

From: [Elizabeth Majerus](#)
To: [Michael Cummings](#); [Amber Noworatzky](#)
Cc: [Dan Koski](#); [Greg Minikel](#)
Subject: RE: Signage Meeting Follow Up
Date: Thursday, August 19, 2021 7:47:42 AM
Attachments: [City of Manitowoc Stop Sign Policy & Guidelines October 2020.docx](#)
[image001.png](#)

Good Morning,

Amber, for the agenda, I'd phrase the two items as:

1. Discussion on controlled v. uncontrolled intersections
2. Request for stop signs at N 10th and St. Clair Street

Attached is the policy approved by Council in January 2021 addressing traffic signage. This should be included in item 1 so that new members of Council can review before the discussion. It's being added to the City website as well for ready access.

Generally, uncontrolled intersections are safer than controlled ones because they encourage all motorists approaching an intersection to do so cautiously. When motorists rely on stop signs for opposing traffic, they enter intersections faster and trust that the stop signs will be obeyed. This seems counterintuitive but it's a similar line of reasoning to the value of roundabouts. Everyone must slow down. Ergo, accidents are less likely to happen. Obviously, not all motorists obey rights of way laws just like not all motorists obey speed limit laws.

Dan and Greg, you're copied here so that you have a heads up. It will be helpful for at least one of you to attend the September Public Safety meeting to discuss traffic regulation from a civil engineering standpoint.

Thanks,
Liz

Elizabeth Majerus
Assistant City Attorney • City Attorney's Office • City Hall
900 Quay Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220-4543

(920) 686-6990 | (920) 686-6999 (fax)

(she/her)

From: Michael Cummings
Sent: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 10:49 PM
To: Amber Noworatzky <anoworatzky@manitowoc.org>
Cc: Elizabeth Majerus <emajerus@manitowoc.org>
Subject: Re: Signage Meeting Follow Up

Thank You Amber for your willingness to add this to the PS agenda. I originally asked during the budget request portion of the finance committee to include monies for a study of converting all intersections to controlled vs uncontrolled OR making all residential intersections uncontrolled. I've received a fair amount of complaints regarding the inconsistency of uncontrolled intersections in my district (3) which prompted me to do my own research regarding the issue. Essentially, consistency is the key regardless of how intersections are. In a unexpected revelation... uncontrolled intersections are actually safer if a city implements them consistently amongst all residential areas. I don't think we would want to go that route; however, because we have a large majority already controlled and even though they are statistically better... they are largely unpopular.

After the meeting Mr. Mayor forwarded me what was done in the past as this was a previous issue. He stated it kind of "died on the vine"; however, would support a push to make all intersections controlled.

I would ask the PS committee to review the prior information regarding uncontrolled intersections, gather any further information needed to make a decision, and then ultimately decide if we can make all of our residential intersections controlled to provide consistency for drivers and pedestrians alike.

On a separate note... I would also like the committee to look at changing the Yield sign on the intersection of N.10th Street & St. Clair to a Stop sign. It is the only yield sign on the entire St. Clair street & have personally witnessed over 30 vehicles (best guess... it's been a lot) not yield for it (from St. Clair crossing N.10th) and have been almost hit many times. It is so bad that my wife and I actually slow down and look both ways on N.10th prior to crossing the intersection as we both have had many close calls with drivers not yielding.

To Manitowoc's Success!

Michael Cummings
District 3 Alderman

On Aug 17, 2021, at 2:08 PM, Amber Noworatzky <anoworatzky@manitowoc.org> wrote:

Alder Cummings,

I was sent the email chain below and asked to add this item to the PS agenda for September. After reviewing the emails it is a little unclear what exactly you would like discussed. Is it uncontrolled intersections? If so, are you looking for just a discussion on them or a particular action? Any guidance would be greatly appreciated.

AMBER NOWORATZKY | POLICE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
CITY OF MANITOWOC | MANITOWOC POLICE DEPARTMENT
920.686.6559 | F: 920.686.6599
www.manitowoc.org

<image001.png>
<image002.png>

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From: Kathleen McDaniel
Sent: Tuesday, August 17, 2021 1:49 PM
To: Elizabeth Majerus <emajerus@manitowoc.org>; Amber Noworatzky <anoworatzky@manitowoc.org>
Subject: RE: Signage Meeting Follow Up

Greetings,

This came up at the Finance Committee when they discussed item 21-0718, recommendations for the Mayor's annual budget. Alder Cummings discussed uncontrolled intersections and the Mayor asked me if we had some information on this. I forwarded him the below email so he could share it with Alder Cummings. My guess is Alder Cummings may want to discuss uncontrolled intersections, but I would suggest reaching out to him to confirm.

Kathleen M. McDaniel (she/her/hers)
Manitowoc City Attorney
(920) 686-6990
kmcdaniel@manitowoc.org

From: Elizabeth Majerus
Sent: Tuesday, August 17, 2021 12:10 PM
To: Kathleen McDaniel <kmcdaniel@manitowoc.org>
Subject: Fwd: Signage Meeting Follow Up

Hi,
It looks like you may have attended a signage meeting recently and now Alders want something agendaized. What was decided at the meeting? What information should I give to Amber? And how should this item be titled?

