

# City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201



**Agenda Item Number:** REP 81-14

**Department Source:** Public Works

**To:** City Council

**From:** City Manager & Staff

**Council Meeting Date:** September 2, 2014

**Re:** Report - Traffic Restriction on Rollins Street within UMC Closed Campus

## Documents Included With This Agenda Item

Council memo

**Supporting documentation includes:** Copy of Section 14-180, Letters, Maps

## Executive Summary

At the August 18, 2014 Council meeting, staff was directed to prepare a report regarding the enforcement of Section 14-180, Traffic restrictions in vicinity of university. This ordinance was amended in 2012 to include item (d) "Only city buses are allowed to stop along the curbline or use the bus pullout location on Rollins Street at the location described in subsection (a)." A copy of Section 14-180 of the City Code is attached.

## Discussion

In 1984, Council passed Ordinance 10390 (a) restricting traffic on certain streets within the University campus except for buses, and vehicles of residents living in the area, to whom special permits are issued by the city manager for access into the closed areas. A portion of Rollins Street is one of the streets identified in this ordinance.

On August 20, 2012, Council passed Ordinance 21390 amending Section 14-180, adding (d) "Only city buses are allowed to stop along the curbline or use the bus pullout location on Rollins Street at the location described in subsection (a)." This amendment was put in place to allow for safer and more efficient access to this area of campus by City buses, specifically the newly established FastCAT route. Due to feedback from private shuttle operators and the fact that no increase of buses or routes was created by the FastCAT route, the ordinance amendment was not enforced.

The new COMO Connect Route system, which went live on August 4th, 2014, dramatically increases both the number and frequency of City buses using Rollins Street in the closed campus area for bus stops. The two Connector routes, 1 Black and 2 Gold, use Rollins Street in both directions with ten buses in peak service, accessing the street at 15 minute intervals. In addition, this area is shared by the Tiger Line service which accesses the street every ten minutes, and the No.10 Red Downtown Orbiter, which accesses the street every thirty minutes. These traffic restrictions are intended to improve the ability of City transit routes to maintain adequate timing.

Due to the high volume of pedestrian traffic, combined with an increase of private and public buses bringing students into campus, Rollins Street in front of the MU Student Center has become an area of

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increasing safety concern by both Transit staff and MUPD. Because of the safety concerns, City staff requested that City of Columbia and MUPD begin enforcing the ordinance with the start of the academic calendar on August 25th. Letters explaining the change were sent out to apartment complexes and shuttle providers on June 2, 2014, and again on August 6, 2014. This second letter was a joint correspondence with the University Parking and Transportation office detailing the new bus stops established for private shuttles (see attached letters and maps).

## Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: None with this report

Long-Term Impact: None with this report

## Vision, Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Vision Impact: Transportation

Strategic Plan Impact: Customer Focused Government, Growth Management, Health, Safety and Wellbeing, Infrastructure

Comprehensive Plan Impact: Infrastructure, Mobility, Connectivity, and Accessibility, Inter-Governmental Cooperation, Livable & Sustainable Communities

## Suggested Council Action

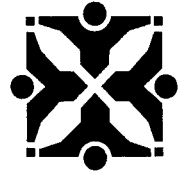
For information only.

## Legislative History

08/2012 (Ord 21390) Amending Chapter 14 (d) allowing only city buses to stop along the curblin or use the bus pullout location on Rollins Street at the location described in subsection (a).

  
Department Approved

  
City Manager Approved



## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS INCLUDED WITH THIS AGENDA ITEM ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Copy of Section 14-180, Letters, Maps

**Section 14-180 Traffic restrictions in vicinity of university.**

(a) When day classes are in session at the University of Missouri, and signs are installed in each block giving notice thereof, no motor vehicles except buses and vehicles of residents living in the block south of the library bounded by Conley Avenue on the north, Hitt Street on the east, Rollins on the south, and Missouri Avenue on the west, to whom special permits are issued for access into the closed areas, as authorized by the city manager; emergency vehicles; fire and police vehicles; city utility vehicles; authorized service and maintenance vehicles while engaged in service and maintenance to a facility, building, street, walk, grounds, or area within the closed portion, where adequate access for the area or location is unavailable; and authorized University of Missouri vehicles, shall be permitted between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 3:45 p.m. upon the following streets or portions of streets:

*Conley Avenue*, from Ninth Street to the east line of Missouri Avenue.

