

APPROVED Meeting Minutes
Transportation Commission
Monday, February 12, 2017
Council Chambers – Village Hall

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Chalabian called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Present: Jack Chalabian, James Thompson, Michael Stewart, Kyle Eichenberger,
Akiwumi Attawia

Excused: Roya Basirirad, Robert Taylor

Staff: John Youkhana, Tammie Grossman, Mike Koperniak, Mary Avinger, Allison Von Ebers

There was no non-agenda public testimony.

Approval of Tonight's Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Stewart motioned to approve the agenda as presented and was seconded by Commissioner Thompson. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of the Draft January 8, 2018 Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Thompson motioned to approve the draft January 8, 2018 Transportation Commission meeting minutes as modified and was seconded by Commissioner Attawia. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of the Draft January 29, 2018 Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Stewart motioned to approve the draft January 29, 2018 Transportation Commission meeting minutes and was seconded by Commissioner Attawia. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED PARKING PILOT PROGRAM

John Youkhana, Parking Mobility Services Manager, gave a presentation on the proposed parking pilot program. He briefly spoke about the history of the parking pilot program, the public forums that were held, and the process with the Commission before recommendations are given to the Village Board of Trustees. John reviewed the power point presentation from the previous public forum.

Commissioner Thompson asked about the status of the technology contract and John Youkhana spoke about progress with selecting a vendor. Commissioner Thompson feels the technology should be in place before the pilot program begins and John responded that it should be and the vendors they are looking at are capable of having it ready and spoke about how the License Plate Recognition (LPR) will work. Commissioner Thompson also asked about who will own the data and how will it be stored and John explained how it will work and the most effective way to use it. Tammie Grossman, Development Customer Services Director, also spoke about the timeline for selecting a vendor, going to the Village Board of Trustees, testing the technology and possibly changing the start date of the pilot program if needed to start on July 1st or October 1st. Commissioner Thompson asked if Parking Enforcement would be transferred from the Police Department to the Development Customer Services (DCS) Department. DCS Director Tammie Grossman responded that the Village Manager reviews all staffing decisions as part of the Village Budget process in July.

Commissioner Eichenberger asked if the contract with the vendor would include stipulations if they are not able to deliver services promised and Tammie responded they do not have a contract yet because they are still choosing a vendor but part of the contract will include a timeline.

Commission Attawia asked about time limits and what happens if someone parks and then moves their car down the street and Tammie responded how the technology will work to recognize where a car has parked. Commissioner Attawia also asked how people will get visitor passes and Tammie explained how online will be for passes. John also spoke about setting up guidelines for how long cars can park once they have figured out a base rule and about warnings that will be given out to people who may not know the rules.

Commissioner Stewart asked if summaries of the new proposal were available to people before the previous public forum and John responded that a video as well as audio presentation was posted on the Village website the day after the last public forum. Commissioner Stewart stated he was surprised that people online was still asking questions on the old proposals and mentioned reading comments that the pilot program is confusing. Commissioner Stewart stated he thinks the information should have been available online before the last public forum so people would be more informed and spoke about permits and the difference in what is currently in place and what is being proposed.

Chair Chalabian asked about the difference in the current hours for parking at parking meter spaces and the proposed hours and why staff wants to change it when many people at the last forum were against it. John Youkhana responded about options in the pilot program. Chair Chalabian asked what conversations staff has had with businesses about the varying rules parking on opposite sides of Oak Park Avenue and Tammie responded about speaking with the business districts before the Commission gives their final recommendations. Chair Chalabian spoke about the possibility of people having a

permit and being able to negate the system allowing them to park wherever they want when they want and that is a major concern of residents. John spoke about the changes of the study from when it was first started to working on the pilot program and expanding the area to what it is now. Tammie spoke about going back and talking to the parking consultant, Julie Dixon, about doing something regarding commuter parking. Chair Chalabian talked about the overnight parking ban south of Madison Street and how it appears to be a breakup of the overnight parking ban based on this pilot program. Tammie explained staff spoke to the Village attorney who said as long as they require a permit or pass they are not relieving the overnight ban. Chair Chalabian also spoke about a resident at the last forum who requested answers to many questions the Commission couldn't provide and Tammie responded that they have a response to that resident that is being reviewed.

The floor was opened to public testimony.

Kelly Walsh spoke about being a multiunit property owner and her concerns about the program including that they have no data and wants to know how the pilot program will affect the budget and manpower. Ms. Walsh stated she feels the Village has not explained why they are doing the pilot program. She spoke about partnering with the businesses and thinks this program is meant for the Village to create revenue and how parking is already a complex system and wants everyone to rethink this program.

