

APPROVED Meeting Minutes
Transportation Commission
Monday, July 22, 2013
Room 101 - Village Hall

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Jack Chalabian called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Present: Andre Bonakdar, Jack Chalabian, Mark Patzloff, Michael Stewart, Craig Chesney

Excused: Lee Lazar

Staff: Mike Koperniak, Tina Brown

Non-Agenda Item Public Comments

There were no non-agenda public comments.

Approval Of Tonight's Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Chesney motioned and Commissioner Stewart seconded, to approve tonight's meeting agenda as presented including discussion on bicycle helmets. The voice vote was unanimous to approve the motion.

Approval of the Draft June 10, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Stewart motioned to approve the June 10, 2013 Transportation Commission meeting minutes and Commissioner Patzloff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

SIX MONTH "AFTER" REVIEW OF TEST STREET CLOSURES ON THE 1200 BLOCKS OF N ELMWOOD AND ROSSELL AVENUES

Staff Liaison Koperniak gave a presentation showing the before and after traffic volumes on the various streets in the affected area.

The Commission and Staff discussed the changes in vehicle volumes and where vehicles moved to.

The floor was opened to public testimony.

Chris Arado thanked the Village for the installation of the test traffic diverters. He said he has noticed a decrease in vehicle volumes. He supports the installation of permanent traffic diverters.

Pam Van-Adder stated her support for the installation of permanent traffic diverters.

David Huber of 1210 Rossell Avenue spoke about the decreased vehicle volumes and speeds. He commented that North Avenue traffic should be given advance warning of the traffic diverters. He supports the installation of permanent traffic diverters.

Sal Corna of East Avenue said that she has noticed a lot more traffic on the 1200 block of N East Avenue.

Faith Ann Varga of Elmwood Avenue, spoke about the decrease in the volume of traffic. She indicated that she is ambivalent about the traffic diverters.

Chris Herman of 1213 N Elmwood Avenue gave his reasons for supporting the installation of permanent traffic diverters.

Kathleen ____ of 1210 N Elmwood stated that she is happy with the reduced vehicle speeds and volumes. She also supports the installation of permanent traffic diverters.

Mary Bablak of Children's Wonderworks Museum stated that May and June are Wonderworks slowest months. She stated that a diverter might help but that one-way northbound might work better between LeMoyne and the alley.

Ozzie Bruna of the 900 N East Avenue block stated that the traffic has increased on East Avenue. He stated that the Village should continue to look at the impact on adjacent streets and businesses.

William Fillmore of 1129 Rossell Avenue gave his reasons for opposing a traffic diverter on Rossell and offered alternative solutions.

Rick Ledford of 1240 N Elmwood stated that he likes the reduced traffic volumes and speeds. He supports the installation of permanent traffic diverters.

The floor was closed to public testimony.

Commissioner Stewart indicated his approval of the amount of public testimony and stated that the temporary traffic diverters did what the Commission hoped they would do.

Commissioner Patzloff also stated that the traffic diverters did what they were supposed to do. He commented that the number of parked vehicles didn't decrease to a significant degree. He spoke further about the parking.

Commissioner Bonakdar stated that the decreased "after" vehicle volumes shows is favorable. He questioned who is being disadvantaged by the installation of the traffic

diverters. He stated that he would have liked to have seen the "after" vehicle volumes on the 1200 block of N East Avenue.

Commissioner Chesney spoke about his concerns about unintended consequences. He also expressed his concern about increased eastbound alley traffic.

Commissioner Stewart indicated his support for installing advance warning signs on North Avenue to warn turning motorists about the traffic diverters.

Commissioner Chesney spoke about his concerns about pedestrian crossings.

Chair Chalabian stated that many of the objectives have been met as evidenced by the reductions in vehicle speeds and volume. He stated that the blocks now appear to be more residential in character. He also indicated a desire to see the "after" traffic volumes on the 1200 block of N East Avenue.

Commissioner Bonakdar spoke about the policy issue of closing off one block after another to traffic.

Commissioner Stewart stated that motorists driving through the Village should use the major streets.

The Commission had a discussion about rolling stop signs and about the fact that traffic appears to have moved to East Avenue.

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to recommend to make both traffic diverters on the 1200 blocks of N Elmwood and Rossell Avenues permanent and to do a traffic study on East Avenue to make sure that it stays within collector street vehicle volume specifications. Commissioner Chesney seconded the motion.

Commissioner Bonakdar motioned to amend the motion to also do vehicle volume counts on the 1200 blocks of Columbian, Linden, and East Avenues. The amended motion was seconded by Commissioner Chesney.

The Commission voted as follows on the motion to recommend to make both traffic diverters on the 1200 blocks of N Elmwood and Rossell Avenues permanent and to also do vehicle volume counts on the 1200 blocks of Columbian, Linden, and East Avenues.

AYES: Stewart, Chalabian, Bonakdar, Patzloff, Chesney

NAYS: none

The motion passed 5 to 0.

THE VILLAGE'S NO IDLING POLICY (CONTINUED FROM JUNE 10, 2013 MEETING)

Staff person Jill Juliano gave a presentation to update the Commission on the status of the draft anti-idling ordinance.

REVIEW OF THE WORK PLAN AND ESTABLISHING TIME TABLE TO COMPLETE REMAINING ITEMS

The Commission and Staff discussed the status of the items on the Commission's 2013 work plan and prioritized the remaining items in the work plan.

- Review updating the design and placement of parking . . . - Staff to provide report in August
- Six month review of Harrison Street - Staff to provide report in September
- Review wayfinding signs. . . - put onto October agenda
- Review the bike plan - put onto November agenda
- Determine if need exists for a comprehensive rewrite . . . - Staff will present recommendations in 4th quarter
- Review improving PACE / CTA bus stops . . . - Put on agenda by end of year

DISCUSSION ON BICYCLE HELMET ORDINANCE

Commissioner Chesney gave his views on a proposed bicycle helmet ordinance. He stated that the use of helmets should be encouraged and education about the benefits of helmet use be provided. He further stated that the Commission does not recommend the impelmentation of an Ordinance at this time but does encourage compliance and use.

There being no further business, Commissioner Chesney motioned and Commissioner Bonakdar seconded to adjourn the meeting.

The motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectively submitted

Mike Koperniak, Staff Liaison to the Transportation Commission