

**Revised Recommendations for Traffic signs at
Walnut Street, Tenth Street, Sycamore Street, et al.**

Background:

Beginning in March of 2022, the Streets Committee held a series of meetings to address residents' concerns about traffic on and around Walnut Street, Tenth Street, Sycamore Street, North Third Street, and Indiana Ave. This series of meetings were held over the course of three months, after which recommendations for action to be taken were made to Council at the May 19, 2022 meeting which Council approved.

Subsequent to that meeting it was learned that a traffic study needed to be conducted by the borough engineer in order to place some of the additional signs requested as part of the set of recommendations.

In June, the borough engineer initiated his review of the recommendations beginning with an examination of the various locations as part of the traffic study.

The recommendations by the borough engineer require a number of signs in addition to what was originally considered. Total cost for the signs and hardware is estimated at **\$5523.00** which is going to be more of an expense than we had originally anticipated. While the committee wishes to ease the traffic concerns raised by the residents, it also wishes to be prudent in the use of taxpayer funds to do so.

This report will present the findings and conclusions of the borough engineer with alternative recommendations which the committee feels would solve the concerns originally presented by the residents with less cost. Each location is presented as a separate consideration.

Location 1. - The Walnut St By-pass (SR 0011) at Riverview Drive.

The committee's original recommendation was to enhance the "No Truck" sign at the corner of Walnut and Riverview Drive with flashing lights.

The borough engineer conducted a traffic study and completed a report which shows the following additional signs be placed if this plan is pursued.

- Since this recommendation required an alteration of signs on a state-owned highway, the state would need to be petitioned for approval.

- Two additional “No Truck” signs along placed along Walnut Street (bypass) one facing each way to warn trucks of the restriction upon entering Riverview Dr. and with the above signs would be added two “Except Local Deliveries” signs placed one each with the signs listed above.
- It is also recommended that two “No Right Turn” signs be added on Walnut St. facing south/west and one “No Left Turn” sign be added on Walnut St. facing north/east.
- Two additional “Riverview Drive” signs placed on Walnut Street Bypass (one facing each way) to alert drivers to the intersection

The committee reviewed this report and it is the committee’s recommendation that we not make any changes to this intersection’s signage, with the intent that we place signage elsewhere that will address the problem which precipitated the initial meetings in March and April. Please see “Location 2” below for details.

Location 2. - The Corner of Riverview Drive and Indiana Ave. and 9th Street and Indiana Ave. (Note: This location includes only borough-owned roads.)

The committee’s recommendation was to add several signs to try to alleviate a truck traffic problem. This included the addition of an “All Trucks Must Turn Right” on Riverview Drive at the corner of Riverview Drive and Indiana Ave. in order to divert truck traffic away from the residential area between Market and Indiana.

The committee also recommended a “No Trucks except local deliveries” sign be placed on Ninth Street at the corner of Ninth and Indiana as a second warning to keep trucks from going into the residential area between Market and Indiana.

The borough engineer’s report recommends the following additional signs be placed if this plan is pursued.

- Four “No Trucks” signs placed on each corner of Indiana and Riverview Dr. /Ninth St.
- Four “Except Local Deliveries” signs placed on each corner of Indiana and Riverview Dr. /Ninth St. sign conjunction with the “No Trucks” signs.
- Two “No Right Turn” signs to be placed on Indiana Ave. one facing east and one facing west.
- Two “No Left Turn” signs to be placed on Indiana Ave. one facing east and one facing west.

The committee believes that this many additional signs would be an eyesore in this residential area and after discussion with the borough engineer makes the following alternate recommendations.

- A “No Trucks” sign and “Except Local Deliveries” sign be placed on Ninth Street at the corner of Ninth St. and Indiana Ave. which will be easily observable to vehicles seeking to travel south on Ninth Street into the residential area between Market and Indiana Ave.
- A “No Trucks” sign **which is presently in this location remains in place** on Riverview Road facing Indiana Ave. and a sign stating “Except Local Deliveries” **be added** to restrict

truck traffic on Riverview in the same manner that the sign at the bottom of Riverview restricts truck traffic coming up that road.

Location 3. - The corner of Walnut Street (not the bypass) and Ninth Street

The committee made no specific recommendation about additional signs that might be placed at this corner. However, the borough engineer did address this corner in his report as follows.

- Four “No Trucks” signs (one at each corner) coupled with four “Except Local Deliveries” signs.
- The committee supports these additional signs and one additional sign on Walnut Street at the corner of 8th Street that states “No Trucks” and “Except Local Deliveries” This sign would face east towards 8th Street.

