



Kankakee County
Regional Planning Department
NEWSLETTER

Planning Department Reviews Traffic Patterns during Chicago Bears Visit

At the request of the Police Chief of the Village of Bourbonnais, the Kankakee County Regional Planning Department's staff set out traffic counters along the roads surrounding the Olivet Nazarene University Campus during the Chicago Bears Training Camp. Mitron traffic counters were borrowed from the State of Illinois Department of Transportation District 3 Office and set out at 9:00 am, on Monday, July 22. The counters were in place from July 22 until August 16 and were checked and recorded every 24 hours. The planning staff recorded counts everyday including before, during and after the Chicago Bears' arrival and departure. This method allowed the staff to determine a baseline count for each road that could be compared to the counts taken during the event. These counts were then averaged to create an average daily traffic count for each road for both the normal traffic and the Chicago Bears' traffic. These averages are listed in the table below.



Count Location	ADT (Normal)	ADT (Bears)	% Increase
University Avenue	3,370	6,048	79.5%
Stadium Drive	2,097	2,728	30.1%
Kennedy Dr. South of University	32,937	33,231	0.9%
Main St. West of US Rt. 45	19,190	16,018	-16.5%
Convent St. North of Main St.	29,062	35,819	23.3%
Convent St. North of Armour Rd.	22,506	23,160	2.9 %
Armour Rd. East of Stadium Dr.	19,916	21,589	8.4 %
Armour Rd. West of Stadium Dr.	19,930	20,643	3.6 %
Latham Dr.	16,440	16,733	1.8%
Tomagene Dr.	978	1,026	5.0%
Deselm Rd. West of I-57	9,436	9,695	2.7%

This data concludes that traffic increased on roadways in the vicinity of the Training Camp an average of 6.2% during the event. Convent Street north of Main Street had the largest increase in traffic from 29,062 to 35,819, a difference of 6757. University Avenue had the largest percentage increase in traffic of 79.5 %. Main Street west of U.S. Route 45 had a 16.5% decrease in traffic. Since the counter appears to have been working properly, the only explanation that we can derive for this is that local drivers may have been avoiding that area during the Training Camp.