

OCTOBER 31, 1958

Pursuant to a call by the Mayor, the City Council met in Special Session in the Council Chambers on October 31, 1958 at 1:00 P.M. for the purpose of meeting with the Planning Commission to consider a problem which has arisen on Woodruff Street between 9th and 12th Streets; namely, a 700' strip on one side and a 200' strip on the other where sidewalk has been installed next to the street, rather than leaving a parking strip. There were present at said Meeting: Mayor John B. Rogers; Councilmen Freeman, Foote, Petersen. Absent: Councilman Johnson. Also present: Roy C. Barnes, City Clerk; Arthur Smith, City Attorney; Members of the Planning Commission; Don Lloyd, City Engineer; Don Ellsworth, Assistant City Engineer.

By means of presenting the problem, the City Clerk read the following memorandum from the City Engineer:

October 31, 1958
Acct. No. 4A-2
Street Standards

Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of Idaho Falls

Gentlemen:

In an effort to establish a standard uniform cross-section for the construction of arterial streets, we are presenting herewith our recommendations. An 80 foot right-of-way should be required and should include a 57 foot driving surface, 2 feet of gutter width, and a 9 foot pedestrian and utility strip. The appointment of the R/W for a typical half-section can be seen on the attached sketch.

The section presented here is based upon recognition standards of traffic authority throughout the country. The advantages of this section can be enumerated as follows:

1. The utility strip offers adequate separation from vehicular and pedestrian traffic.
2. It is not necessary to depress sidewalks at each driveway approach and therefore affords a uniform grade of pedestrian traffic.
3. The utility strip provides an ideal location for installation of future utilities; such as power and telephone poles, street lighting poles, street regulatory signs, natural gas piping, fire hydrant, etc.

In contrast to the desirable characteristics of this section are two valid objections. With reference to the utility strip only, the objections often raised are as follows:

1. It offers a maintenance nuisance to the property owner who must maintain the appearance of this utility strip.
2. In the maintenance of a lawn surface over this utility strip, there appears to be a considerable waste of water into the adjoining gutter.

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As a possible alternate, these two objections may be overcome by the installation of the asphaltic surface in this utility area. By providing a 1-inch asphaltic mat the property owner could, at his option, eliminate the necessity of planting and providing continuous maintenance. The estimated cost of this mat would be approximately 30¢ per lineal foot.

In view of the foregoing consideration, it is the recommendation of the Engineering Department that the City Council adopt the foregoing as a standard pattern for the development of 80-foot arterial streets.

Respectfully submitted,
s/ Donald F. Lloyd
City Engineer

Various advantages and disadvantages of parking strips were discussed. Mr. Harold Collard, Chairman of the Planning Commission, said his group favored parking strips. The Mayor said the residents had been contacted and they preferred to have the sidewalks left as they are. In view of the expense involved even though it might be breaking precedent, Councilman Freeman felt the 700' strip should be left as is. Therefore, it was moved by Councilman Freeman, seconded by Foote, that there be no change in the 700' strip but that the 200' strip be ordered removed, making allowance for the parking strip with the understanding that any continuation of the project make due allowance for the parking strip on both sides. Roll call as follows: Ayes, Councilmen Freeman, Foote; No, Councilman Petersen; carried.

Collard questioned the Council with regard to the Planning Commission program for sponsoring County zoning. After hearing the City Attorney's opinion on the matter, it was agreed that the City would be within its rights to provide reasonable financial support, in view of the fact that all citizens would benefit.

A light and water assistance application was presented in the name of Mrs. J. W. Stoddard, 689 1st Street, and tabled pending the results of an interview between Councilman Petersen and Mrs. Stoddard's son-in-law.

There being no further business, it was moved by Councilman Petersen, seconded by Freeman, that the Council adjourn, carried.

ATTEST: s/ Roy C. Barnes
CITY CLERK

s/ John B. Rogers
MAYOR