*Hitt Street*, from a point seventy-five (75) feet south of the south curblane of University Avenue, thence south five hundred forty-four (544) feet.

*Ninth Street*, from the south line of the entrance to Middlebush Hall parking lot to Conley Avenue.

*Rollins Street*, from a point fifty (50) feet east of the east curblane of Missouri Avenue, thence east six hundred ninety (690) feet.

(b) There shall be no parking at any time on any of the streets or portions of streets described in this section.

(c) The city administration is authorized to establish a system of bicycle ways, eight (8) feet wide or less, upon the streets closed under this section, for use while such streets are closed.

**(d) Only city buses are allowed to stop along the curblane or use the bus pullout location on Rollins Street at the location described in subsection (a).**

(Code 1964, § 12.243; Ord. No. 10390, § 1, 12-3-84; Ord. No. 12237, § 1, 5-1-89; Ord. No. 20753, § 1, 9-20-10; Ord. No. 21390, § 1, 8-20-12)



## CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

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PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
TRANSIT DIVISION

To : Student Shuttle Operators

From : Drew Brooks  
Multi-Modal Manager, City of Columbia

Date : June 2, 2014

Subj: Rollins Street Ordinance

With the implementation of the COMO Connect bus routes on August 4th, the core routes of the City Transit system will use Rollins Street as one of their primary arteries. These routes will travel in both directions on Rollins Street and will be timed to approximately every 15 minutes.

In order to maintain the proper timing on these two core routes, as well as, the downtown route and Tiger Line, it will be necessary to reduce traffic congestion within the closed Campus area of Rollins Street. The attached ordinance from August of 2012 will now need to be enforced to facilitate traffic flow and improve safety. As outlined in the ordinance, traffic in the closed campus section of Rollins Street will be restricted to authorized City and University vehicles only. Private shuttles may not enter the close-campus section of Rollins St. for pickup and drop off.

This ordinance will be fully enforced beginning August 4th, 2014. At that time the bus cut-out area on Missouri Ave. will be one alternative location for shuttle pickup and drop off. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Drew Brooks



## CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

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PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
TRANSIT DIVISION

August 6, 2014

### Student Housing & Transportation Partners

COMO Connect will make it easier for students, faculty and staff to use public transportation in Columbia, and the University of Missouri is proud to partner with the City to make this transition to a new-and-improved transit system.

The following routes will drop off/pick up at the MU Student Center, increasing bus traffic in the closed campus area on Rollins Street:

- Tiger Line Routes 401, 402, 403, 404, 405 and 406
- COMO Connect Routes 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B and 10.

Because of the improvements to the transit system and an increase in public transportation traffic, the City of Columbia will begin enforcing Section 14-180 of the 2012 ordinance regarding Traffic restrictions in vicinity of university (see attached). The ordinance does not allow private shuttles on Rollins Street in the closed campus section between Missouri Avenue and Hitt Street.

All private shuttles/buses have two options for drop off/pick up. Please see attached map for the following private shuttle locations:

- The bus pull-off area on Missouri Avenue at its intersection with Rollins Street.
- Hitt Street at its intersection with Lowry Mall, across from Memorial Union.

Please make your drivers aware of the changes. Students will begin returning soon, and the campus will come alive with shuttles, buses and other vehicles.

Thank you for your cooperation in making a smooth transition to the start of the fall semester.

Sincerely,

Drew Brooks  
Multi-Modal Manager, City of Columbia Public Works

Michael Sokoff  
Director, MU Parking and Transportation Services

