

## WEEKLY REPORT

Final plans have been made for Newark's National Night Out activities on Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. The event will be held on Academy Street from 6 p.m.-9 p.m. The city, Newark Police Department, Aetna Fire Company, and University Police Department will have displays and public safety demonstrations. We had great attendance last year and expect an even larger crowd this year.

The police department continues to receive an outpouring of appreciation and support from the community. A Bryon Court resident sent a letter to Chief Tiernan and stated in part: "I just wanted to personally write this note to you and all your coworkers to remind you all that you are something special and truly valued. You all are heroes and I will always fully respect you." Another letter stated: "I along with my co-workers, colleagues, friends and family greatly appreciate the service you and your men and women provide to our community. When we citizens encounter danger we run from it. You and your fellow officers run towards it." Also, this week a resident dropped off a tray of sandwiches at the police station to show her and her families support of the Newark Police Department. Chief Tiernan and officers discussed at this week's roll call, how lucky we are in the City of Newark to have such support from our residents, City Council, and City Manager's Office. Members of the Newark Police Department greatly appreciate all of the support from the community.

Chief Tiernan and Sergeant Gerald Bryda met with the Reverend Derrick Porter of the Newark United Methodist Church. Reverend Porter reached out to the police department to establish a rapport and call on each other in times of need. We will be meeting with Reverend Porter again in a few weeks to continue our discussion.

Lieutenant Michael VanCampen recently began his attendance at the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy in Virginia. This prestigious academy provides an intensive management training course and is attended by police managers from across the USA as well as many countries around the world. We are sure Lt. VanCampen will represent the City of Newark well.

**CITY OF NEWARK**  
**Newark, Delaware**

**Traffic Committee Meeting**  
**July 19, 2016**  
**3:30 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Lt. Fred Nelson, Andrew Haines, Tom Coleman, Marvin Howard, Dave Gula

**Absent:** D/C Kevin Feeney  
Tom Parkins

**Guests:** Matt Buckley, Delaware Department of Transportation  
Mark Deshon, Chairman of Newark Bicycle Committee  
Albert Porach, Newark resident

**1. Review requested changes to the municipal code as submitted from the Newark Bicycle Committee.**

Mr. Deshon said Newark Bicycle Committee attempted to specify prohibitions where necessary and mirror state code where appropriate. Mr. Haines asked what defined the "new language". Mr. Deshon clarified the new language is the italicized text. Mr. Deshon said the asterisk comments at the end are the sections that were removed.

Mr. Coleman said upon conducting research it was discovered that state code was more restrictive than city code. Mr. Coleman said state code regarding bikes on sidewalks are prohibited in business districts where bike lanes are provided. Mr. Coleman said bicycling on sidewalks on E. Main Street by state code is allowable, Delaware Avenue and S. Main Street by state code is not allowable. Mr. Coleman said Delaware Avenue by state code is prohibited eastbound however there is no prohibition westbound; allowing for riding bicycles on the sidewalks.

Mr. Deshon said one contention in respect to Delaware Avenue is you don't want to further restrict bicyclists however you want to make it safe and discourage bicycling counter flow in the eastbound bicycle lane. However, this poses a challenge with the realization bicyclists will travel westbound regardless. Mr. Deshon said it was the consensus of the Newark Bicycle Committee to recommend the prohibition of riding on sidewalks eastbound on Delaware Avenue and allow bicyclists on the westbound sidewalk.

Lt. Nelson read a letter submitted from Susan Grasso, Member of the Newark Bicycle Committee. Ms. Grasso said as a resident of Newark and member of the bicycle committee that relies mostly on walking and biking in Newark for daily living needs she is asking the Traffic Committee to support the Newark Bicycle Committee's proposed changes to the city ordinance relating to bicycles.

Ms. Grasso agrees that the bicycle laws in Newark are confusing and in need of clarification. Ms. Grasso said in considering the proposed changes would like the committee to keep in mind that the goals of the NBC is to keep all users safe and to encounter greater numbers of people considering bicycling as a normal mode of transportation. "As we work to create safe transportation experiences for all modes, we must take care not to unintentionally dampen enthusiasm for this beneficial form of transportation by further limiting already constrained available routes." Ms. Grasso said it has been proven that increasing the numbers of bicyclists can improve health, environmental quality, economic vitality, improve and property values, etc. Ms. Grasso said it is equally important to encourage new and experienced riders is dependent on how convenient bicycle routes are to destinations. Ms. Grasso believes one-way roads pose difficult challenges for bicyclists who are prohibited from using sidewalks. For these reasons, Ms. Grasso supports two-way bicycle movements along E. Delaware Avenue both sides until the two-way cycle track is implemented. Ms. Grasso asks no to allow the desire for perceived short-term gains in safety to impact long term goals.

