

**AGENDA**  
**COLUMBIA HEIGHTS TRAFFIC COMMISSION**  
**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2016; 5:30 P.M.**

- I. ROLL CALL
- II. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 4, 2016 MINUTES
- III. PUBLIC HEARING TO REMOVE NO PARKING DESIGNATION ON THE EAST SIDE OF JACKSON STREET

At the January meeting, the Traffic Commission called for a public hearing to consider removing the “No Parking Saturday 4 PM to 6 PM” and “No Parking Sunday 6 AM to Noon” designations on the east side of Jackson Street from 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue to approximately 230’ south of 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue. There are five different parking “zones” along Jackson Street. Parking designations are shown on the attached aerial. The Public Hearing notice was published in the Sun Focus and property owners within 300’ of the proposed change in parking designations were notified of the hearing by mail. The notice and a map of the notification area are included in your packet.

On behalf of Immaculate Conception Church, Mr. Steve Smith requested the “No Parking” signs for Saturday and Sunday be removed. The church feels there is no longer a need for a no parking restriction. Mr. Smith’s letter is attached.

At the January meeting, Commissioner Doty questioned what “a long time” meant regarding removing the “No Parking” signs on Jackson Street. He stated he has parked across from the person in question three times recently. States this person does come out in good weather and when in good health. Doty saw him last year and two years ago. He can still protest. Captain Austin stated he has not received a police call in years. The commissioners agreed that they need to revisit this at the next meeting when someone from the church is present.

The Fire and Police Chiefs do not have a preference concerning the “No Parking” signs.

A recommended motion has not been provided at this time pending additional information from the church representative.

- IV. OLD BUSINESS

REQUEST TO DESIGNATE THE SOUTH SIDE OF 40<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE FROM 5<sup>TH</sup> STREET TO 20’ EAST OF 5<sup>TH</sup> STREET AS “NO PARKING”.

Commissioner Clerkin requested no parking 20’ from the southeast corner of 5<sup>th</sup> Street and 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue so it is possible to see around trucks. There is a daycare center there now and no stores. He stated he has almost been hit many times coming from that intersection.

An aerial of the intersection is included in your packet.

A recommended motion has not been provided at this time. Information regarding traffic accidents at this intersection will be provided at the meeting.

V. OTHER OLD BUSINESS

VI. NEW BUSINESS

None.

VII. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

VIII. REPORTS

A. CITY ENGINEER

Resignation of Commissioner Tyler.

Commissioner Tyler moved to the City of Shoreview and has resigned from the Traffic Commission.

A disabled parking sign has been requested by the resident at 4220 Van Buren Street. The sign will be installed when weather permits.

B. POLICE CHIEF

C. COMMISSIONERS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

*UNAPPROVED*  
**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**COLUMBIA HEIGHTS TRAFFIC COMMISSION**  
MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ed Carlson at 5:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Members present: Commissioners Ed Carlson, Brian Clerkin, Kevin Doty, and Leonard Olson

Members absent: Commissioner Charles Tyler

Staff Present: Kathy Young, Assistant City Engineer  
Lenny Austin, Police Captain  
Sue Schmidtbauer, Public Works Secretary

Council Liaison: Donna Schmitt

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Doty, seconded by Olson, to approve the minutes of December 7, 2015, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING TO DESIGNATE LOOKOUT PLACE AS NO PARKING**

Residents present:

Veronica Johnson, 351 Jolly Lane

Mohamed Botan, 401 Lookout Place (arrived late)

Kathy Young, Assistant City Engineer, advised that at the Traffic Commission meeting on December 7, 2015, Commissioners called for a Public Hearing to consider restricting parking on Lookout Place.

Ms. Veronica Johnson submitted a request for “No Parking” on the south side of Lookout Place, the concern being the combination of intersections close together and the width of Lookout Place, especially during the winter months.

Several area residents attended the Traffic Commission meeting on December 7. The Commissioners and residents discussed the “No Parking” request. All residents in attendance agreed with no parking on the south side of Lookout Place from Bakken Boulevard to 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Resident opinions were split concerning no parking on the north side of Lookout Place. Visibility of traffic on 5<sup>th</sup> Street is an issue when vehicles are parked on the north side of Lookout Place. The private streets in the area have no street parking on either side.

At the December meeting, the Traffic Commission called for a public hearing to consider “No Parking” on the south side of Lookout Place and “No Parking” for 30’ from each corner on the north side of Lookout Place between Bakken Boulevard and 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

Ms. Veronica Johnson faces Lookout Place. She was concerned about parking on the south side of Lookout Place and other residents were concerned about parking on the north side. Mr. Mohamed Botan stated he lives on the corner, so this is the only place to park in front of his house. Olson explained

that there is a visibility issue at the corners and we want to make it safe for both sides of the street. That is why no parking will be allowed 30' from the corner on the north side.

