

CITY COUNCIL ACTION REPORT

November 20, 2009

TO: John Szerlag, City Manager

FROM: Mark Miller, Asst. City Manager/Economic Development Services
Steven J. Vandette, City Engineer *SV*
William J. Huotari, Deputy City Engineer *WJH*

SUBJECT: Traffic Committee Recommendations
November 18, 2009

Recommendations:

The Traffic Committee considered these items at the November 18, 2009 meeting and made the following recommendations (minutes attached):

- Recommend installation of all-way STOP signs at the intersection of Larchwood and Austin.
- Recommend that an additional NO STOPPING, STANDING, PARKING zone be established on the west side of Anvil from Forge to the driveway at 3668 Forge during the hours of 7:45 to 8:45 a.m. and 2:45 to 3:45 p.m., school days only.

Financial Considerations:

- Signs cost approximately \$115.

Policy Considerations:

- Troy has enhanced the health and safety of the community.

A regular meeting of the Troy Traffic Committee was held Wednesday, November 18, 2009 in the Lower Level Conference Room at Troy City Hall. Pete Ziegenfelder called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call

- PRESENT: Sarah Binkowski
John Diefenbaker
Ted Halsey
Gordon Schepke
Pete Ziegenfelder
Sam Jiang, Student Rep.
- ABSENT: Jan Hubbell
Richard Kilmer
- Also present: Bill Huotari, Deputy City Engineer
Officer Larry Schultz, Troy Police Dept.
- And Edward Repen, 3674 Forge
John Marion, 1863 Larchwood
Jim Blackney, 3668 Forge
Ann Blackney, 3668 Forge
Ian Blackney, 3668 Forge

2. Minutes – October 21, 2009

RESOLUTION #2009-11-17

Moved by Binkowski
Seconded by Diefenbaker

To approve the October 21, 2009 minutes.

YES: All-5
NO: None
ABSENT: 2 (Hubbell, Kilmer)
MOTION CARRIED

REGULAR BUSINESS

3. Change the Intersection of Larchwood and Austin to All-Way STOP Control

John Marion, 1863 Larchwood, requests all-way STOP control at Larchwood and Austin. There are significant sight obstructions at that location due to the unusual configuration of the intersection. See attached report.

RESOLUTION #2009-11-18

Moved by Halsey

Seconded by Schepke

Recommend installation of ALL-WAY STOP signs at the intersection of Larchwood and Austin.

YES: All-5

NO: None

ABSENT: 2 (Hubbell, Kilmer)

MOTION CARRIED

4. Install an Additional NO PARKING Sign on Anvil South of Forge

Pete Ziegenfelder, Traffic Committee Chair, requests installation of an additional NO PARKING sign on Anvil south of Forge, to enable students to see better when they cross the street and to make it easier for school buses to turn onto Forge. See attached report.

Officer Schultz requests that another NO STOPPING, STANDING, PARKING zone be established on Anvil north of Forge. The committee members and the residents attending all agreed. Ms. Binkowski wanted this item placed on the next agenda so the nearby residents can be notified of the meeting.

RESOLUTION #2009-11-19

Moved by Diefenbaker

Seconded by Binkowski

- a. Recommend establishment of an additional NO STOPPING, STANDING, PARKING zone on the west side of Anvil from Forge south to the driveway at 3668 Forge during the hours of 7:45 to 8:45 a.m. and 2:45 to 3:45 p.m., school days only.

YES: All-5

NO: None

ABSENT: 2 (Hubbell, Kilmer)

MOTION CARRIED

11. Public Comment

No one wished to speak on matters not on the agenda.

12. Other Business

Mr. Diefenbaker said that reflectors on the corners of the Blanch and Wright intersection were removed during the recent paving project in the area. He would like them replaced. He also stated that Pro-Line Asphalt did a great job with the paving project and restoration.

Mr. Repen said reflectors are also needed on the corners of Forge and Anvil.

Mr. Diefenbaker suggested that in order to save paper, backup materials for the minutes not be sent out to the members, as they have already received them with the agendas.