Location 4. – Walnut St. and Third Street and Walnut and Cumberland Road, (also addressing Market St. and Third St.) Note: While the committee did not originally address Market St. and Third St. The borough engineer recommends it be included because from a traffic standpoint they are linked.

The committee’s recommendation for Walnut St. and Third St. was initially that a “No Trucks Except Local Deliveries” be placed on Walnut St. at the corner with Third St. facing west.

As for the Walnut St./Cumberland Road section the committee recommended a “No Truck Sign Except Local Deliveries” be placed on Cumberland facing west at this vicinity. To add to the consideration, we must also remember here already exists a “No Trucks Except Local Deliveries” on Third Street (by the Dunkin’ Donuts) facing south towards Market Street. This sign is placed in a location that cannot be seen by motorists approaching the intersection on Market Street and they cannot see it until they actually are on Third. Additionally, this sign is placed in a location that is not covered by our ordinances.

Note” This issue involves making an application to the state for additional signs on state-controlled roads. The borough engineer’s report recommends the following.

- Placement of four “No Trucks” signs along with four “Except Local Deliveries” signs one on each corner of Market Street and Third Street.
- Placement of One “No Right Turn” sign on Market facing east (towards the Bottleneck)
- Placement of one “No Left Turn” sign on Market facing west.

It is the committee’s recommendation at this time that this location and all of the considered signage surrounding this location be placed on hold while the “Bottleneck Improvement Project”, envisioned by the state, is under consideration and construction. Adding signs during this major construction would only make matters more confusing for travelers. Once this traffic

issue is addressed the committee can more easily develop a solution to the concerns in this area.

Location 5. – Cumberland Road/Indiana Road at Fifth Street.

At this location the committee had recommended that a sign be placed facing west on this corner stating that “All Trucks Must Turn Right Except Local Deliveries”.

The borough engineer’s report shows the following:

- On Cumberland Road east of the corner a “No Trucks” sign coupled with “Except Local Deliveries” be placed facing west
- On Indiana Ave. west of the corner a “No Trucks” sign, coupled with “Except Local Deliveries” be placed facing west
- On Fifth Street facing south at the corner a sign be placed “No Right Turn”.
- After reviewing this report, the committee believes that the following signs should be placed.
- On Cumberland Road east of the corner a “No Trucks” sign coupled with “Except Local Deliveries” be placed facing west.
- On Fifth Street facing south at the corner a sign be placed “Trucks No Right Turn” coupled with a sign that states “Except local deliveries”.

It is the committee’s recommendation at this time that no additional signage be placed in this area. The main reason is that since we are not recommending no additional signs be place at the corner of Third and Walnut (See Location 4 above), no restriction sign should be placed at the other end of that corridor until both ends can be addressed together.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please note detailed documents of the engineer’s report can be found on the Council Portal under the Streets Heading in the September 15, 2022 Council Meeting page.

For ease of reading, current recommendations of the committee can be found in the accompanying appendix found at the end of this document.

Joe Gargiulo

APPENDIX 1

Location 1. - The Walnut St By-pass (SR 0011) at Riverview Drive.

- It is the committee's current recommendation that no changes be made at this location.

Location 2. - The Corner of Riverview Drive and Indiana Ave. and 9th Street and Indiana Ave.

- It is the committee's current recommendation that the following be done:
 - A "No Trucks" sign and "Except Local Deliveries" sign be placed on Ninth Street at the corner of Ninth St. and Indiana Ave. which will be easily observable to vehicles seeking to travel south on Ninth Street into the residential area between Market and Indiana Ave.
 - A "No Trucks" sign and "Except Local Deliveries" sign be placed on Riverview Road facing Indiana Ave. to restrict truck traffic on Riverview in the same manner that the sign at the bottom of Riverview restricts truck traffic coming up that road

Location 3. - The corner of Walnut Street (not the bypass) and Ninth Street

- It is the committee's current recommendation that the following be done:
 - Four "No Trucks" signs (one at each corner) coupled with four "Except Local Deliveries" signs be put in place.
 - One "No Trucks" sign coupled with "Except Local Deliveries" be placed on Walnut Street near the corner of 8th Street.

Location 4. – Walnut St. and Third Street and Walnut and Cumberland Road

- It is the committee's recommendation that no changes be made at this time and all signage in this area be held as is until the Bottle Neck Project is completed.

Location 5. – Cumberland Road/Indiana Road at Fifth Street

- It is the committee's recommendation that no additional signs be placed in this area until such time as the issues at Locations 4 and 5 can be addressed together.