Motion by Olson to designate “No Parking” on the south side of Lookout Place between Bakken Boulevard and 5<sup>th</sup> Street and designate “No Parking” 30 feet from each corner on the north side of Lookout Place between Bakken Boulevard and 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Motion seconded by Clerkin. Motion passed unanimously.

Explained to residents that motions will be on the January 11<sup>th</sup> council meeting agenda.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **OTHER OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **REQUEST TO REMOVE NO PARKING DESIGNATION ON THE EAST SIDE OF JACKSON STREET**

On behalf of Immaculate Conception Church, Mr. Steve Smith has requested the “No Parking” signs for Saturday and Sunday be removed. The signs are on the east side of Jackson Street near the north end. The church feels there is no longer a need for a no parking restriction.

In checking with the Fire and Police Chiefs, there are no concerns with removing the “No Parking” signs.

Staff considers a Public Hearing necessary to discuss removing the “No Parking” designation as residents may object to on street parking. For example, the streets adjacent to First Lutheran Church are posted “No Parking on Sundays” based on resident request.

Motion by Olson to call a Public Hearing for the next Traffic Commission meeting to remove “No Parking Sunday” and “No Parking Saturday” signs on the east side of Jackson Street from 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue to approximately 230 feet south of 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue. Seconded by Carlson. Motion passed unanimously.

### **OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Clerkin requested no parking 20' from the southeast corner of 5<sup>th</sup> Street and 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue so it is possible to see around trucks. There is a daycare center there now and no stores. He stated he has almost been hit many times coming from that intersection and would like it addressed at the next meeting. Young stated she will put it on the agenda.

### **REPORTS**

#### **A. CITY ENGINEER**

None

#### **B. POLICE**

Captain Austin reported the speed survey for Huset Parkway showed speeds higher than he

anticipated, but nothing close to 50 mph. Speeds shown are averages with the top speed being around 37 or 38 mph. He stated that the curve in the road will throw speed perception off. However, in a residential area 37 or 38 is getting up there. Olson stated that with the park nearby he can see the concern. The plan is to mark the pedestrian crossing more clearly once the weather clears up.

**C. COMMISSIONERS**

Doty questioned what a long time meant regarding removing the “No Parking” signs on Jackson Street. He stated he has parked across from the person in question three times recently. States this person does come out in good weather and when in good health. Doty saw him last year and two years ago. He can still protest. Captain Austin stated he has not received a police call in years. The commissioners agreed that they need to revisit this at the next meeting when someone from the church is present.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Olson, seconded by Doty, to adjourn the meeting at 5:54 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

