

TRUCK SUMMARY

The proposed St. Michael Hospital expansion would involve construction over what once was Rohr Avenue. Rohr was vacated in the early 1980s but has been used since then for internal hospital traffic including deliveries to the hospital's loading dock. After the proposed expansion, shipping dock traffic will have to be rerouted onto Lawn Avenue and North 24th Street. In an effort to gauge truck traffic volume and type to the dock, a truck log was maintained for deliveries on business days, commencing Friday, May 9, 2003, and ending Thursday, May 29, 2003. Over that period, truck traffic was monitored for three successive weeks. Each of the five business days in a week was monitored three times, except Monday. The third Monday in the survey period, May 26, 2003, was Memorial Day. On that day, no trucking activity occurred.

The shipping dock is staffed and, therefore, able to accept deliveries between the hours of 6 a.m. and 4 p.m. on business days. As the charts show, traffic is divided into two groups. The first group is tractor-trailer and the second group is other types of trucks. What was not monitored was smaller vehicles such as vans used for courier services such as FedEx, Quicksilver, etc. Shipping dock personnel felt that those types of deliveries occurred approximately five times a week.

Over the 15 days surveyed, the highest number of recorded dock truck arrivals for any one day occurred on Monday, May 12, 2003, when 18 truck arrivals were recorded. Except as to Memorial Day, the next lowest number of dock truck arrivals for any single day was Thursday, May 29, 2003, when 10 truck arrivals were recorded. The weekday with the highest number of average truck arrivals was Fridays, when total truck arrivals (both tractor-trailer and other trucks) averaged 15.67 per day over the three Fridays surveyed. The lowest weekday was Thursday, when an average of both types of trucks came to 10.33.

The most truck arrivals reported in any single hour of the day was 5. Four of the five times this occurred was between the hours of 11 a.m. and noon. There were no truck arrivals recorded after 3 p.m. on any day. There were 8 days during the survey period where the number of truck arrivals reported in any single hour did not exceed 3 during the entire day.

The hospital has initiated discussions with vendors to see whether certain of the tractor-trailers may be converted to smaller trucks and their flexibility on times of arrival. We are exploring whether the courier service vehicles not included in the survey could be rerouted to the front desk as opposed to the shipping docks. This would help reduce traffic on Lawn Avenue.

We have discussed this issue with our neighbors in an effort to determine whether truck arrivals at particular times of day are more or less objectionable than others. We have another meeting scheduled for July 1, 2003, with neighbors at the hospital. However, we believe it is worth noting that, at no time during the 15 days surveyed, did dock truck arrivals during any one day exceed 18. Therefore, although this will be a change, it is not an unreasonable amount of traffic being diverted onto these streets.

