



**Date:** May 31, 2012

**To:** Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager  
**Through:** Theodore L. Voorhees, Deputy City Manager  
**From:** Mark D. Ahrendsen, Transportation Director  
Phil Loziuk, City Traffic Engineer  
**Subject:** Citizens Matter—Ralph M. Goins

Mr. Ralph Michael Goins submitted a “Request to Appear Before Council” to address several concerns about traffic on E. Main Street in the area near Y. E. Smith Elementary School. Transportation contacted Mr. Goins by phone on May 30<sup>th</sup> to advise him that the concerns would be investigated for appropriate actions.

Mr. Goins is concerned about speeding vehicles on the section of E. Main Street between Briggs Avenue and S. Miami Boulevard and the safety of children in proximity to Y. E. Smith Elementary School, a playground/park and the increasing number of young children populating the area. He indicated school buses and DATA buses are also speeding. He requested that the posted speed limit be reduced from 35 mph to 25 mph and that on-street parking be allowed on both sides of E. Main Street. He advised that the school’s 25 mph speed-zone flashers were not operating.

To evaluate the posted speed limit, the Department will conduct a 24-hour traffic speed and volume study to determine whether the posted speed limit is appropriate and if reducing the posted speed limit is warranted. If the study data indicates excessive speeding, the department will provide the time-of-day speed data to the Police Department for appropriate radar enforcement. As for on-street parking, parking is allowed on the north side of the street but not the south side fronting the school property. Parking is prohibited to provide motorists better visibility of children that otherwise would walk between parked cars, to improve sight distance for the school’s drop-off zone, and prohibit parents from dropping off children from the street curb.

Upon receipt of the request, the school speed-zone flashers were inspected and found to be out of service. Repair crews were dispatched and repairs made. Given the age of the school zone flashers, the Department will replace the existing school flashers with energy-efficient solar-powered flashers. We will also review all of the traffic control signs and pavement markings in the vicinity of the school and park for conformance with the most recent edition of the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*. Needed changes or additions will be made as soon as possible. Mr. Goins will be notified when our investigation is complete and actions taken. The investigation should be completed within 30 days.

c: Mr. Ralph Michael Goins