

AGENDA: TSC 8/5/13

ITEM NO. 3: Consider request to establish a CROSSWALK with PEDESTRIAN HYBRID BEACON on 11th Street at Delaware Street.

Staff Report:

1. 11th Street is classified as a "minor arterial" street, paved 30 feet wide and a posted speed limit of 30mph.
2. Traffic data collected 16-17 July 2013, found approximately 7800 vehicles in a 24-hour period with an 85th percentile speed of approximately 34.4mph.
3. A comprehensive study of approximately 2000 crosswalks nationwide found that under existing traffic conditions, there is no statistical difference in the crash rate of a marked vs. unmarked crosswalk.
4. Based on the speed of traffic, the width of the street and a walking speed of 3.5 feet/second (typical for an elementary student) there would need to be a gap in traffic of approximately 625 feet both east and west of the intersection (shown on the attached map by the dotted line) for a pedestrian to safely cross the street.
5. The nearest controlled crossings on 11th Street are at the Burroughs Creek Rail Trail 925 feet east of the intersection and at the alley between New York Street & New Jersey Street 825 feet west of the intersection (shown on the attached map with push-pins).

MINUTES: TSC 8/5/13

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Woosley reviewed the information provided in the staff report.

Public Comment:

None.

Commission Discussion:

Commissioner Harden asked if the neighborhood association had commented on this request; Woosley advised that he had not heard from them.

Commissioner Rothrock noted that this would be a lot of crossing beacons on one stretch of roadway when other areas of town would like to have them.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DEVLIN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER ROTHROCK, TO RECOMMEND DENYING THE REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A CROSSWALK WITH PEDESTRIAN HYBRID BEACON ON 11TH STREET AT DELAWARE STREET; THE MOTION CARRIED, 7-2 (Boley & Howard: the major park at this intersection and the distance to a safe crossing in each direction.

From: Lynch, Brendan M [mailto:blynch@ku.edu]
Sent: Monday, July 01, 2013 1:08 PM
To: Charles Soules; David Woosley
Subject: Re: Delaware & 11th crosswalk

Greetings! I write because it's my belief that a crosswalk with lights traversing 11th street and Delaware would be greatly boost safety and convenience for pedestrians, especially children, as they try to access Hobbs Park from neighborhoods to the south. I live with two grade-school age children on the 1100 block of Delaware and we regularly cross traffic-heavy 11th street, usually having to wait long periods for a pause in the traffic, and sometimes having to make a run across the street when a fast car appears unexpectedly after we've already entered the street. It feels dangerous there, and it's a strange place to feel is especially unsafe for kids, as it's the primary access point for a park with a playground and ballfields for everyone who lives to the south.

What's more, many children use that same intersection as a means of walking to New York Elementary from neighborhoods to the south.

These are areas, such as Delaware Street Commons, with scores of children who would use the park more if parents felt safe allowing their children to walk there unattended.

As things stand, there is no crosswalk, no "slow children" signage, basically NOTHING to help pedestrians and kids access a major neighborhood park, or calm traffic on a busy street that cuts off thousands of people from the park to their north. For instance, Mass Street has a pedestrian-controlled light at South Park. I think Hobbs Park should have something similar. Or, at minimum, a zebra stripe crossing and signage warning cars to look out for kids.

With the increasing popularity of Sunday night kickball games, along with the sometimes-intoxicated spectators there, I would think such a crosswalk would give those people better access and safety as well.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Kindly,