Kelli Kline spoke about her role as the Historical Society President for six years and her passion for the Village's history and she feels these changes will affect the historical character of the Village. She stated she doesn't understand why the Village is doing the program and feels it is only to get money. She stated she is angry that she would have to get a parking pass to park in front of her own house and spoke of her experience of speaking with someone in parking.

Brian Lantz spoke of being shocked that this area was chosen for the pilot program and how it is the most condensed area in the Village. Mr. Lantz thinks people being able to park in front of his house continuously without moving their car will collect trash. He spoke about his experience with license plate recognition and the problems he's had with it. He questioned if anyone looked at the cost of enforcement for the people in the pilot area and then the entire Village. Mr. Lantz spoke about a friend of his from Forest Park that could park in front of his house since he can't get parking in his town and how he thinks in the pilot program commuters and outside people will be able to come and park on the street for six days at a time. He doesn't believe that enforcement will work and that there should be a referendum put up so everyone can vote on it because the program will be in this area for six months before going out to the rest of the Village.

Kristi Sloniger stated the more she looks at the presentation, the more problems she sees with the program. Ms. Sloniger asked if the pilot program is to appease the permit parkers and stated she feels it will change the character of the Village. She thinks the pilot program is a way for the Village to get everyone to buy a pass and spoke about her block being turned into a commuter parking lot. Ms. Sloniger also spoke about

commuter parking, enforcement, how the pilot program will be evaluated, and how she wants the Commission to reject this program.

Paul Hamer asked about the reason for changing the start time for overnight parking. John Youkhana explained how the recommendation was put up for public opinion, current restrictions, and the reason for the proposed restrictions. Mr. Hamer asked Tammie about the new technology and she explained how the new technology would work on hand held devices and installation on enforcement vehicles. Tammie spoke about what the Village Board of Trustees directed the Parking Division to look into and what was budgeted for 2018. Mr. Hamer also asked if keeping the current technology and adding the new technology to see where problems are would work and Tammie responded regarding goals given to the Parking Division and Transportation Commission from the Village Board of Trustees as well as commuters, enforcement, streamlining rules, and about balancing the system. Mr. Hamer asked how hand held devices work and Tammie explained. Mr. Hamer spoke about villages across the country looking to monetize streets. He stated he still believes the Village is overturning the overnight parking ban and that these are changes everyone in the area needs to be notified about. He also spoke about surrounding communities that overturned their overnight parking ban and how the housing codes could not be enforced when everyone can buy a permit.

Brian Sharpe stated he is a longtime resident and he had no idea about the changes to the pilot program. He stated he's concerned about the extent of the program and thinks it is a problem to sell residents permits and then even higher amounts for permits for second and third vehicles is not right. Mr. Sharpe spoke about living on a block that has no restrictions and spoke about his experience as a commuter as well as not being affected the same way other people would in the more congested area. He also asked about having guests that need to park later than 11pm and if the program will be extended out to the rest of the Village at some point. Tammie responded how the program will work. She also explained how parking in the pilot program would work for residents, visitors, and workers and how staff is trying to make it easier for people not harder. Mr. Sharpe asked about having a "super pass" to be able to park on the street wherever he wants and Tammie explained how parking would work under the pilot program.

A resident asked a follow up question about being able to park overnight in a different area of the Village and Tammie explained people would have to park in their zone. The resident stated they feel like people could have multiple families requesting permits for the same address and Tammie explained how the process would work.

Another resident also spoke about having residents in multifamily buildings with more than two cars and their experience with parking and Tammie explained how people living in multifamily buildings will want to park closer to where they live and not five blocks away.

A resident spoke about overnight parking on the 200 block of Home and that people from multifamily buildings can park on the street overnight and his experience of someone parking in front of his house for 10 days around Christmas.

A resident spoke about people from the YMCA lot that was sold being displaced and having to park on the street. Mr. Hamer also spoke about his beliefs that the Village is ignoring AIA regulations and that a problem was created when 160 spaces were lost when the YMCA lot was sold and Tammie responded.

A resident asked about the overnight parking ban and being confused about the restrictions. He asked about parking on the street for six days and Tammie explained how the sticker could possibly be used as the pass or permit to allow people to park on the street.

The floor was closed to public testimony.

Chair Chalabian spoke about appreciating the feedback from residents and spoke to the Commission about what they need to do as far as deliberation.

Commissioner Eichenberger spoke about measurements, where the Village sees the pilot program in the process in six months, and being able to address situations as problems arise. He thinks the way to find out some of what will happen is by doing it and questioned what if they do it and it doesn't work. John Youkhana responded about establishing the rules to define what the measuring factors would be, using the toolbox to make changes or adjust as issues are brought up. Commissioner Eichenberger gave an example of the Safe Routes to School routes which needs to be revisited but not having anything in place to fix it.

