CITY OF WAUWATOSA MEMO



To: Transportation Affairs Committee

From: Michael May, Senior Civil Engineer – Traffic & Transportation

Date: February 22, 2023

Subject: Request to Modify Parking Regulations on the West Side of 68th Street both

North and South of Hillcrest Drive

A. Issue

Vehicles parking along 68th Street block the view of motorists waiting to turn or cross from the west leg of Hillcrest Drive.

B. Background/Options

68th Street is a collector street and is approximately 30-feet wide. Parking is prohibited on the east side of 68th Street from Milwaukee Avenue to just south of North Avenue. Parking is prohibited between 6:30am to 9:00am, except on Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, on the west side of 68th from just north of Milwaukee Avenue to Garfield Avenue, and is otherwise permitted.

Staff received a citizen request to prohibit parking at all times on 68th Street within close proximity to Hillcrest Drive. As its name suggests, this intersection is located at the crest of a hill on 68th Street. The citizen concern is for motorists along 68th Street who must properly position themselves in the roadway in advance of the crest of the hill so-as to avoid an opposing direction sideswipe crash. The concern is also for motorists exiting Hillcrest Drive to adequately see approaching traffic on 68th Street, judge gaps in the 68th Street traffic stream, and then safely complete a turn or crossing maneuver.

Upon review of intersection sight distances, staff is recommending the following parking change as shown in the attached exhibit and summarized as follows.

• Prohibit parking along the west side of 68th Street from 175-feet north of Hillcrest Drive to 175-feet south of Hillcrest Drive.

Letters were sent to the four property owners along 68th Street abutting this proposed parking change. If approved, City staff will permanently post or remove posted parking signs.

C. Strategic Plan (Area of Focus)

Priority 2: Public Safety

D. Fiscal Impact

Minor expenses for in-house creation and installation of signs as well as removal of existing signs where applicable. Existing sign budget will accommodate these expenses.

E. Recommendation

Approve parking changes as outlined in section B and shown on the attached exhibit.