to endorse adding this traffic signal reconstruction work to the 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan and include the work in a future budget year.

Sonja Birr

From: Greg Minikel
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 10:01 AM
To: 'Kibler, Laura'
Cc: Dan Koski; Sonja Birr
Subject: RE: External: Western Ave @ S 21st
Attachments: RE: External: Western Ave @ S 21st

Laura,

I have attached an email I received from our traffic signal technician and basically we cannot add left turn arrows at this intersection without a complete reconstruction or upgrade to the entire traffic signal system, which has a price tag of about \$300,000.

I guess we could take this to our Public Infrastructure (PI) Committee next month and see if we can get their support for including this in the 2025 budget process. Their support does not guarantee approval, but it does give the budget request more points within our rating system if they do support it.

From: Kibler, Laura <laura.kibler@froedtert.com>
Sent: Monday, January 15, 2024 8:48 AM
To: Greg Minikel <gminikel@manitowoc.org>
Cc: Carol A. Mielke <cmielke@manitowoc.org>; Dan Koski <dkoski@manitowoc.org>; Mark DeZeeuw <mdezeeuw@manitowoc.org>; Nick Reimer <nreimer@manitowoc.org>
Subject: RE: External: Western Ave @ S 21st

Hello there!

Thank you so much for your expedient follow up. 😊

I think you are right, the primary issue is that the opposing left turn lanes are not aligned, so opposing left turn traffic is precisely in the way. The hill amplifies the issue, because cars disappear from view when they are in the valley, so if you think it's clear but there is a car below line of sight, your reaction time is reduced when they come into view.

I really appreciate your consideration of the issue.

Sincerely,
Laura Kibler

From: Greg Minikel <gminikel@manitowoc.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2024 3:36 PM
To: Kibler, Laura <laura.kibler@froedtert.com>
Cc: Carol A. Mielke <cmielke@manitowoc.org>; Dan Koski <dkoski@manitowoc.org>; Mark DeZeeuw <mdezeeuw@manitowoc.org>; Nick Reimer <nreimer@manitowoc.org>
Subject: FW: External: Western Ave @ S 21st

Hi Laura,

I looked at the intersection today and I guess I am wondering if it is really the hill that is the problem or the fact that the 2 left turn lanes do not match up (they are not straight across from each other, but slightly off-set).

Are you have difficulties seeing the 2 lanes of southbound through traffic around the opposing left turn lane traffic??

A protected left turn arrow would certainly help, but there is a cost for doing that and it also takes time away from the other movements.

I have copied our Director and also our traffic signal technician regarding your issue.

We will discuss this, but I believe that we would have to take this issue/concern to either the Public Infrastructure Committee or the Public Safety Committee to have them discuss it and see if they support the cost for installation of a left turn arrow.

Greg Minikel, P.E.
Engineering Division Manager
Dept. of Public Infrastructure
City of Manitowoc
900 Quay Street
Manitowoc, WI 54220
Ph. (920) 686-6910
E-mail: gminikel@manitowoc.org

From: Carol A. Mielke <cmielke@manitowoc.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 3:49 PM
To: Greg Minikel <gminikel@manitowoc.org>
Subject: FW: External: Western Ave @ S 21st

Please see the email below – would this go to you or do I need to forward this to someone else?

Carol Mielke

Administrative Support Specialist – DPI
City of Manitowoc
900 Quay St
Manitowoc, WI 54220
920-686-6510
cmielke@manitowoc.org



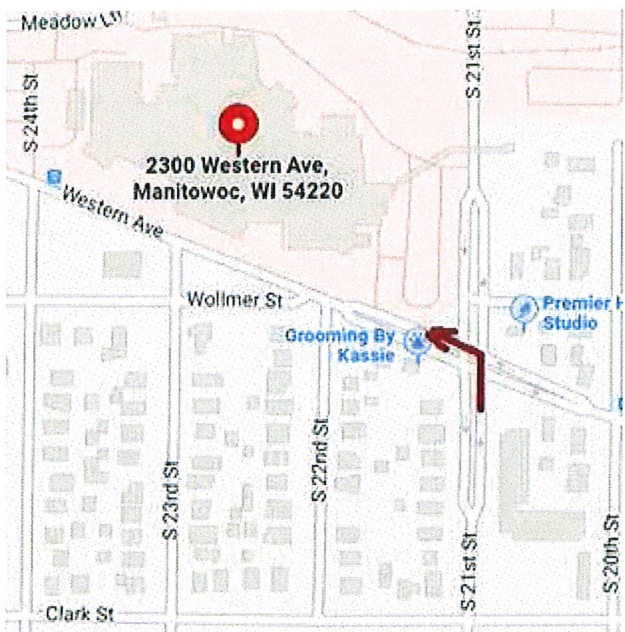
From: Kibler, Laura <laura.kibler@froedtert.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 1:19 PM
To: StreetsAdmin <StreetsAdmin@manitowoc.org>
Subject: External: Western Ave @ S 21st

Hello! I hope this is the right place to send this. I tried submitting this online but got a weird error message.

My concern is about the intersection of S. 21st Street and Western Ave, by Froedtert Holy Family Memorial Hospital.

Traveling north on S 21st Street, and trying to turn left (west) onto Western Ave to go to HFM Hospital, lack of visibility is a concern. If an oncoming vehicle is waiting to turn east onto Western, you cannot see oncoming vehicles at all due to the hill. If there is any traffic (which there often is), you often must wait for the light to turn yellow to turn safely.

I propose a protected left turn at the start of the light change (even a brief one would be appreciated), so those trying to get to the hospital don't feel tempted to take a risk (and wind up in the hospital themselves). I usually take an alternate route to avoid the issue, but someone unfamiliar with the area and traffic might not know to do so. Thanks for listening.