Lt. Nelson said Mr. Karl Hassler said he supports the letter prepared by Ms. Grasso and feels a rational approach should be taken to utilize available public infrastructure to promote alternate transportation as much as practical.

Lt. Nelson inquired as to the status of the bicycle track on Delaware Avenue. Mr. Coleman said the cycle track is currently in the design phase and is expected to be installed in 2018. Mr. Buckley said the Delaware Avenue paving rehabilitation wasn't included in the paving schedule. Mr. Deshon asked what could be done about this. Mr. Coleman is confident it will get sorted out.

Lt. Nelson said he likes the idea of bicyclists being able to travel in both directions, however he feels allowing bicyclists to head the wrong direction on the sidewalk on a one-way street is extremely dangerous. Lt. Nelson said he is concerned for bicyclists' safety. Lt. Nelson said he is in favor of adding more restrictions on one-way streets that don't currently have restrictions. Mr. Deshon asked what the alternative is. Mr. Haines agreed with Lt. Nelson and is not in favor of endorsing counter flow bicycling on the sidewalk for the sole reason that bicycle traffic would flow better and is concerned for the safety.

Mr. Haines feels bicyclists should follow the same traffic pattern and road rules as vehicles until there is a more desirable alternative. Mr. Buckley said on the north side of Delaware Avenue it is dangerous walking with no buffer space. Mr. Buckley said it will be difficult to yield to a bicyclist with no place for the pedestrians to go.

Mr. Coleman said the Newark Bicycle Committee's proposals removed the blanket restriction in an urban bicycle route to prohibit riding bicycles on the sidewalk. Mr. Coleman said they brought in all the state code restrictions and left the restriction of Main Street, and added specific restrictions to additional streets. Any portion of an urban bicycle route system is Main Street, South Main Street from West Main Street to West Park, North College Avenue from E Main Street to Ray Street (north of Cleveland Avenue; new restriction), Delaware Avenue the draft allowed westbound.

Mr. Haines said other streets have been added that are outside of the business district and need the GIS layer to show the biking area. Mr. Coleman said they wanted to make it obvious as to what defines the business district. Lt. Nelson said he feels it is clearer to say no biking if there is a bike path. Mr. Coleman said the challenge is the streets where a bike path begins and ends in the middle of the road or the roads where there are bike lanes on only one side of the street. Lt. Nelson said if there is a bike lane in the direction you are traveling you are expected to use it.

Mr. Deshon is confident the University of Delaware students will ignore whatever restriction is imposed. Mr. Deshon suggested promoting public relations and enforcement. Mr. Haines disagrees that because they will ignore the restriction is the wrong reason for making it legal.

Mr. Gula said in the past he would commute by bicycle to WILMAPCO from his home he would use the route of Delaware Avenue eastbound and the campus westbound. He said it is extremely uncomfortable when you are approached from the wrong direction in the bike lane or in the sidewalk. Mr. Buckley asked if the University of Delaware has a preferred bike route map. Mr. Deshon said they don't at this time. Mr. Deshon said they are currently working on a master plan and relayed that they should be concerned about off campus transportation as well.

Mr. Coleman said one suggestion was bikeway signage on College Avenue to direct bicyclists to Orchard Road. Mr. Coleman said we could discuss similar signage if you are riding the wrong way on Delaware Avenue at every intersection to direct westbound bikes another direction. Mr. Deshon agrees this would be a great idea. Mr. Buckley said the inner harbor has this and thinks it is a great idea.

Mr. Deshon said before conducting police enforcement with counter flow bicycling he suggested first doing a lot of public relations and education before the police begin writing tickets. Lt. Nelson said the plan is at the beginning of the year to begin education at the new student orientation. Lt. Nelson said the ultimate goal is correct the action not to write citations. Mr. Deshon said he would like the Newark Bicycle Committee to work together on education.

Mr. Haines said regarding the ordinance piece he would support the ordinance changes by removing the word, "eastbound on"...Delaware Avenue...