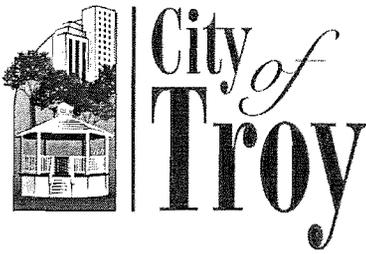
Mr. Blackey asked that Mr. Huotari contact the Road Commission and have them check on the timing of the traffic signal on John R at Niagara.

13. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Pete Ziegenfelder, Chairperson

Laurel Nottage, Recording Secretary



TRAFFIC COMMITTEE REPORT

November 9, 2009

TO: Traffic Committee

FROM: Bill Huotari, Deputy City Engineer/Acting Traffic Engineer *WJA*

SUBJECT: Larchwood at Austin – ALL WAY STOP Sign Request

Request:

John Marion, 1863 Larchwood, requests that the intersection of Larchwood at Austin be changed to All-Way STOP control.

Background:

The existing T-intersection is controlled by a STOP sign on westbound Larchwood at Austin. Austin is offset approximately 35' to the west between the northbound and southbound approaches to Larchwood. Austin, north of Larchwood is a private road. By virtue of this, motorists traveling southbound on Austin are required by law to stop at the intersection before entering the public roadway. In reality, this does not happen as the majority, if not all, motorists traveling in this area do not recognize that Austin, north of Larchwood is a private road.

Due to the offset of Austin, a motorist legally stopped on Larchwood must pull into the intersection in order to see southbound traffic on Austin. By pulling out into the intersection to a point where you can see southbound traffic a situation has now been created where this motorist now sits within the intersection and potentially blocks northbound Austin traffic. A STOP sign for northbound Austin would provide for increased safety for westbound Larchwood motorists.

The existing STOP sign for westbound Larchwood was placed by Traffic Control Order # 86-2-SS which replaced an existing YIELD sign. The STOP sign was requested and approved based on reduced sight distance at the intersection. The northeast quadrant of the intersection contains landscaping in a berm area as well as a recently placed "For Lease" sign. All of the landscaping, berm area and the "For Lease" sign are on private property and are outside of what would normally be considered as the 25' x 25' corner clearance triangle.

The city requested that our traffic engineering consultant (OHM) review the request and provide a report of their findings and recommendations (copy attached). The report recommends that the intersection control be modified from a one-way STOP control for westbound Larchwood to All-Way STOP control for the Larchwood/Austin intersection.

Recommendations:

Staff concurs with our consultant's recommendation to modify the intersection control from a one-way STOP control for westbound Larchwood to All-Way STOP control for the Larchwood/Austin intersection.

Suggested Resolutions:

- a. Recommend All-Way STOP control for the intersection of Larchwood Drive at Austin Drive.
- b. Recommend no changes at the intersection of Larchwood Drive at Austin Drive.

October 23, 2009

OHM

Engineering Advisors

Mr. William Huotari, P.E.
Deputy City Engineer
City of Troy
500 W. Big Beaver Road
Troy, MI 48084

Subject: Traffic Control Recommendation for the intersection of Larchwood Drive and Austin Drive
OHM JN: 0128-09-0090

Dear Mr. Huotari:

As requested, we have reviewed the Larchwood Drive/Austin Drive intersection to modify the existing traffic control to All-Way STOP control. The subject intersection is a T-intersection located in the City of Troy, approximately 0.35 miles north of Maple Road and 0.4 miles west of John R Road. Larchwood Drive is a local street, which runs east-west forming T-intersection with Austin Drive to the west. Austin Drive, north of Larchwood Drive is a private street running in the north-south direction. Austin Drive, south of Larchwood Drive is a local street. There is currently a STOP sign for westbound Larchwood Drive at Austin Drive. Austin Drive alignment has an offset of 35' between the northbound and southbound approaches at the intersection with Larchwood Drive. Reference the attachments for an aerial photograph.

