



CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701-2724

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Public Works Committee

CC: Mayor Shaw

FROM: Dirk Jablonski, Public Works Director

DATE: April 5, 2007

RE: East Saint Charles Street and East Saint Joseph Street Intersection
No. PW041007-02

History

- 1) Traffic Operations at the request of the RCPD Traffic Division reviewed the crash history of the subject intersection.

Facts & Issues

- 2) Thirty-seven (37) crashes occurred at this intersection between 01/01/2001 to 12/31/2006.
- 3) Thirty-two (32) of the crashes involved left turning vehicles from E. St. Charles Street.
- 4) Reasonable alternate routes exist for the left turn movement from E. St. Charles Street.

Conclusion/Recommendation

- 5) The left turn movement from E. St. Charles Street will be prohibited.



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Further background

17 of the 32 crashes involved at least one injury. Left turning vehicles from E. St. Charles are struck directly on the driver's side, which increases the probability of injury (since in most MVC's someone is driving the vehicle).

For comparison: E. St. Charles on average carries 3,500 vehicles per day; Steele Avenue carries 4,200 vehicles per day. For 2001-2006 there were only 13 crashes at Steele/St. Joseph and 9 involved vehicles turning left from Steele Avenue (versus 37 and 32 respectively).

Two NO LEFT TURN SIGNS were installed by Traffic Operations on 02/27/07 – the two signs were located in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. One is directly under the STOP sign and the other is on the far left side of the intersection. Both signs are clearly visible to approaching traffic and the far side sign has an orange flag on it.

Following significant non-compliance with the turn prohibition, Traffic Operations working with the PD Traffic Division on 03/15/07 installed six (6) flexible delineator posts as an attempt to direct traffic to turn right. A temporary NO LEFT TURN sign was also placed directly opposite traffic coming from E. St. Charles. Reflective strips were also installed on the permanent sign posts in an attempt to draw driver attention to the regulatory signs.

Traffic Operations on 03/16/07 painted two hook-right arrows on the E. St. Charles pavement.

Traffic Operations assisted the PD Traffic Division on 03/23/07 in placing a changeable message board directly opposite traffic coming from E. St. Charles. The display alternates display of NO LEFT TURN and RIGHT TURN ONLY.