



CITY OF WAUKESHA

Administration

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Buildings and Grounds ID Number: ID#16-327	Date: 3/10/2016
Submitted By: Eric Payne, Building and Grounds President	City Administrator Approval: Kevin Lahner, City Administrator KL
Finance Department Review: Rich Abbott, Finance Director RA	City Attorney's Office Review: Brian Running, City Attorney Click here to enter text.
Subject: Approve an All Way stop at the intersection of W. Main Street & Gaspar Street with installation at the completion of the W. Main Street construction project.	

Details:
 Referral was made by the Department of Public Works. This item was presented at the Buildings & Grounds meeting by staff engineer, Mike Grulke and he explained the reasoning behind the recommendation of an All Way stop. The Buildings & Grounds committee reviewed this item and motioned to deny this request based on concerns they had over impeding W. Main Street drivers and potential delay for adjacent parked cars when traffic queues at the intersection. The vote was 3 Aye, 0 Nay to deny.

This item is will be brought to the March 15, 2016 Common Council meeting to be discussed and voted on. A brief summary explaining the studies that have been completed to support the All-Way stop is attached.

Options & Alternatives:
 The Department of Public Works had conducted a study of the intersection. The study concluded that pedestrians have a hard time crossing W. Main Street at Gaspar Street, vehicles had a hard time turning from northbound Gaspar Street to W. Main Street and often got caught in the intersection. As many as 300 pedestrians, during a 12 hour period, cross at this intersection. Some pedestrians have to wait long periods of time to cross and some have been observed running across the intersection to avoid vehicles.

The Department of Public Works considered three options. Option 1, do nothing, which is to leave the existing condition of a stop for Gaspar Street and free flow traffic on W. Main Street. This option would have not done anything to fix the pedestrian crossing issue nor provided safer turning from Gaspar to Main. Option 2 is similar to the first, to keep W. Main Street free flow and provide a Pedestrian warning sign that lights up and is activated. Our experience with activated signage is that it is expensive maintenance, requires pedestrians to actuate it and requires drivers to acknowledge and stop. This still doesn't address difficulty with vehicles trying to make turns and also may not provide a safer crossing for pedestrians. Option 3 was to introduce an All Way Stop at the intersection. This option would provide a safer pedestrian crossing and would also allow for easier turning movements for northbound vehicles trying to access W. Main Street. Option 3 was selected by the Department of Public Works because it addressed all the needs for pedestrians and vehicle movements from Gaspar Street.



Financial Remarks:

If item is approved, cost for installing the All Way Stop signing will be charged to the W. Main Street project.

Executive Action:

At the conclusion of a study for the intersection of W. Main & Gaspar, the Department of Public Works selected Option 3 which is to install an All Way Stop traffic control. The Department of Public Works strongly recommends approval to install an All Way Stop at the intersection of W. Main Street & Gaspar Street.

Committee Recommendation:

Committee voted to deny. Item will appear on the Buildings & Grounds report on the March 15, 2016 Common Council meeting.