Commissioner Thompson questioned the evaluation process and what happens when the Commission gives their recommendation or rejects it and John and Tammie both responded. Commissioner Thompson stated he thinks information about permits varies between the consultant's information and what was said by Tammie and John Youkhana responded. He asked about vehicle stickers and permits and Tammie explained how it would work. John also explained purchasing vehicle stickers and adding on options for parking during day or overnight restrictions. Commissioner Thompson asked for clarification of parking overnight in a zone and stated if people are allowed to add on an overnight permit that it is like overturning the overnight parking ban and Tammie explained.

Commissioner Stewart thinks there are more questions than he has answers for. He spoke about what was heard from the audience and the concerns of overnight parking. Commissioner Stewart spoke about the number of passes for the area, homeowners who want to park on the street or have multiple cars buying permits which would lessen the amount of permits available to multifamily residents. Commissioner Stewart spoke about zones, the concerns about parking on the street overnight in front of houses, and changing people's quality of life and the characteristic of the neighborhood.

Commissioner Eichenberger added that no matter what is done someone will not be happy. John spoke about passes people would need for various reasons, the current rules and exceptions for various homeowners, and how the rules don't always make sense. John also spoke about the plan for the pilot program and the need for upgrading technology whether there is a pilot program or not. Commissioner Stewart stated he likes most of the plan and that the Commission needs to listen to what the public is saying and take their concerns into consideration.

Commissioner Attawia stated the more he hears the more questions he has and that he would like to define why the pilot program is being done. Commissioner Attawia stated at the forum meeting it was said the pilot program was being done to find the most standard way of parking. He understands staff needs a recommendation from the Commission but he needs to know the purpose and need and an agreement on what staff is trying to accomplish. Commissioner Attawia stated to move forward it should be very clear what the pilot program is and what it isn't.

Chair Chalabian spoke about previously speaking to the Village Board of Trustees to deal with parking issues and noted that the Pilot Parking Program appeared to be on an aggressive fast-track schedule. He pointed out that even so, the Transportation Commission took a step back, including having multiple public forums, to look at the pilot program area in question. He spoke of the Commission trying to get public participation because they realize the magnitude of parking and understand the needs of commuters, homeowners, multifamily residents, and visitors. Chair Chalabian stated the Commission believes the current way of parking is confusing and spoke about his experience of being a homeowner, condo owner, and renter and having to find parking. He spoke about the proposed area being the densest in the Village and would like to know what the density is such as number of cars in a household, how many permits are issued, how many passes are issued annually, the number of citations issued annually, as well as changes of needs to permits such as those who have caregivers and the number of annual stickers issued. Chair Chalabian stated the pilot program has to be clearly conveyed that the overnight parking ban is not being overturned. He also stated the Commission could give recommendations on the framework but administratively doesn't want to be involved with how the passes are given out. Chair Chalabian spoke about cost being a big concern and wants to know what this is going to cost residents.

The Commission had a discussion regarding concerns with cost, contradicting information; the end result after the pilot program is over, concerns with quality of life, overnight parking in unrestricted residential areas, lack of parking spaces, and taking the results of the densest area and applying it to the rest of the Village and well as obtaining data was had.

Commissioner Attawia wanted to know the benefits for each user type under the existing system so that they could be compared to the benefits under the proposed plan and Tammie spoke about getting information for the Commission. Chair Chalabian stated the information needs to be clear and that information needs to be shared on the Village's website, and questioned where the consultant fits into this process. Tammie

responded regarding the consultant and money allocated for technology and enforcement.

Paul Hamer spoke about the Village already spending the money for the technology instead of implementing the technology first and collecting data and Tammie responded staff will get the data and bring it back in two weeks.

DISCUSSION ABOUT SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETINGS

Mike Koperniak had a discussion with the Commission about upcoming meetings in March due to room 101 and Council Chambers not being available on the regular meeting nights. The Commission agreed to have the meeting on Thursday, March 22nd in Council Chambers with the traffic agenda item presented first followed by the parking agenda item.

John Youkhana spoke about future outreach for public meetings, how information is sent out, and larger outreach options such as using the permit list, newspaper articles, and Facebook.

A discussion of what will be brought to the Commission in two weeks and how they will have almost a month to review the data so a decision can be made at the meeting in March.

Commissioner Eichenberger motioned to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Attawia.

The voice vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10PM.

Respectively submitted

Mary Avinger

Mary Avinger,
Administrative Secretary