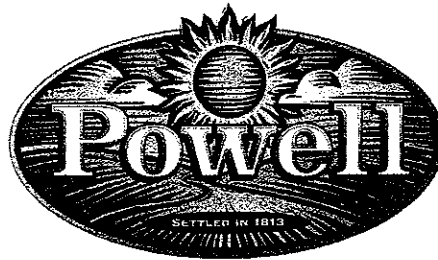


9-4-01  
Council

EXHIBIT 3



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## MEMORANDUM

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TO : STEVE LUTZ, CITY MANAGER  
FROM : ROB RICE, CITY ENGINEER  
DATE : AUGUST 29, 2001  
RE : LEFT TURN RESTRICTION HOURS

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During Council's discussions on 08//21/01 regarding the proposed left turn lane changes at the four-corners, the question arose as to the recommended specific hours for left turn restrictions. Staff has had the opportunity to evaluate and consider this issue, in coordination with our traffic consultant, Traffic Engineering Services, Inc., and offers the following:

If the turn restriction is not in effect at all times, the option that makes the most sense is to restrict left turns during hours that would extend from the morning, through the day, until the traffic volumes subside to more reasonable levels. Attached is a letter and graph, provided by our consultant, indicating traffic volumes through a 24-hour period. Volumes remain fairly high beginning around 7 a.m. and extend until about 8 p.m. (including weekends). Accordingly, it is recommended to restrict left turns between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m., all seven days of the week. This would provide the benefits that can be achieved through the turn restrictions during the hours with the highest volumes, while not unduly inconveniencing motorists during off-peak hours (as they would be allowed to turn left at the intersection during non-restricted hours). Also, such a restriction period will be considerably less confusing to motorists relative to implementing restriction hours for the morning, then for the evening, then for specific days of the week and, perhaps, periodically revisiting the hours.

As can readily be observed, traffic volumes and queues can be a problem at virtually *any time* during the day, particularly when train delays are factored into the equation. We have all sat behind the one car that wants to turn left, at any point during the day, and had to wait through a phase or two at the traffic signal, and in the meantime 20 additional cars come up behind us.

Although our consultant recommends turn restrictions 24-hours a day, seven days a week, the above recommendation gives Council another alternative to consider that would certainly provide an improvement over the current condition.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to see me.

## Traffic Engineering Services, Inc.

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3001 Bethel Road, Suite 207  
Columbus, OH 43220  
Phone (614) 459-1892  
Fax (614) 459-0061

August 29, 2001

Mr. Steve Lutz  
City of Powell  
47 Hall Street  
Powell, Ohio 43065-1028

RE: Left Turn Changes - Liberty Street/Grace Drive

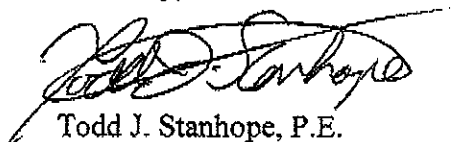
Dear Steve:

In our August 17, 2001 letter, we recommended that if an eastbound and westbound left turn restriction is implemented it should be in effect all the time. Therefore, we did not make specific recommendations for restriction left turns during certain hours. It is our understanding that City Council has voted to have the eastbound and westbound left turn restriction in place during specified hours and they would like a recommendation on what those hours should be.

To avoid confusion, we recommend that there be only one set of hours that the left turns are restricted. This would mean that the left turn restriction would be in place for a long duration in the daytime hours. To determine specific hours, we looked at a traffic count we took on Olentangy Street east of Liberty Street in June of 1998. For this particular count, we had volumes for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Based on this, we recommend that the turn restriction be in place from 7 AM until 8 PM all seven days of the week. Attached is a graph that shows the plot of the two-way hourly volume in each hour on Olentangy St. I have sketched in the time of the recommended left turn restriction.

If you have any questions, please call.

Sincerely,



Todd J. Stanhope, P.E.

### Olentangy Street Traffic Volumes (Based on 1998 Count on E. Olentangy Street)