Background on Traffic Control Determination

Michigan Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MMUTCD) enlists conditions, besides criteria for traffic volumes and crash experience, where Two-Way or All-Way STOP control may be warranted. Following are the conditions applicable to this study:

- At the intersection of a less important road with a main road where application of the normal right-of-way rule is unduly hazardous.
- At the intersections where a combination of high speed, restricted view, or crash records indicate a need for control by the STOP sign.
- At the intersections where a road user, after stopping, cannot see conflicting traffic and is not able to reasonably safely negotiate the intersection unless conflicting cross traffic is also required to stop.

In this context, the following factors are considered significant and have influenced our recommendation:

Types of Highways

Austin Drive, north of Larchwood Drive is a private street. Hence, southbound traffic should be required to stop before entering the intersection as it is a private road entering a public road. The approach is currently not under traffic control.

Sight Distance

The view of southbound traffic from the westbound Larchwood Drive is blocked due to landscaping and FOR LEASE sign at the northeast corner of this intersection. The offset also

contributes to the sight distance problem as the westbound stop sign is set back further than at a traditional tee intersection. These conditions require that the westbound traffic to stop before proceeding through the intersection.

Intersection Safety

As mentioned above, the view of southbound traffic from the westbound Larchwood Drive is blocked. The westbound vehicles attempting turns, either northbound or southbound, must enter the intersection to locate any southbound vehicles. This places the westbound vehicles in an unsafe situation as they are blocking northbound traffic. Hence, with STOP control for northbound traffic, the safety of the westbound vehicles will be enhanced.

Recommendation

OHM recommends that the intersection control be modified from a one-way STOP control for westbound Larchwood Drive to All-Way STOP control for the Larchwood Drive/Austin Drive intersection.

Sincerely,
Orchard Hiltz & McCliment, Inc.



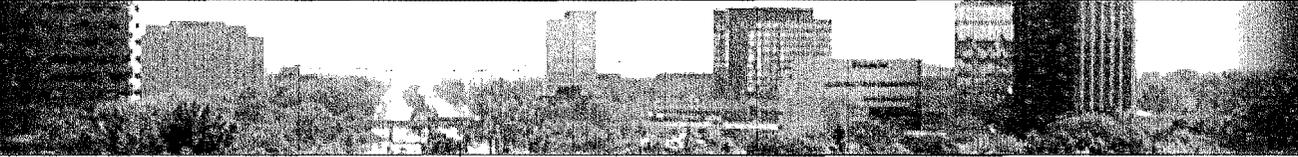
Anita S. Katkar, PE
Traffic Project Engineer



Stephen B. Dearing, PE, PTOE
Manager of Traffic Engineering Services

Attachments:

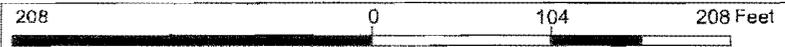
- Aerial Photo



Legend

- I-75
- Road Centerline
 - Major Road
 - Industrial Road
 - Local Road
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- Hydrography Arc
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 - Green:Band_2
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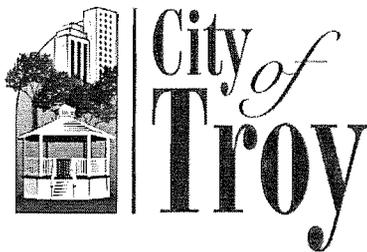
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NAD_1983_StatePlane_Michigan_South_FIPS_2113_IntlFeet
 City of Troy Geographical Information Systems - Department of Information Technology

Note: The information provided by this application has been compiled from recorded deeds, plats, tax maps, surveys, and other public records and data. It is not a legally recorded map survey. Users of this data are hereby notified that the source information represented should be consulted for verification.

Notes
 Larchwood at Austin



TRAFFIC COMMITTEE REPORT

November 9, 2009

TO: Traffic Committee

FROM: Bill Huotari, Deputy City Engineer/Acting Traffic Engineer *WJA*

SUBJECT: Barnard Elementary – Anvil at Forge – Additional NO PARKING Sign Request

Request:

Pete Ziegenfelder requests that an additional NO PARKING sign be placed on Anvil, south of Forge to provide for better traffic circulation at Barnard Elementary.

