

AGENDA # 1

City of Madison, Wisconsin

REPORT OF: URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION	PRESENTED: December 3, 2008	
TITLE: A Discussion with David Dryer and Dan McCormick of Traffic Engineering on Issues of Common Concern.	REFERRED:	
	REREFERRED:	
	REPORTED BACK:	
AUTHOR: Alan J. Martin, Secretary	ADOPTED:	POF:
DATED: December 3, 2008	ID NUMBER:	

Members present were: Mark Smith, Dawn Weber, Richard Wagner, Jay Ferm, Marsha Rummel, Todd Barnett, Bruce Woods, Richard Slayton and John Harrington.

SUMMARY:

At its meeting of December 3, 2008, the Urban Design Commission **RECEIVED AN INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION**. David Dryer, Traffic Engineer and Parking Manager, and Dan McCormick, Traffic Engineer of Traffic Engineering appeared to discuss issues of common concern as a follow-up to the Commission's request. Dryer provided an overview of the operation of the Traffic Engineering Division, including its function as a City agency in coordination with other City approval processes involving Planning and the City Engineering Division. McCormick noted the Traffic Engineering Division, in its review of projects, attempts to mitigate traffic impacts that provides for development issues. Discussion with the Commission involved the following:

- The creation of a mechanism that would allow for Traffic Engineering's input into projects' general review by the Urban Design Commission prior to formal review by the Traffic Engineering Division as part of its recommendations to the Plan Commission and/or Common Council approval processes. Dryer noted the Traffic Engineering Division's willingness to respond to issues raised as part of the Urban Design Commission consideration of any project with request of the Commission's Secretary.
- A discussion relevant to required street width in new development emphasized the development of minimally width streets based on standards of the City Engineering Division and ordinance associated with density as well as fire access requirements.
- Dryer/McCormick noted that the Traffic Engineering Division provides recommendations for new street development in association with the ongoing neighborhood planning process and their review of subdivision plats. He further noted that the recommendations are subject to further consideration of the City Engineering Division as well as the Board of Public Works.
- A discussion on previous projects reviewed by the Commission noted significant issues with the projects; where the Commission could have benefited from direct input from the Traffic Engineering Division. Projects such as the Hyatt Hotel on West Washington Avenue, Phase II of the Tobacco Warehouse development, and Sequoya Commons were discussed. Dryer/McCormick noted Traffic Engineering's responses to traffic related issues associated with the individual projects at the request of the Commission through its Secretary within the timeframe of its deliberations. Dryer/McCormick further encouraged the Commission to request any additional information necessary regarding traffic engineering issues as part of its deliberation.

- A discussion on the need to push the envelope on design to reduce pavement, emphasized eliminating the maxing out of pavement and minimizing pavement. McCormick noted the need to look at performance standards in order to accomplish this objective, in addition to development of off-street parking plans for new developments that would allow for and encourage cross access and shared use.
- City Engineering and the Board of Public Works can override recommendations within reviews by Traffic Engineering.
- The Commission expressed concern about the lack of address of on-street moped parking issue. The Commission noted the need to accommodate moped and bike parking on the street.

Following the discussion the Commission noted the following:

- A good start, keep dialogue happening.
- If the Commission and the Traffic Engineering Division are looking at the same information, it leads to the same solution for problems.
- Need sign-off from Traffic on specific issues brought up with informational presentations.
- Request that the Traffic Engineer coordinate a professional to give a presentation on Transportation Demand Management practices and other transportation planning related issues. As a response Dryer noted that Ward Paxton of the Metropolitan Planning Organization staff could provide the Commission with detailed review of TDM practices.
- In addition it was suggested that of the resources relevant to a discussion on TDM practices also be contacted such as the University of Wisconsin.