Traffic safety efforts at intersections to continue

After outlining dramatic traffic safety improvements along S. 27th St., Alderman Witkowski says other intersections will become focus of efforts

The good news shared by Alderman Terry L. Witkowski and others today that not one of Milwaukee’s 2010 high frequency crash locations is located along S. 27th St. is proof that traffic safety changes can be made to make other city intersections safer.

Alderman Witkowski said the 2010 high frequency crash location list (attached) includes 19 locations – down from 57 locations in 2002. “The dramatic drop from 57 to 19 locations citywide is very good news for the City of Milwaukee and its residents and commuters,” he said.

However, Alderman Witkowski said three intersections in his 13th Aldermanic District are among the 19 2010 locations – S. 13th St. and W. Howard Ave, S. 13th and W. College, and S. 13th and W. Layton. “I have asked Milwaukee police to step up traffic enforcement at these intersections, and traffic safety studies by the Department of Public Works are also on the drawing board for all three locations,” he said.

Today’s news conference at S. 27th and W. College focused on the traffic safety improvements along S. 27th St., where as recently as eight years ago there were 10 intersections (on S. 27th St. from the Kinnickinnic River Parkway to College Ave.) that were on the high frequency crash list (intersections with 15 or more vehicle crashes).

Hosted by Alderman Witkowski, today’s news conference included representatives from the Milwaukee Police Department, AAA Wisconsin, the State Department of Transportation, the Department of Public Works, as well as police representatives from the cities of Oak Creek, Greenfield, and Franklin. Greenfield Mayor Michael Neitzke also addressed the media during the news conference.

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More safety efforts / ADD ONE

Alderman Witkowski, a former longtime director of the city Safety Commission, reached out several years ago to MPD, Greenfield PD, Franklin PD and Oak Creek PD (all which share jurisdictional turf at S. 27th and College) in an effort to increase traffic safety and enforcement along S. 27th St. The alderman also used a well-publicized media event to ask motorists to watch their driving there, and AAA Wisconsin studied the corridor with a committee of state, local and national engineers and made recommendations for engineering changes in the intersections.

In recent years, several streetscaping enhancements and intersection safety changes have been made to stretches of S. 27th St., and several other significant improvements were put into place with the reconstruction of S. 27th St. two years ago, the alderman said.

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