



Ballwin Police Department

300 Park Drive, Ballwin MO 63021

MEMORANDUM

TO: CHIEF KEVIN SCOTT, DSN 207

FROM: PATROLMAN DEREK LOEFFEL, DSN 287

DATE: 08-12-2019

SUBJECT: NO COMMERCIAL TRUCK ROUTE

Sir,

This memorandum consists of my findings, and recommendations, with regards to commercial vehicles utilizing Milldale, Green Lantern, and Mansion Hill as a route to the businesses at Town and Country Crossing.

Complaint:

1. Over the past several years, the Ballwin Police Department has received several complaints about increased traffic, and commercial vehicles utilizing the city streets of Milldale, Green Lantern, and Mansion Hill as an alternate route to access the businesses at Town and Country Crossing.
2. In the past, the Ballwin Police Department's Traffic Safety Unit deployed the Speed Spy device in order to count vehicles specifically traveling on Green Lantern. These counts were used to determine if there was an increase in civilian traffic. At the time, the concern was motorists, departing Town and Country Crossing businesses, were utilizing these city streets in order to access MO 141. In doing so, they could avoid traffic lights and rush hour traffic. The data did not indicate an increase in the number of cars traveling south through the neighborhood. This was partially because there is a roundabout in Town and Country that gives motorists traveling south direct access to southbound MO 141. The data from northbound Green Lantern seemed to be consistent with normal traffic flow in the neighborhood by residents within.
3. The most recent complaint indicated that commercial trucks (specifically Target, Whole Foods, Brinks, and Schnucks) have been utilizing westbound Milldale from MO 141, to northbound Green Lantern, to northbound Mansion Hill in order to access Town and Country Crossing.

Findings:

1. I contacted the most recent complainant, Jeffrey Todd. Todd confirmed he has witnessed an increase in commercial vehicle traffic utilizing the above streets. He said the commercial vehicles are traveling north through the neighborhood and originate from MO 141.
2. I traveled northbound MO 141, and pulled over on the shoulder just south of Parkway South Middle School. I used Apple Maps, put the address for the Target at Town and Country into the application, and

requested directions. The map listed the fastest route as MO 141 to westbound Clayton Road, but it also listed two alternate routes. The first alternate route was left on westbound Dutch Mill Drive, right on northbound Windmill, right on northbound Green Lantern, to right on northbound Mansion Hill, and left on Woodsmill Road. The second alternate route was left on westbound Milldale, right on northbound Green Lantern, right on northbound Mansion Hill, and left on Woodsmill Road.

3. Based on the above information the reason for the increase in commercial vehicle traffic is drivers are being sent onto these city streets by GPS devices. These routes could be quicker if traffic was congested on northbound MO 141 near the exit at Clayton Road.

Recommendation:

1. In order to address this issue, I recommend several additions to Ballwin ordinance 15-486 (Schedule K-Commerical Vehicles Prohibited).
2. The correct verbiage to be used is indicated below under the "Ordinance Verbiage" section of this memorandum.
3. Additionally, "No Truck Route" signs should be erected at the following locations:
 - a. eastbound Dutch Mill Drive, just after Henry Road
 - b. westbound Dutch Mill Drive, before Windmill, but after MO 141
 - c. westbound Milldale Drive, before Green Lantern, but after MO 141.
 - d. southbound Mansion Hill, just after Woodsmill Road (960 Mansion Hill)
4. Making the streets no truck routes, within the above posted signs, and additions to 15-486, will make it a violation for a commercial vehicles to access the streets within the Woodsmill Subdivision.
5. The placement of the signs will allow trucks that turn off from MO 141 the ability to turn around, and exit back onto MO 141. (There is plenty of room for them to turn around because the entrances to the subdivision are divided and wider than normal).
6. I have attached a map showing the "no truck route" to this memorandum.

Ordinance Verbiage:

1. The following is the correct verbiage to be used, which is consistent with the other streets indicated in 15-486:
 - a. Dutch Mill Drive from Henry Road to MO 141 within the city limits
 - b. Mansion Hill Drive from Woodsmill Road south to Green Lantern Drive
 - c. Milldale Drive from MO 141 west to Gardenway Drive within the city limits

Conclusion:

1. The above recommendations will directly address the concerns of residents in the Woodsmill Subdivision with regards to commercial vehicle traffic. It will also give officers enforcement options in the event commercial vehicles disobey the signs and continue onto the city streets.
2. If you have any questions or concerns about this memorandum, don't hesitate to reach out to me.

