

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch
City Manager

SUBJECT: *Status Report*

DATE: August 8, 2013

1. 11th Street Stop Sign

For many years, the stop sign on the westbound approach to the intersection of 11th Street and Route 564 (near the State Highway bridge over the railroad tracks) had a supplemental sign beneath it that indicated that right turning traffic could continue without stopping. And the Stop sign on the eastbound approach (next to the Old Town Bowie Grille) had a supplemental sign advising drivers that approaching traffic could turn right without stopping.

At some point, the supplemental sign under the westbound approach was lost or stolen. When State Highway traffic operations staff went out to investigate, they removed the eastbound supplemental sign. They determined that both signs are "non-standard" as they are not listed in the State or Federal Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). They said they understand that the community is used to the signs, but they are concerned that they may not be able to "defend those signs in a legal situation". They said they are almost certain that they will be unable to put the signs back up. They will be doing a study after schools begin to better understand traffic control at this intersection.

In the meantime, they will be installing larger stop signs on both approaches and a "Stop Ahead" warning sign in the westbound direction to bring attention to the new control. We will let you know if they decide to re-install the old signs at some point in the future, but that appears unlikely.