

Traffic Engineering and Parking Divisions

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September 10, 2008

Re: Draft 2008 Traffic Signal Priority List

The schedule for the 2008 Traffic Signal Priority List (TSPL) is planned as follows:

September 23 Opportunity offered at Pedestrian/Bicycle/Motor Vehicle Commission (PBMVC)

meeting for interested residents to present comments (written or oral). Meeting will be held in Room 260, Madison Municipal Building, 215 Martin Luther King Jr.

Blvd. Public hearing starts at 6 p.m.

PBMVC review/discussion of draft 2008 Traffic Signal Priority List.

Additional data needs to be identified.

November 25 Final 2008 Traffic Signal Priority List and Action Plan reviewed and adopted

by PBMVC at this meeting.

Please note the September 23 meeting is your opportunity to offer comments on specific intersections.

Signal warrants are the framework for analyzing and comparing the need for traffic signal control at intersections. Madison's Priority List is an annual effort to evaluate relative need for traffic signal control at major unsignalized intersections. While all of the data on the Priority List is valuable, additional factors are also considered and evaluated before decisions to install signals are made. For example, an intersection with volumes somewhat below the minimum volumes to meet a signal warrant may still be a prime candidate for signals if volumes are expected to increase significantly in the immediate future. On the flip side, intersections with volumes above the threshold for traffic signals may not be recommended for signals when accident rates or congestion are expected to worsen with signal control.

A copy of last year's 2007 TSPL is enclosed along with the detailed descriptions of the signal warrants. This information is also available on our web page:

http://www.cityofmadison.com/trafficEngineering/trafficSignals.cfm

Brian Smith, Traffic Engineer (261-9625), can respond to your questions or comments regarding technical aspects of the priority list.

Sincerely,

David C. Dryer, P.E. City Traffic Engineer and Parking Manager

DCD:BJS:gep enclosures