

# STARK COUNTY ENGINEER

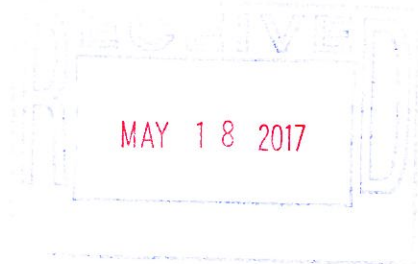
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May 12, 2017

Nimishillen Township Board of Trustees  
Attn: Michael L. Lynch  
P.O. Box 181  
Louisville, Ohio 44641-0181



## **RE: Peach Street and Broadway Avenue Intersection**

Mr. Lynch:

Our office has reviewed your letter of concern regarding the intersection of Peach Street and Broadway Avenue. Per your request, we have evaluated the intersection in regards to your safety concerns and risk of traffic accidents.

Our initial field review of the intersection was conducted to determine if the proper highway signage and traffic control is in place. From our review, we are recommending the following traffic control safety upgrades be made:

1. Upgrade the Peach Street "STOP" signs from 30" to 36" and add red reflective strips to the sign posts. (SCEO)
2. Add "Intersection Ahead" signs on Broadway Avenue to warn travelers of the cross movement ahead. (SCEO)
3. The Township should add "Advanced Stop Ahead" signs and white Stop Line pavement markings on Peach Street for the stop condition. (Nimishillen Twp)

In addition, during our field review, intersection sight distance was checked for vehicles turning from Peach Street onto Broadway Avenue for both the Peach St. eastbound and westbound directions. According to the ODOT Location & Design Manual Volume One, a minimum sight distance of 445 feet should be obtained for a posted speed limit of 40 MPH. The sight distance measured looking to the north is 585 feet and greater than 600 feet looking to the south.

Finally, we analyzed the available accident data at this intersection from 2013 through May 2017. There have been five (5) accidents from 2013(one accident), 2014(two accidents) 2015(one accident) and 2016(one accident). After our review of each accident, two angle accidents have occurred (2013 and 2014). Peach Street is classified as a Local Road with low traffic volumes, and does not meet the minimum volumes needed to warrant a 4-way

stop condition or a traffic signal. According to Section 2B.07 of the OMUTCD, a crash problem is considered to be, five (5) or more reported in a 12-month period that are susceptible to correction by a multiway stop. In addition, minimum volumes by both the main line (Broadway Ave) and minor (Peach St) must also be met, and at this point those volumes do not meet the warrants for a multi stop condition or a traffic signal.

Due to recent development within the City of Louisville, it does appear that traffic volumes on this section of Broadway Avenue have increased, as drivers are using the roadway to access US-62. The driveway access located just south of Peach Street for the Nimishillen Fire Station is 0.35 miles (approximately 1,880 feet) from US-62. If there are occasional backups from US-62 this far, they would be occurring during high volume peak hours only, which is not unusual near a major intersection. The existing traffic signal timing at the US-62/Broadway intersection may be causing some of the backups during peak hours, and according to the letter from ODOT D-4 dated January 12, 2017, there are traffic signal upgrades scheduled for implementation this year, which include signal-timing revisions. Traffic volumes on Broadway Avenue were last counted in December 2015. At that time, the volume was 4,900 vehicles per day, which was relatively unchanged from 2006 to 2015.

With the above review and analysis of the intersection, in the short term, we recommend making the traffic control revisions as listed. The County will implement (1) and (2) as recommended. Since Peach Street is a Township roadway, the Township should perform recommendation (3). In the long term, we will continue to monitor the volumes on Broadway Avenue, and it may eventually become necessary to discuss possible intersection improvements at US-62 with both ODOT and the City of Louisville. Should the Township continues to have concerns regarding the intersection at Peach Street, with the low traffic volumes on Peach Street and the availability for drivers to access other side roads to Broadway Avenue, the Township may want to consider restricting left turn movements (right-in/right-out) onto Broadway Avenue. This would potentially alleviate any concerns with access out of the Nimishillen Township Fire Station.

Should you have any questions or concerns about this matter, do not hesitate to contact our office at (330) 477-6781.

Respectfully,

KEITH A. BENNETT, P.E., P.S.  
STARK COUNTY ENGINEER



Brian A. Cole, P.E., S.I.  
Traffic/Highway Engineer

KAB/BAC

C: Bennett, Torrence