
M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: SEPTEMBER 13, 2002
TO: City Council Members
FROM: Russell Weeks
RE: Traffic Code Amendments
CC: Cindy Gust-Jenson, Rocky Fluhart, DJ Baxter, Margaret Hunt, David Dobbins, Tim Harpst, Larry Spendlove, Mary Johnston, Dan Bergenthal, Gary Mumford, Michael Sears

This memorandum pertains to proposed amendments to the Salt Lake City Code pertaining to traffic regulations.

POTENTIAL MOTIONS

1. I move that the City Council adopt the ordinance.
2. I move that the City Council not adopt the ordinance.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the proposed ordinance.
2. Do not adopt the proposed ordinance.

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND

The proposed ordinance submitted by the Administration contains changes discussed by the City Council at its September 11 meeting.

The changes are:

- The words “clear and objective” have been added to Section 12.76.045 so that sub-paragraph A.1(a)(iv) now reads: “pedestrians exhibiting clear and objective signs of impairment or infirmity of any kind, including, but not limited to, infirmity resulting from advanced age ...”
- Section 12.36.040 titled *Speed or acceleration contests prohibited* has been omitted from the proposed amendments. Omitting the section means that the current ordinance’s language remains and the sentence, “It shall not be a defense that there was no apparent observer present to view such a speed contest or exhibition,” has not been submitted as an amendment.

Item F-1

The proposed amendments also continue to distinguish between criminal penalties and civil penalties for the negligent operation of vehicles that result in personal injury or death to pedestrians. (Section 12.52.355) As discussed at the September 11 City Council meeting, citations issued in connection with an auto-pedestrian accident that results in “serious bodily injury” would be prosecuted as a criminal offense. Accidents that result in “bodily injury” would be prosecuted as a civil offense.