

**Livable Streets Task Force
Meeting Minutes
November 2, 2015 @ 6pm
Whittier Alliance**

Attendees: Paul Shanafelt, David Schroth, Dave LaViolette, Hosu Klessig, Greg Schmidt, Mary Gazca

The Task Force walked along 27th Street between Stevens Ave. and Pleasant Ave and analyzed each of these intersections. This took place after dark while street lights were illuminated. Per Public Works request, we were to look for engineering deficiencies and other issues with each intersection. At the prior week's meeting, it was suggested that we focus on a few intersections first; much of our initial focus will be along this 27th St. corridor.

Stevens Ave & 27th St.

Two-way streets

4-way stop

Parking on both sides of 27th and east side of Stevens

STOP signs with ALL-WAY signs on each corner

SNOW EMERGENCY signs

NO PARKING-30 FT placards on each side of 27th under STOP signs

Fire hydrant on southeast side of 27th

Task Force comments:

-Eastbound 27th and northbound Stevens STOP signs hard to see. Possibly due to light glare from streetlight.

-All 4 STOP signs are hard to see because they are placed too high.

-Intersection was busier than group expected.

-Poor sightlines due to cars parked too close to intersection. NO PARKING-30 FT placards underneath STOP signs not effective.

1st Ave & 27th St.*

Two-way streets

STOP signs on east and west sides of 27th

Parking on both sides of 27th and eastside of 1st Ave.

NO PARKING-30 FT placards on each side of 27th under STOP signs

Fire hydrant on southeast 27th corner

Bike lane on eastside of 1st Ave

Task Force comments:

-No signage indicating bike lane. David mentioned having a sign on 27th St indicating "cyclists ahead."

Cars tend to creep out on 27th while watching for cross traffic on 1st and fail to recognize they are inching

into the bike lane.

- Tree blocking sightline of westbound 27th St traffic
- Cars parked too close to intersection on eastside of 1st Ave causing poor sightlines
- Noticed that the house on the northwest corner of 27th St had their fence smashed in, presumably by vehicles. They also installed large boulders in their yard, also presumably to protect their property from vehicles.
- No signage regarding parking at the corners other than placards on 27th STOP signs.

*Public Works has indicated that this intersection is a priority and they will be installing NO PARKING signs that will prevent cars from parking too close to the intersection.

Nicollet Ave & 27th St

Two-way streets

Parking on both sides of each street

STOP signs on both sides of 27th

NO PARKING-30 FT placards underneath STOP signs on 27th

Fire hydrants on SE 27th corner and west side of Nicollet

Task Force comments

- very well-lit
- Highly visible intersection due to corner cut-outs and parking lots (no structures hindering sight).
- No signage regarding parking to corners.
- Cars did not park too close to intersection (on Nicollet) due to bus stop and other parking-related signage on Nicollet.
- Cars were parked too close to intersection on 27th.
- Someone spray-painted a 30-FT marker near the curb on SE side of 27th
- Group mentioned potential for a crosswalk for pedestrians crossing Nicollet.
- 27th St became much narrower on the west side of Nicollet

Blaisdell Ave & 27th St

Blaisdell is one-way southbound street

SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTE signs on Blaisdell

STOP signs on both sides of 27th

NO PARKING 30-FT placards on STOP signs

NO PARKING sign on Blaisdell eastside

Fire hydrant on SE 27th corner and Blaisdell west side

Southbound Bike lane on west side of Blaisdell

Task Force comments

- Signage needed to indicate bike lane for drivers on 27th heading east
- intersection is well-lit
- poor sightline when crossing Blaisdell heading west bound due to cars parked too close to intersection

Pillsbury Ave & 27th St

Two-way streets

Four-way stop

Parking on both sides of each street

Fire hydrant on SE 27th corner and west side Pillsbury

Task Force comments

- No NO PARKING signs.
- Potential place for crosswalk markings due to proximity to school
- Greg mentioned how 27th is very narrow, especially with parking on both sides and school buses using up lane.

Pleasant Ave & 27th St

Two-way streets

STOP signs for both north/southbound on Pleasant

NO PARKING-30 FT placards underneath STOP signs

Fire hydrant on SE 27th corner and Pleasant west side

Painted crosswalk lines at all four crossings

- Crosswalk suggestive of a four-way stop, although it is not a four-way stop.
- SCHOOL CROSSING signs at corners of both east and west bound 27th. These signs are very deceiving in that cars heading north/south think they are also STOP signs and assume east/west bound cars will stop. We witnessed two near-crashes in the five minutes we were there simply due to this issue.
- Would be beneficial to add CROSS TRAFFIC DOES NOT STOP signage on Pleasant.
- Alternative would be to make intersection 4-way stop.

Other Notes:

- Task Force advocated for having Traffic Enforcement start ticketing cars parked within 20 and 30 feet of intersection. Paul will contact TE and suggest this to happen along 27th St corridor. Dave will make "warning" flyers to put on windshield of cars that are parked within this distance from the intersection.
- Public Works indicated all streets in Whittier are 30mph. Greg will look into whether or not the streets around Whittier International School should be lower.
- Hosu will start modifying the survey questions.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Paul Shanafelt