Thanks
Liz

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Amber Noworatzky <anoworatzky@manitowoc.org>
Date: August 17, 2021 at 11:53:09 AM CDT
To: Elizabeth Majerus <emajerus@manitowoc.org>
Subject: FW: Signage Meeting Follow Up

Hi Liz,

I was forwarded this email chain to add this to the next PS agenda. I guess I am trying to figure out what this should be titled and are we just looking for a discussion or an action?

Amber Noworatzky | police Administrative Assistant

City of Manitowoc | Manitowoc police department
920.686.6559 | F: 920.686.6599
www.manitowoc.org<<http://www.manitowoc.org/>>

[Manitowoc_City_Logo_FC_NoDates][Police Patch White-transparent]

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From: Bill Schlei
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 7:48 PM
To: Amber Noworatzky <anoworatzky@manitowoc.org>
Subject: Fwd: Signage Meeting Follow Up

Hi Amber,

I guess we need to add this as well.

Liz may have already sent this.

Thanks, Bill Schlei
Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Justin Nickels <jnickels@manitowoc.org>
Date: August 4, 2021 at 12:43:33 PM CDT
To: Michael Cummings <mcummings@manitowoc.org>
Cc: Shawn Alfred <salfred@manitowoc.org>, James Brey - D4 <jbrey@manitowoc.org>, Bill Schlei <bschlei@manitowoc.org>, Nick Reimer <nreimer@manitowoc.org>, Dan Koski <dkoski@manitowoc.org>
Subject: FW: Signage Meeting Follow Up
Alderman Cummings –

Here is the e-mail chain I mentioned in the previous e-mail. As you can see, I included Alderman Novak in the conversation since there are a plethora of uncontrolled intersections in District 3.

Again, if Alderman Schlei is willing to have this conversation, I would suggest it start there (at Public Safety Committee).

Thanks!

* Justin
[E-Mail Signature]

From: Kathleen McDaniel
Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 6:17 PM
To: Justin Nickels <jnickels@manitowoc.org>
Subject: FW: Signage Meeting Follow Up

Kathleen M. McDaniel (she/her/hers)
Manitowoc City Attorney
(920) 686-6990
kmcdaniel@manitowoc.org

From: Greg Minikel
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 3:04 PM
To: Elizabeth Majerus <emajerus@manitowoc.org>; Dan Koski <dkoski@manitowoc.org>; Justin Nickels <jnickels@manitowoc.org>; Stacey Groll <sgroll@manitowoc.org>; Scott McMeans - D2 <smcmeans@manitowoc.org>; Jeremiah Novak <jnovak@manitowoc.org>;

Jason Freiboth
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Kathleen McDaniel
<kmcdaniel@manitowoc.org<<mailto:kmcdaniel@manitowoc.org><<mailto:kmcdaniel@manitowoc.org><<mailto:kmcdaniel@manitowoc.org>>>>>>>
Subject: RE: Signage Meeting Follow Up

Here are 4 maps showing which intersections are controlled and uncontrolled.

There is one map for each quadrant of the City.

This is probably the best we can do for now. This is in a Microstation format and not a GIS format.

It would be extremely difficult to make a map for each Aldermanic District.

From: Elizabeth Majerus
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 11:00 AM
To: Dan Koski; Greg Minikel; Justin Nickels; Stacey Groll; Scott McMeans - D2; Jeremiah Novak; Jason Freiboth; Kathleen McDaniel
Subject: Signage Meeting Follow Up

Good Morning,

Below are the minutes from today's signage meeting. I will send a meeting invite shortly for the next followups.

Issues identified:

1. Lack of policy for internal staff to address requests for signage
2. Lack of data from which a cohesive signage policy can be formulated
3. Lack of policy for how and when committee gets involved and which committee ought to be involved

Solutions proposed:

1. Compile Data
 - * Existing traffic counts and accident information
 - * Map of existing signage (preferred by district or some other framework. Citywide will be too big)
2. Draft policy for staff and elected officials. Policy will answer the following questions:
 - * Where do requests/ complaints go?
 - * Who should be involved in decision-making?
 - * When should those decisions be reviewed by Committee?
 - * What benchmarks should be set for when a sign is needed vs. not needed?

Tasks before next meeting:

1. Locate current signage map and break down by district (Greg M.)
2. Review district signage map to identify low-hanging fruit (Justin N.)
3. Locate current traffic count data (Dan K.)
4. Review current traffic count data to identify low-hanging fruit (Justin N.)
5. Compile data as to how other cities handle uncontrolled intersections (Justin N.)
 - * Are U's allowed? Prohibited?
 - * If a city has a policy addressing this, obtaining a copy of it
6. Research market traffic counting equipment for inclusion in 2021 budget (Dan K.)
7. Research state/federal benchmarks for signage similar to traffic warrants for signal placement (Dan K.)
8. First draft of policy for how staff and elected officials receive and process requests/ complaints (Dan K.)

Items agreed to:

1. All signage requests should go to Public Safety effective immediately. Public Safety will continue the current process of internal vetting (DPI and PD) before an item is placed on the agenda.
2. We will ultimately want a city-wide snapshot of traffic data to work with

If I missed anything, please reply all.

Thanks,
Liz

[2020 small]Elizabeth Majerus

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