Background:

Mr. Ziegenfelder has been observing the traffic patterns at Barnard Elementary school over the past few months. The Traffic Committee approved the establishment of a NO STOPPING, STANDING, PARKING zone on the south side of Forge as well as prohibiting right turns from Forge to Anvil, both during the hours of 7:45 to 8:45 a.m. and 2:45 to 3:45 p.m. during school days only at the July 2009 meeting. These signs were subsequently installed and are being enforced. Mr. Ziegenfelder's request is for an additional NO PARKING sign, like the others previously approved, to be installed on the west side of Anvil, between Forge and the driveway to 3668 Forge (the house is addressed from Forge, but the driveway has access to Anvil).

As with all requests concerning a Troy school, the original request is forwarded to a representative of that specific school for review and/or comments. Mr. Ziegenfelder's request was forwarded to Mrs. Mary Haezebrouck, principal at Barnard Elementary school. Mrs. Haezebrouck concurs with Mr. Ziegenfelder's recommendation and supports the installation of an additional NO PARKING sign on Anvil, south of Forge. A copy of the email string between Mr. Ziegenfelder, the city and Mrs. Haezebrouck is attached.

Recommendations:

Staff supports the recommendation to install a NO STOPPING, STANDING, PARKING sign, to be effective during the hours of 7:45 to 8:45 a.m. and 2:45 to 3:45 p.m. during school days only to be consistent with the previously approved NO STOPPING, STANDING, PARKING zones established at Barnard Elementary school.

Suggested Resolutions:

- a. Recommend that a NO STOPPING, STANDING, PARKING zone be established on the west side of Anvil, from Forge to the driveway at 3668 Forge during the hours of 7:45 to 8:45 a.m. and 2:45 to 3:45 p.m. during school days only.
- b. Recommend no changes at Barnard Elementary school.

William J Huotari

From: William J Huotari
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2009 2:56 PM
To: William J Huotari
Subject: FW: Barnard Elementary School

From: Haezebrouck, Mary [mailto:MHaezebrouck2@troy.k12.mi.us]
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2009 7:15 AM
To: William J Huotari
Subject: RE: Barnard Elementary School

I am sorry for my delayed response, Bill. I have done a lot of thinking on this matter and have done some observations. I do think having the "no parking" sign all the way to the corner would help students see better as they cross the street (a parked car can block student vision) and would help buses make the turn onto Forge a bit easier, especially when we have a large snow fall.

Thus, I am requesting that an additional sign be placed in the location stated in Mr. Ziegenfelder's email.

I appreciate your interest and advocacy for Barnard students.

Mary Haezebrouck

From: William J Huotari [mailto:HuotariWJ@troymi.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 30, 2009 3:34 PM
To: Haezebrouck, Mary
Cc: Davisson, Kathleen A; Adamczyk, Michael M
Subject: FW: Barnard Elementary School

Mary, the email below is from our Traffic Committee Chairperson and he asked that an additional NO PARKING sign be placed near Barnard.

Could you give me some feedback on how traffic has been operating since the other NO PARKING signs have been installed.