Sincerely,
Laura Kibler
920-860-1388

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Be Alert !

This is External or System generated Email. Please verify before opening any links or attachments.

Sonja Birr

From: Mark DeZeeuw
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 9:11 AM
To: Greg Minikel
Cc: Dan Koski
Subject: RE: External: Western Ave @ S 21st

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: Greg Minikel <gminikel@manitowoc.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2024 3:38 PM
To: Mark DeZeeuw <mdezeeuw@manitowoc.org>
Cc: Dan Koski <dkoski@manitowoc.org>
Subject: FW: External: Western Ave @ S 21st

Mark,

Are left turn arrows an option?? **Anything is an option, cost will be significant here.**

This intersection was constructed around 1981 with post mounted signals only, the standards in the WMUTCD now restrict the visibility of the signal heads to a lesser angle than back then. Mounting lane signal heads on mono-tube structures would get the issues resolved for the 21st Street approaches. There is now only a two inch conduit from base to base with few if any spare conductors looped from the cabinet location. Additional conduit and pull boxes installed for added cabling would be needed. This intersection is pre-timed only, there is no detection method installed. The cabinet is not capable of additional phasing, so relocating a base for a larger NEMA type P cabinet would be required. Detection could be accomplished with a vehicle detection camera controller and camera, this controller could be installed in the larger cabinet.

If so, what would be an approximate cost for installation. The only choice to add protected movements will be an overall reconstruction, unfortunately this is way too far out of being up to current standards to make only a few changes. Re-construction will be in the \$275,000-325,000 range. Some concrete and pedestrian ramp changes can be also expected with the updates, also signs and pavement markings.

The 3 of us should probably discuss this further or email back your comments, etc. Thanks.

From: Greg Minikel
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Cc: Carol A. Mielke <cmielke@manitowoc.org>; Dan Koski <dkoski@manitowoc.org>; Mark DeZeeuw <mdezeeuw@manitowoc.org>; Nick Reimer <nreimer@manitowoc.org>
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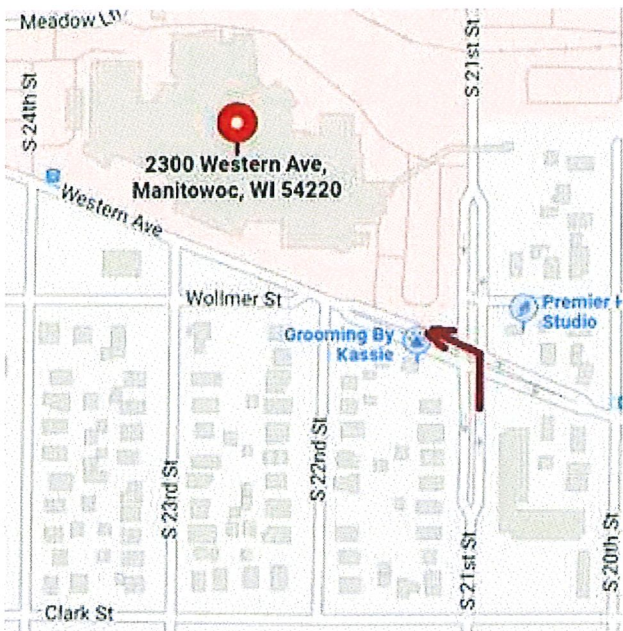
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Greg Minikel

From: Nick Reimer
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 10:15 AM
To: Greg Minikel
Cc: Jason Freiboth; Dan Koski
Subject: RE: External: Western Ave @ S 21st

We will check to see if crash data supports this.

Nick

Nick Reimer | Chief of Police
City of Manitowoc | Manitowoc Police Department
910 Jay St. | Manitowoc WI 54220
P: (920) 686.6573 | F: (920) 686.6588



"We are committed to providing excellent police service and an unrelenting pursuit of justice, while maintaining order and securing a safe environment for everyone."

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From: Greg Minikel <gminikel@manitowoc.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 9:51 AM
To: Nick Reimer <nreimer@manitowoc.org>
Cc: Jason Freiboth <jfreiboth@manitowoc.org>; Dan Koski <dkoski@manitowoc.org>
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FYI: According to Mark's email below, the only way to get left turn arrows at this intersection would be to completely reconstruct the traffic signals.

Not great news, but I guess they are 43 years old so an upgrade is probably needed anyway.

I suppose we can include it in the 2025 or 2026 budget and see where it ends up ranking.

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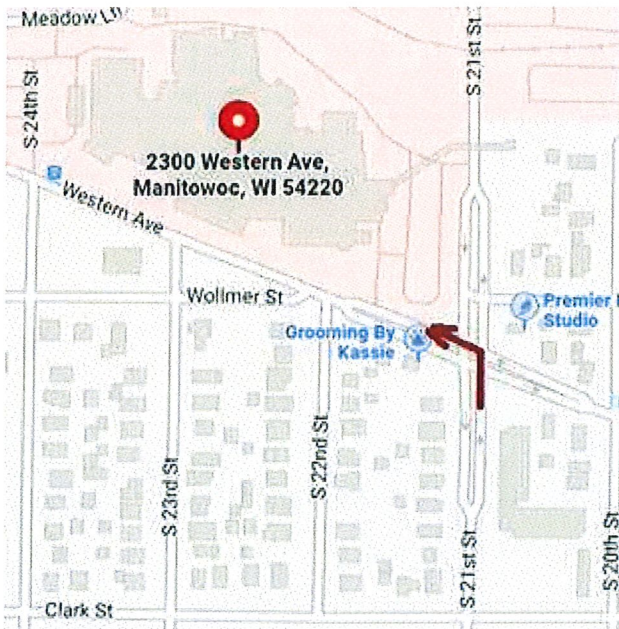
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