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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
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To: Municipal Services Committee
From: Eric Lom, City Traffic Engineer
Date: December 5, 2023
Re: Change to intersection traffic control at the Tonka St/Vine St intersection
Follow-Up to Six-Month Trial Period

Based on request from Alderperson Meltzer, the Traffic Section recently reviewed the traffic control at the uncontrolled intersection of Tonka St/Vine St. We subsequently initiated a six-month trial period to change from no control to one-way stop control. This 3-legged “T” intersection is located two blocks east of Rankin Street and just north of Pacific Street. The land use in this area is primarily residential, except for Ellinor Restaurant, which is located at the intersection. Both streets are functionally classified as *local*. The roadway configuration at this location is highly unusual, with the Tonka/Vine intersection located just 20 feet from the Tonka/Pacific intersection.

In a typical intersection control study, we consider traffic volumes, crash history, safe approach speeds, etc. In this case, the entering volume of this intersection is relatively low, at an estimated 250 vehicles per day. A review of crash records indicated zero reportable crashes for the recent five-year period of 2018 through 2022. The critical approach speed for the intersection was found to be approximately 4 mph, which is primarily due to the building located in the SE quadrant (Ellinor Restaurant).

While this intersection does not meet the volume threshold for stop control, the critical approach speed is well below the standard for no control/yield control. As such, we recommend maintaining the one-way stop control that was implemented for the trial period.

To accomplish this, the following ordinance action is required:

1. **Create:** “Install a stop sign on Vine Street at Tonka Street.”