

ROCKFORD TRAFFIC COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Wednesday, July 8, 2026, 5:30 PM

The meeting was called to order by Dorien Peterson at 5:31 PM.

Members Present

Ms. Dorien Peterson, Chairman
Mr. Tom Okite, Vice Chairman
Ms. Joan Sage
Mr. K. Patrick Yarbrough
Mr. Bryan Kruschke
Mr. Emil "Skip" Mosny, Rockford Fire Department
Mr. Charles Smilinich, Transportation, School District 205
Ms. Kerry Lin, Public Works Department

Members Absent

Alderman Jonathan Logemann, 2nd Ward
Det. Andrew Hartman, Rockford Police Department
Mr. Cedrick Ketton, Rockford Mass Transit District
Mr. Scott Capovilla, Community Development Department

Also Present

Mr. Jesus Ocasio, 2415 Quincy Circle, 61103
Mrs. Nicole Bennett, 3708 Calderwood Drive, 61114
Ms. Janie Wilson-Cook, 1622 Montague Street, 61102
Mr. Matthew Flores, Legal Department

The minutes of the last regular meeting held on June 10, 2026, were approved as submitted.

The Traffic Commission recommended the following items:

1. Request in the 4rd Ward, by Nicole Bennett, 3708 Calderwood Drive, to establish stop control at the intersection of Palo Verde Drive and Calderwood Drive, thus repealing the existing traffic control of Calderwood Drive yielding for Palo Verde Drive. (Mrs. Nicole Bennett explained her request and called attention to the use of Calderwood Drive by many accessing the RVC Path. K. Lin explained that based on the lack of accident history and low traffic volumes, stop control is not warranted. However, T. Okite pointed out that the use of the walking path could justify a different warrant. The use of these streets as "cut-throughs" was mentioned by numerous team members. P. Yarbrough asked if the crosswalks could be striped. K. Lin responded that this would be discussed with staff. The team asked what other methods could be used at this intersection. K. Lin responded that "Cross Traffic Does Not Stop" signs would be installed" if 2-way stop control was established. Commission recommended establishing stop control at the intersection of Palo Verde Drive and Calderwood Drive with Calderwood Drive stopping for Palo Verde Drive, thus repealing the existing traffic control of Calderwood Drive yielding for Palo Verde Drive. Motion by C. Smilinich, seconded by S. Mosny, Voted 7-0).
2. Request in the 9th Ward, by Jesus Ocasio, 2415 Quincy Circle, for additional street lighting at 2415 Quincy Circle. (K. Lin explained the procedure for street light requests to come through Traffic

Commission. If after review for meeting policy, City staff and police do not feel that a light is warranted, the request can then be brought to Traffic Commission. Mr. Jesus Ocasio explained his request based on multiple car break-ins. He and his neighbors feel that the existing lighting does not provide enough light within the cul-de-sac. They have had discussions with ComEd on this concern and ComEd said nothing could be done with the existing light. The team asked about security cameras and motion-activated lights. Mr. Ocasio replied that he and several neighbors have cameras and some have some level of lighting. The team felt that the best approach may be for ComEd to relocate the existing pole nearest the cul-de-sac to a better location within it. Commission recommended installing additional street lighting near 2415 Quincy Circle. Motion by T. Okite, seconded by S. Mosny, Voted 5-2).

The Traffic Commission recommended taking “No Action” on the following items:

1. Request in the 4th Ward, by S. Hossain Khan, 1640 Albany Lane, for additional street lighting at 1640 Albany Lane. (K. Lin called attention to the location of existing street lights and commented that the existing lights meet City policy. Commission recommended taking “No Action.” Motion by T. Okite, seconded by S. Mosny, Voted 7-0).

New Business:

1. Elections were held for Chairman and Vice-Chairman. T. Okite ran for Chairman and was elected. D. Peterson ran for Vice-Chairman and was elected.
2. Ms. Janie Wilson-Cook brought a concern about signal timing at the intersection of S. Main Street and Montague Street to the Traffic Commission. K. Lin responded that the intersection is under the jurisdiction of IDOT and that staff would forward her concern to them.

The meeting adjourned at 6:42 PM. Motion by S. Mosny, seconded by C. Smilinich.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held:

August 12th, 2026 5:30 PM

Rockford City Hall
425 East State Street
2nd floor, Conference Room A

Respectfully submitted,
Kerry Lin, P.E.
Recording Secretary