

Nicholas Mueller

From: Lee Kummer <lkummer@klfgllp.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 7, 2021 2:53 PM
To: Nicholas Mueller
Cc: John Brunner
Subject: External: 8th and 10th Streets

Hi Nick. We will be unavailable on the 19th, but I want to take this opportunity to express our strong support for converting the streets back to 2 way traffic. Several of the reasons I support this change are:

- 1) I have owned property and worked downtown at 927 South 8th for 30+ years and during that time at the 8th and Franklin intersection, multiple times per month, I have seen cars heading east and turning left onto 8th from the lefthand (closest to the centerline) drift into the righthand northbound lane of 8th, causing the car also turning left from the righthand eastbound lane to brake to avoid a collision. The offending driver is either lazy or believes the traffic on 8th is already 2 way.
- 2) Daily i have seen cars southbound on 10th come over the bridge and at Franklin breeze though the light, red or green, and turn right, heading west on Franklin without so much as looking to the right for pedestrians, or in my case, a runner.
- 3) Having 2 lanes heading the same direction has resulted in cars and pickup trucks speeding around my vehicle and cutting my vehicle off. We want a pedestrian friendly downtown and do not need 2 lanes of traffic in each direction on 8th and 10th which only create an invitation to speed and run red lights.
- 4) Several times a year I have witnessed traffic enter 8th street and head south, the driver obviously thinking there is 2 way traffic. It happened again the Saturday before the marathon this year, a car heading west on Maritime Drive turned left onto 8th. Horns sounded, I screamed, traffic stopped and the car backed up to Maritime - thankfully no accident.

I would also strongly suggest replacing the traffic lights at Franklin and Maritime with 4 way stop signs. I can't tell you how many times vehicles have run the red lights, clearly red lights. With 4 way stops, all vehicles would have to come to a complete stop and in addition we wouldn't have to sit at a red light when there is no other traffic. I have personally seen the 4 way stop signs work extremely effectively in a busy pedestrian downtown along 3rd Avenue in Sturgeon Bay. The 4 way stop signs must be much less expensive to install and to maintain. You could eliminate the turning lanes on 8th and 10th because all cars would be forced to stop and wait their turn and the turning lanes could be used for bicycle dedicated lanes. Plus you could add parallel parking spots closer to the intersections because the turn only lanes would be eliminated.

Thanks for your support on this issue. Lee Kummer 3300 Lindbergh Drive, Manitowoc Be Alert !
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