

Transportation

Hiestand residents are concerned about the volume and speed of traffic on neighborhood streets, especially Milwaukee Street, Swanton Road and North Thompson Drive. Table 1 shows the Average Weekday Traffic volume on local streets.

Table 1: Average Weekday Traffic Volume

Location	Vehicle Count
Milwaukee Street	
-West of Stoughton Road	20,700
-East of Stoughton Road	19,250
-West of Swanton Road	16,200
-East of Swanton Road	7,350
-West of Thompson Drive	3,200
-East of Thompson Drive	2,450
Thompson Drive	
-North of Swanton Road	12,050
-South of Swanton Road	3,300
-North of Milwaukee Street	2,300
-South of Milwaukee Street	3,200
Swanton Road	8,600
Walbridge Avenue	2,850
Wittwer Road	1,400

Source: Department of Traffic Engineering, City of Madison (_____)

Milwaukee Street

Milwaukee Street is the major arterial street located on the southern edge of the neighborhood. Residents cross Milwaukee Street regularly to reach neighborhood-oriented places, such as: Hiestand Park and Woods, retail businesses in the 4000-4100 blocks and a small commercial strip mall (featuring a bank, coffee shop, and video store) in the 4500 block

of Milwaukee. Another important destination is Kennedy Elementary School (221 Meadowlark Drive), located three blocks south of Milwaukee Street.

Milwaukee Street is 54' from curb to curb (See Table 2). No drive lanes, parking or bicycle lanes are marked. Although Milwaukee Street is considered a two-lane street some drivers believe it is a 4-lane because of its wide width. Frequently vehicles drive two-abreast until a park vehicle obstructs the traffic flow. It is especially confusing in the segment directly east of N. Stoughton Road overpass: the drive lanes accommodate 4-lane traffic and quickly narrows to 2-lane before Walbridge Avenue. The width of the street makes it easier for drivers to exceed the 35-mile per hour speed limit within the Hiestand boundaries.



Directly under the Highway 51 (Stoughton Road) overpass, Milwaukee Street accommodates 4-lane traffic and quickly narrows to 2-lane before North Walbridge Avenue. Motorists and pedestrians identify this segment of Milwaukee Street dangerous.

Table 2: Street Dimensions and Characteristics

Street	Width	Traffic Lanes	Posted Speed Limit	Official Bicycle Route	Marked Bike Lane
Milwaukee Street (4000-5300 blocks)	54'	2-lane	35 mph	Yes	No
Swanton Road (1 to 400 blocks)	44'	2-lane	25 mph	Yes	No
North Thompson Drive (1 to 200 blocks)	40'	2-lane	35 mph	No	No

Traffic volume on Milwaukee Street ranges from 2,450 to 20,700 vehicles per day (See Table 1). According to traffic planners, the standard to change a street from a 2-lane to 4-lane occurs when volume exceeds 20,000 vehicles per day. At this time, there are no plans for changing the classification of Milwaukee Street. However, increase traffic is expected on Milwaukee Street as the residential neighborhood directly to the east is built-up. Sprecher Neighborhood Development Plan (1998) estimates a build-out of 5,609

residential dwelling units. As of March 2004, 879 dwelling units were built with a remaining 4,728 planned.

Undoubtedly, Milwaukee Street will be one of the