Brendan Lynch

1128 Delaware St.
Lawrence, KS 66044

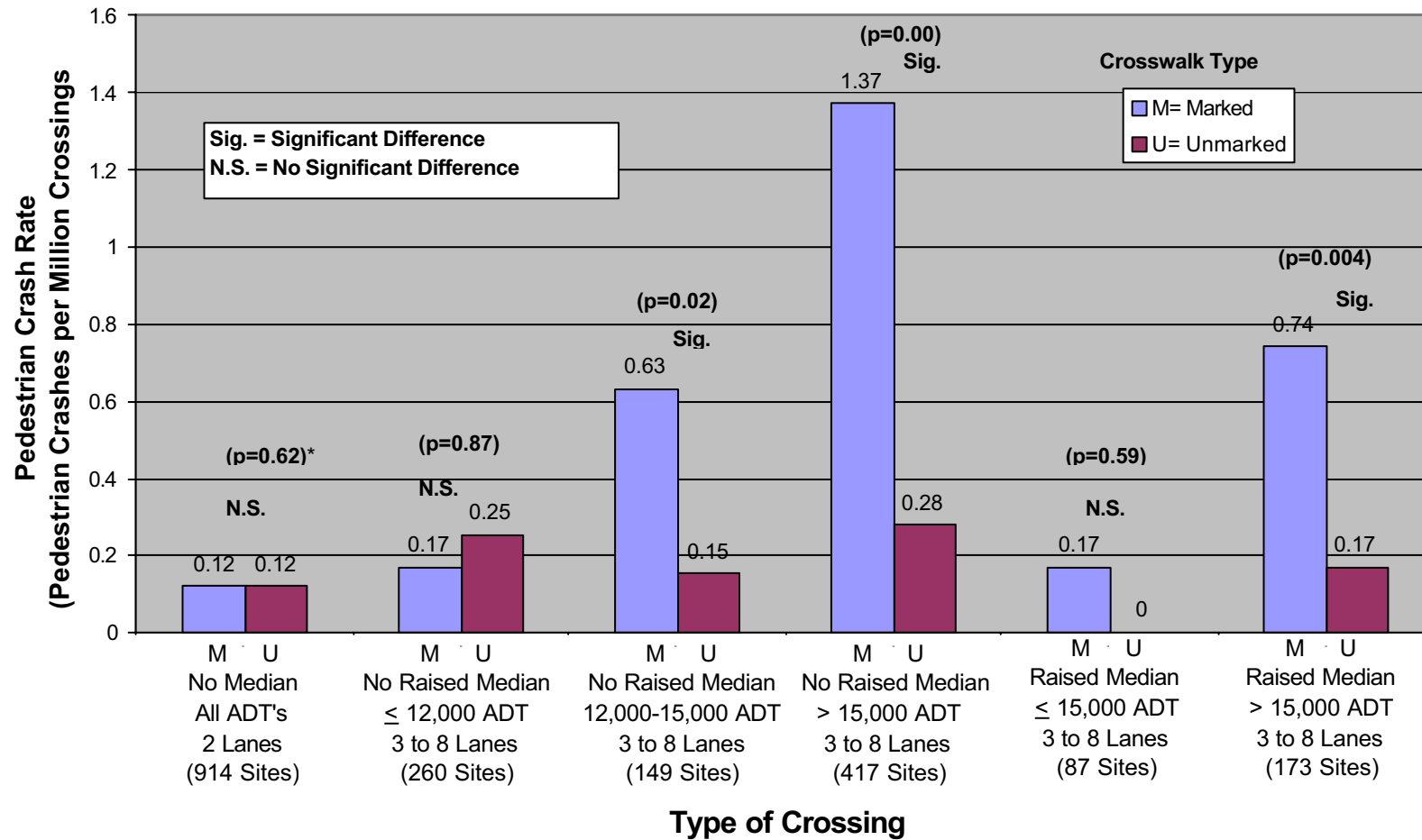
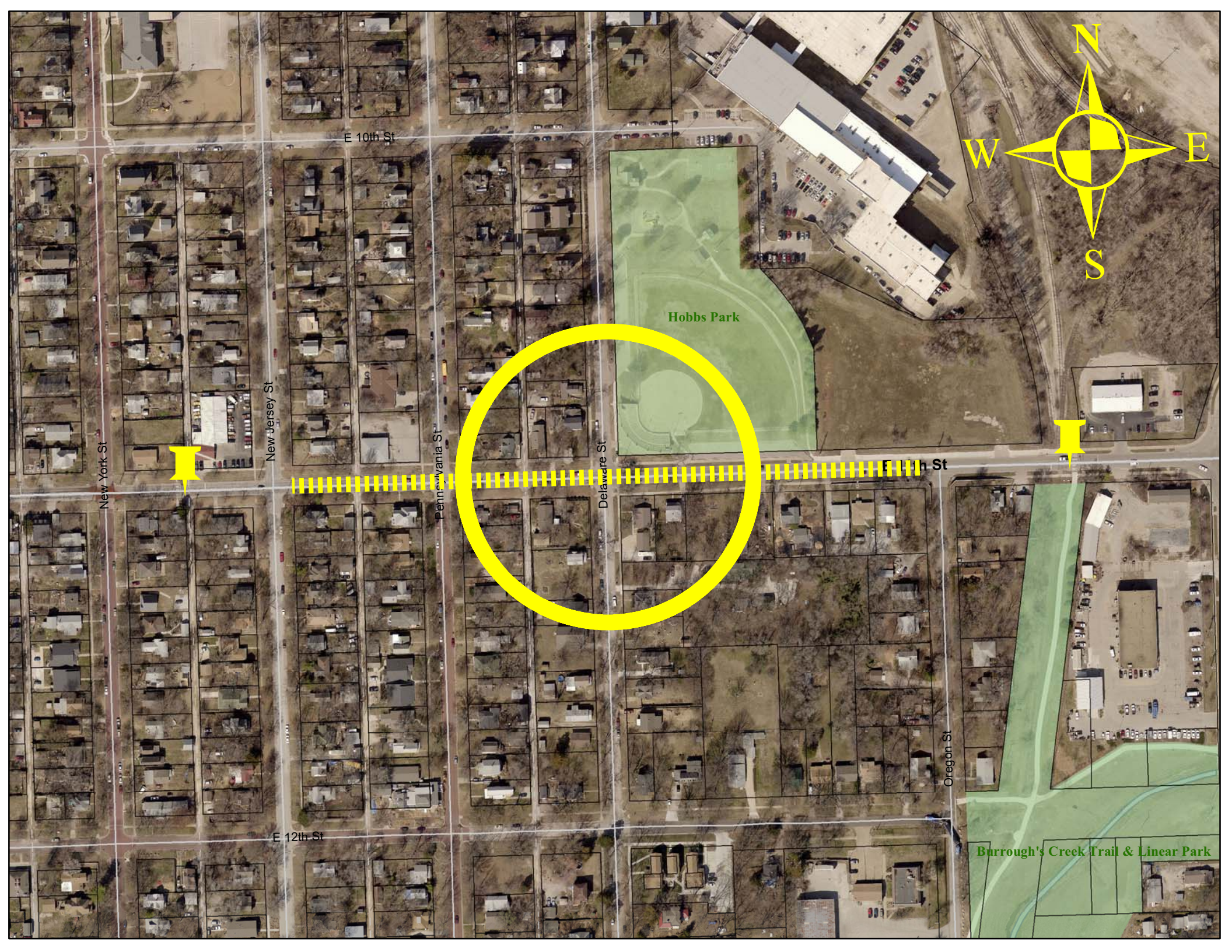


Figure 4. Pedestrian crash rate vs. type of crossing.



E 10th St

New Jersey St

Pennsylvania St

Delaware St

11th St

E 12th St

Oregon St

Hobbs Park

Burrough's Creek Trail & Linear Park



New York St