

INTRODUCED BY ALDERMAN BAUMANN

BILL NO. 24-2530

ORDINANCE NO. 24-2413

AN ORDINANCE FINDING THAT PUBLIC SAFETY REQUIRES THAT WREN AVENUE AND PORTIONS OF CANARY DRIVE FROM WREN AVENUE TO THE INTERSECTION OF CARDINAL LANE AND BIG BEND WOODS DRIVE BE DESIGNATED AS AN INCREASED SAFETY AREA SUBJECT TO DOUBLE FINES.

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen, deeply concerned for the safety of the City's children, pedestrians, and motorists, holds the belief that the reduction of roadway traffic violations will diminish the probability of fatalities or severe injuries; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen, having enlisted the City of Manchester Police Department to intensify enforcement actions on Wren Avenue and Canary Drive from Wren Avenue to the intersection of Cardinal Lane and Big Bend Woods Drive, has observed an absence of significant mitigation of traffic violations and safety grievances within specific residential zones; and,

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Chief of Police and Director of Public Works, the Board of Aldermen has determined that certain streets should be designated as Increased Safety Areas for the purpose of public safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF MANCHESTER, STATE OF MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

Section One: Based on the recommendation by City staff, the Board of Aldermen does hereby find and determine that in the interest of public safety, the intersection of Wren Avenue and Sulphur Springs Road, Wren Avenue from Sulphur Springs Road to the Parkway School District Southwest Middle School property line, and Canary Drive from Wren Avenue to, and including, the intersection at Cardinal Lane and Big Bend Woods Drive within the city limits of the City of Manchester shall be established as Increased Safety Areas pursuant to this Section and subject to double fines as provided herein.

Section Two: The Board of Aldermen further directs that the intersection of Wren Avenue and Sulphur Springs Road, Wren Avenue from Sulphur Springs Road to the Parkway School District Southwest Middle School property line, and Canary Drive from Wren Avenue to, and including, the intersection at Cardinal Lane and Big Bend Woods Drive be included in *Schedule I - Increased Safety Areas*.

Section Three: The Board of Aldermen hereby further directs that at least thirty (30) days prior to the enforcement of the Wren Avenue and Canary Drive from Wren Avenue to the intersection of Cardinal Lane and Big Bend Woods Drive Increased Safety Area that:

- a) appropriate signage be installed notifying the public that certain traffic violations in the area is subject to double fines; and,
- b) that notification be made through the City's website of these Increased Safety

INTRODUCED BY ALDERMAN BAUMANN

BILL NO. 24-2530

ORDINANCE NO. 24-2413

Areas and the penalty of double fines for certain traffic violations therein.

Section Four: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its date of passage and being signed as provided by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 18TH DAY OF MARCH 2024.

CITY OF MANCHESTER, MISSOURI

BY: 
Mayor

ATTEST:


City Clerk

Memo



To: CA Justin Klocke
From: Chief Scott Will
Date: 03-11-24
Re: Increased Safety Area – Wren Ave.

Mr. Klocke,

As you know, there have been numerous complaints from residents regarding traffic issues in the vicinity of Wren Avenue and its surrounding area. The gravity of these complaints is underscored by the influx of school-aged pedestrian traffic following the dismissal of classes at Wren Hollow Elementary and Parkway SW Middle School each weekday afternoon.

When this issue was first raised several weeks ago, the police department deployed the Stealth Stat device on Wren Ave. to determine if speeding was a factor. The results showed that speeding was not a particular issue, however, it is believed these results were skewed due to the congestion caused by parents driving in the area to pick up their children.

At the last Board of Alderman meeting, several residents approached me about this issue. They reported their primary concerns were:

- Buses violating the electrical signals at Wren and Sulphur Springs
- Stop sign violations at Wren and Canary
- Stop sign violations at Wren and Fox Hill Estates
- Stop sign violations at Wren and Cardinal

They re-emphasized that these dangerous driving habits were occurring at a time when there were children walking nearby. The residents also provided me with cell phone video which appeared to support their assertions.

The following day I monitored traffic on Wren. I noted that there were in fact several drivers operating their vehicles in a dangerous fashion while there was a large number of children in the area.. I subsequently ordered a saturation of traffic enforcement in the area. Several drivers were cited for various offenses, but this seems to have had a limited effect with the overall driving pattern in the area.

Given the gravity of this issue, I recommend that the City utilizes its authority under section 320.110 of the municipal code, to designate the following locations as "Increased Safety Areas:"

- The intersection of Wren Ave. and Sulphur Springs
- Wren Ave. from Sulphur Springs to the Parkway SW Middle school property line
- Canary Dr. from Wren to (and including) the intersection at Cardinal Ln.

I urge prompt consideration of this recommendation to enhance the safety and well-being of the children who traverse Wren Ave. every school day.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if further information.