Mr. Deshon said the goal of the Newark Bicycle Committee was for the Traffic Committee to endorse the proposed recommendations. Mr. Deshon would like to take this back to the committee to discuss at their meeting and will be in touch in the near future.

Mr. Coleman asked if anyone felt information was missing. The committee did not have any further revisions.

**2. Request for a speed bump on Sluice Court and Saw Mill Court.**

Mr. Coleman said he received a phone call from a resident that owns a house on Sluice Court in the cul-de-sac, however her daughter lives in the home.

Mr. Coleman said the owner stated they have witnessed speeding on the street. Mr. Coleman said he doesn't believe vehicles are exceeding the speed limit. Mr. Coleman considered if it would be worthwhile to reduce the speed limit to 15 m.p.h. from 25 m.p.h.

Mr. Haines said there are six houses on this street.

**Motion by Mr. Haines, Seconded by Mr. Coleman, to deny the request for a speed bump on Sluice Court and Saw Mill Court.**

**Motion Passed. Vote: 5 to 0.**

Lt. Nelson said if the resident would like to pass along tag information of the speeding vehicles, the Traffic Division could have a discussion with the person speeding.

**3. Request for suggestions to reduce stop sign violations at Windsor Drive and Delrem Drive.**

Lt. Nelson said this was received by Councilmember Chapman. Lt. Nelson said the police department has issued thirty (30) stop sign violations since the month of June. Lt. Nelson said there is no crash history within the last three years. Lt. Nelson suggested striping stop bars. Mr. Coleman said they could install the stop bars at this location.

**Motion by Lt. Nelson, Seconded by Mr. Coleman, to install one (1) stop bar on Windsor Drive and one (1) stop bar on Delrem Drive.**

**Motion Passed. Vote: 5 to 0.**

**4. Request for a stop sign on Stamford Drive at N. Country Club Drive.**

Lt. Nelson said this was received by Councilmember Chapman. Mr. Coleman said this seems to be a request specifically for speed reduction. Lt. Nelson said there is no crash history at this location. Lt. Nelson said 642 cars were counted, 58% vehicles were traveling the speed limit or under, 25% of the vehicles traveling 26-30 m.p.h. and 12% of vehicles were traveling 31-35 m.p.h, 3% vehicles were traveling 36-40 m.p.h. and 2% vehicles were traveling 41-45 m.p.h.

Mr. Haines suggested information be forwarded to the police department for the vehicles that are speeding.

**Motion by Mr. Gula, Seconded by Mr. Haines, to deny the request to install a stop sign on Stamford Drive at N. Country Club Drive.**

**Motion Passed. Vote: 5 to 0.**

**5. Request to change the southwest corner of S. College Avenue at Christina Parkway right turn merge lane by adding bollards or eliminating the merge lane.**

Lt. Nelson said this was brought up through the Traffic Unit in an effort to reduce rear-end collisions in the merge lane at this intersection.

Lt. Nelson said the Traffic Unit is recommending installing bollards from the island to extend southbound. Mr. Buckley said when the parkway is completed it will become a signalized double right at the parkway onto S. College Avenue to run concurrently with the northbound left and will run concurrently with the eastbound through phase. Mr. Buckley said this improvement was added to the reconstruction of the parkway.

Mr. Buckley said right turn rear end collisions are the most difficult to guess what the motorist is thinking. Mr. Buckley said if the tubular markers or bollards would need to be installed and maintained by the city. Mr. Buckley said it will encourage freer flowing around the turn. The other alternative would be to stripe as an abrupt yield movement and install a large yield sign and install a plaque "No Merge Area". Mr. Porach said this location is unsafe to travel on a bicycle. Mr. Buckley said the long-term would be to signalize and make 90 degree movement would be safer for pedestrians. Mr. Buckley said in the interim DeIDOT doesn't have a good solution for the short-term.

Mr. Gula said by increasing speeds the pedestrians are more at risk. Mr. Gula said you are making it less safe by providing more flow. Mr. Buckley said more than likely if DeIDOT made improvements they would likely resign and restripe they would not change the flow by adding tubular markers. Mr. Buckley said the bollards could be installed and if not effective be removed.

Mr. Coleman said he is not opposed to leaving the yield sign, installing the bollards and installing the 10" stripe. Mr. Buckley wouldn't recommend installing them too far down the through lane. Mr. Howard asked if u-turns on S. College will interfere with installing bollards. Mr. Buckley said the u-turn movement numbers are low.