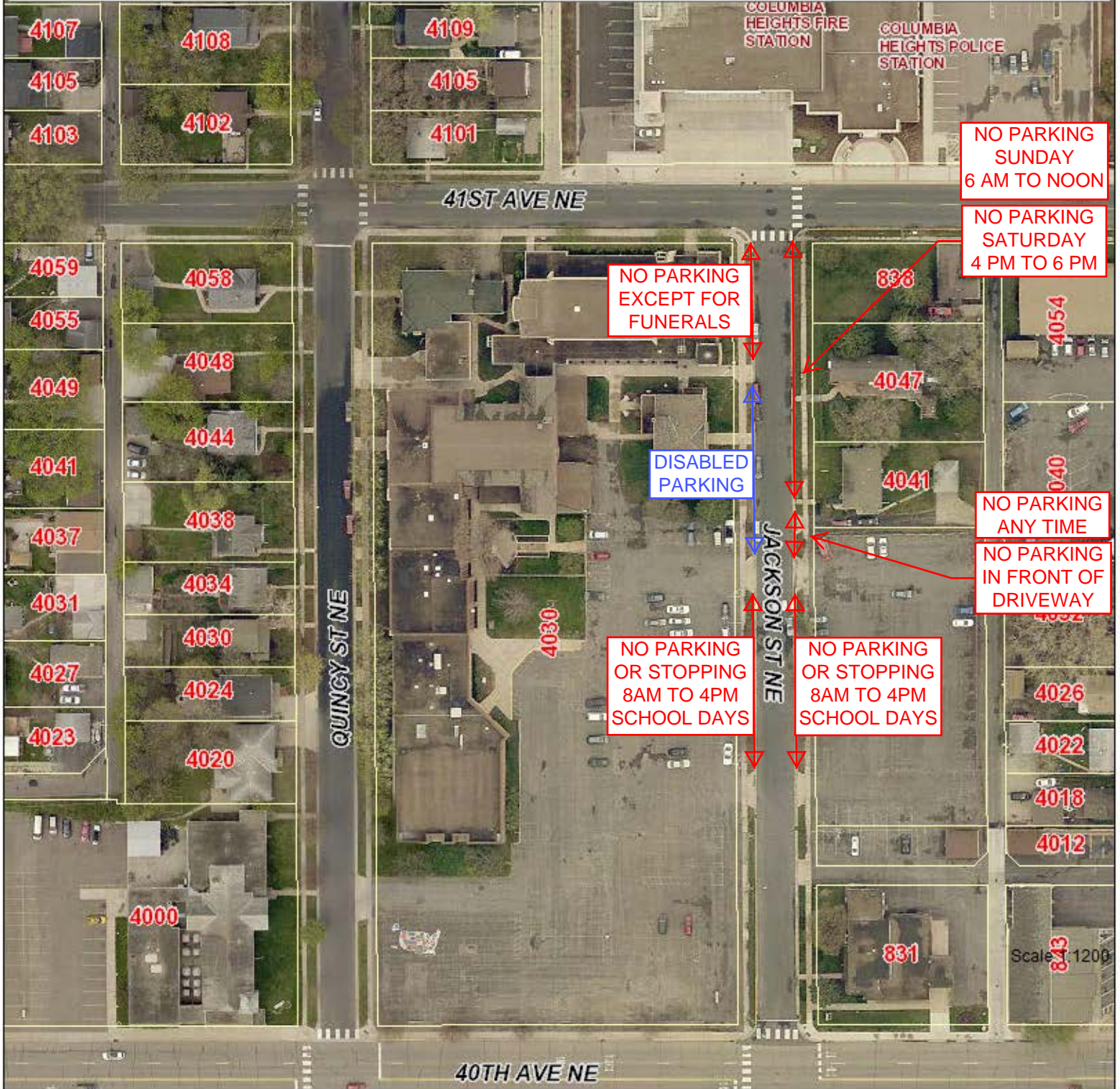
Respectfully submitted,

Sue Schmidtbauer  
Public Works Secretary



# JACKSON ST - NO PARKING

REQUEST TO REMOVE "NO PARKING SUNDAY" & "NO PARKING SATURDAY" SIGNS



Aerial Photo: Flown Spring of 2014



Scale 1:1200



CITY OF COLUMBIA HEIGHTS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Traffic Commission has determined a Public Hearing will be held to:

Remove “No Parking Sunday” and “No Parking Saturday” signs on the east side of Jackson Street from 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue to approximately 230 feet south of 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue.

The meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 1, 2016, at 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers located at 590 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue N.E. Notice is hereby given that all persons having an interest therein will be given an opportunity to be heard.

The City of Columbia Heights does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its services, programs, or activities. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all City of Columbia Heights services, programs and activities. Auxiliary aids for handicapped persons are available upon request when the request is made at least 96 hours in advance. Please call the City Council Secretary at 763-706-3611 to make arrangements. (TDD/763-706-3692 for deaf only)



CITY OF COLUMBIA HEIGHTS

WALTER FEHST, CITY MANAGER

Published in Sun Focus on January 22, 2016



**LEGEND**

-  PROPOSED ON STREET PARKING AREA
-  PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE AREA

GIS / ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT  
Map Date: January 2015  
Map Author: K Young





December 14, 2015

Ms. Kathyjean Young  
Assistant City Engineer  
Public Works Department  
637 38<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Columbia Heights MN 55421-3878

Subject: Immaculate Conception Church Street Sign Removal

Dear Ms. Young,

Some years ago one of our parishioners petitioned the Traffic Commission for the installation of three no parking signs in response to a protester's display of offensive signs in front of the church during mass times. That petition was approved and the signs were installed.

This letter is a request for the removal of the three no parking signs. They are located on the east side of Jackson St. just south of 41<sup>st</sup> Ave NE. They are across the street from Immaculate Conception Church on 4030 Jackson St NE. The signs prohibit parking during mass times on Saturday evening and Sunday morning.

The protester displaying the offensive signage has not been around in a long time. The restoration of parking would benefit our parishioners, many of whom are elderly, during mass times.

I can attend the Traffic Commission meeting to answer any questions or provide any further information.

Thank you for your attention in this manner.

Sincerely



Stephen D. Smith  
Immaculate Conception Church Parish Trustee  
4030 Jackson St NE  
Columbia Heights, MN 55421  
Cell: 612-860-7092

Cc: Kathy Fraser, Immaculate Conception Church Business Administrator.



# 5th Street at 40th Avenue



Aerial Photo: Flown Spring of 2014