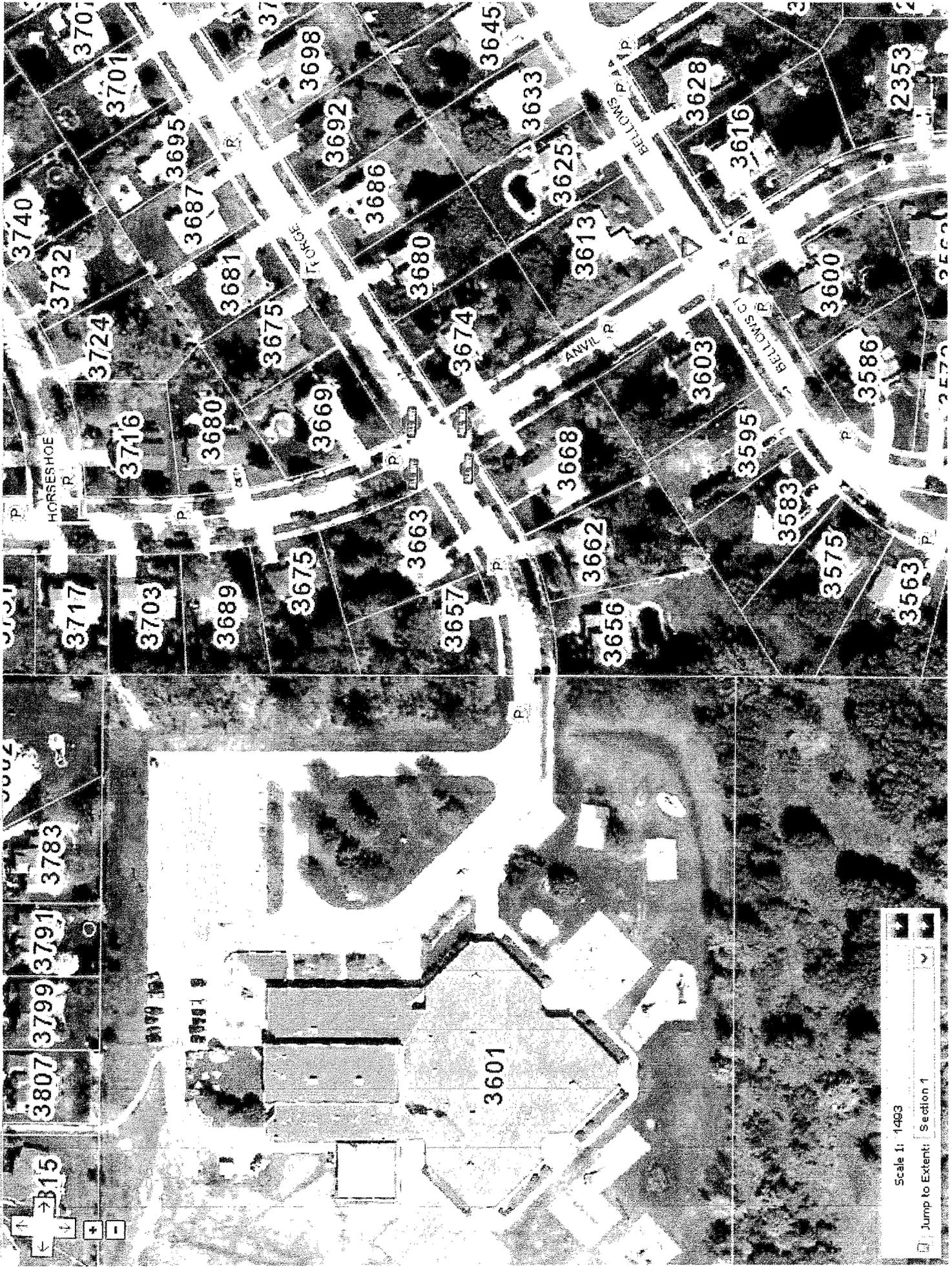
If an additional NO PARKING sign were to be desired, the request should come from or be supported by the school.

Thanks, Bill

From: ZIEGENFELDER, PETE [mailto:pete.ziegenfelder@hp.com]
Sent: Friday, October 30, 2009 2:59 PM
To: William J Huotari
Cc: Laurel Nottage
Subject: Barnard Elementary School

I have been observing the traffic patterns at Barnard Elementary school off and on this school year. I think an additional no parking sign needs to be installed on Anvil at Forge Drive. A NO PARKING sign like the others needs to be installed between the drive way (located on Anvil) of 3668 Forge Drive and the corner on the west side (if Forge Drive runs east-west and Anvil runs north-south) of Anvil.

Pete "Ziggie" Ziegenfelder
Database Administrator
GM Mainframe DBA Team / DB2. IMS (CoE) Team 1
HP Enterprise Services
Telephone +1 248.365.1730
E-mail pete.ziegenfelder@hp.com



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Jump to Extent: Section 1