**Motion by Lt. Nelson, Seconded by Mr. Haines, to install the bollards on S. College Avenue.**

**Motion Passed. Vote: 5 to 0.**

Old Business:

Cherry Hill Manor – Traffic Calming

Mr. Coleman said in follow up to Cherry Hill Manor intersection improvements the Public Works Department has completed the survey. Mr. Coleman said they expect to make the changes without creating any wet spots. Mr. Coleman provided a rough sketch to the drafting team and expect to have a design review for the next meeting.

Cleveland Avenue

Mr. Buckley inquired as to the status for the next Cleveland Avenue. Mr. Coleman said the next public meeting needs to be scheduled. Mr. Buckley said they are working on finalizing the last round of requests. Mr. Buckley said they are looking for a date. Mr. Coleman said the week of August 15<sup>th</sup> would be good. Mr. Buckley said at this meeting they will present the pros and cons of suggested recommendations.



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Fred Nelson, Acting Chairman

NEWARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

WEEK 07/10/16-07/16/16

INVESTIGATIONS

CRIMINAL CHARGES

	2015 TO <u>DATE</u>	2016 TO <u>DATE</u>	THIS WEEK <u>2016</u>	2015 TO <u>DATE</u>	2016 TO <u>DATE</u>	THIS WEEK <u>2016</u>
<u>PART I OFFENSES</u>						
a)Murder/Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0
b)Attempt	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kidnap	4	6	0	1	4	0
Rape	4	2	0	1	3	0
Unlaw. Sexual Contact	4	4	0	1	1	0
Robbery	19	30	3	24	8	0
- Commercial Robberies	9	11	1	9	0	0
- Robberies with Known Suspects	1	2	0	1	0	0
- Attempted Robberies	2	5	0	5	1	0
- Other Robberies	7	12	2	9	7	0
Assault/Aggravated	2	12	0	16	19	0
Burglary	30	52	2	17	27	0
- Commercial Burglaries	4	10	1	2	4	0
- Residential Burglaries	24	35	1	14	21	0
- Other Burglaries	2	7	0	1	2	0
Theft	248	359	8	103	103	4
Theft/Auto	20	28	3	7	9	0
Arson	1	2	0	1	0	0
All Other	42	63	0	38	42	1
<b>TOTAL PART I</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>5</b>
<u>PART II OFFENSES</u>						
Other Assaults	169	185	3	107	78	1
Rec. Stolen Property	2	0	0	14	18	1
Criminal Mischief	97	102	4	89	41	0
Weapons	6	6	0	46	22	0
Other Sex Offenses	1	0	0	2	0	0
Alcohol	120	118	1	203	205	1
Drugs	44	81	3	122	113	6
Noise/Disorderly Premise	232	334	2	103	141	1
Disorderly Conduct	97	94	2	52	61	0
Trespass	99	105	2	43	35	0
All Other	239	264	10	169	173	2
<b>TOTAL PART II</b>	<b>1106</b>	<b>1289</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>887</b>	<b>12</b>
<u>MISCELLANEOUS:</u>						
Alarm	505	409	6	0	0	0
Animal Control	283	321	17	2	2	0
Recovered Property	140	156	4	0	0	0
Service	16843	18688	653	0	0	0
Suspicious Per/Veh	283	329	9	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL MISC.</b>	<b>18054</b>	<b>19903</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>

	THIS WEEK <u>2015</u>	2015 TO <u>DATE</u>	THIS WEEK <u>2016</u>	2016 TO <u>DATE</u>
<b>TOTAL CALLS</b>	<b>814</b>	<b>23,394</b>	<b>883</b>	<b>25,005</b>



Newark Police Department  
Weekly Traffic Report  
07/10/16-07/16/16



TRAFFIC SUMMONSES	2015 YTD	2016 YTD	THIS WEEK 2015	THIS WEEK 2016
Moving/Non-Moving	4,999	5,902	67	208
DUI	110	96	3	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	5,109	5,998	70	211

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS				
<b>Fatal</b>	2	0	0	0
Personal Injury	99	133	4	1
Property Damage <b>(Reportable)</b>	286	431	7	6
Property Damage <b>(Non-Reportable)</b>	189	95	2	4
Hit and Run	157	144	5	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	733	803	18	15