

APPROVED Meeting Minutes
Transportation Commission
Monday, January 27, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.
Room 101 – Village Hall

1. Call to Order

Pro-Tem Chair James Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:10p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Pro-Tem Chair James Thompson, Robert Taylor, Aaron Stigger, Garth Katner, Camille Fink, Ron Burke (arrived at 7:40p.m.)

Absent: Meghann Moses

Staff: Public Works Civil Engineer/Transportation Commission Staff Liaison Mike Koperniak, Transportation Engineer Jill Juliano, Recording Secretary Mary Avinger, Interim Parking and Mobility Services Division Manager John Youkhana, Parking and Mobility Services Division Manager, Daniel Lassiter, Parking Restrictions Coordinator Jennifer Jones

2. Non-Agenda Public Comment

None

3. Agenda Approval

Commissioner Taylor made a motion to approve the agenda as presented which was seconded by Commissioner Stigger. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

4. Approval of Draft Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Katner made a motion to approve the draft December 16, 2019 Transportation Commission meeting minutes as presented which was seconded by Commissioner Taylor. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

5. PETITION FOR OVERNIGHT ON-STREET PERMIT PARKING ON THE 400 BLOCK OF NORTH TAYLOR AVENUE

Jennifer Jones gave a presentation to the Commission on the petition received last year for overnight on-street permit parking on the 400 block of North Taylor Avenue.

The floor was opened to public testimony.

Paula Halfin, of the 400 block of North Taylor is the petitioner and supports overnight permit parking. She spoke of living in her building on the block for 29 years and how parking is difficult in the area due to cars not moving. Ms. Halfin also believes six cars opposed to four can fit in the proposed area.

Floor was closed to testimony.

Commissioner Taylor made a motion to approve staff's recommendation as presented and was seconded by Commissioner Stigger.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes – Taylor, Stigger, Fink, Katner, Thompson

Nays – None

Recommendation passed with a five to zero voice vote.

6. PETITION TO INSTALL A TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICE ON THE 1150 BLOCKS OF HOME & CLINTON AVE (CONTINUED FROM THE MAY 30, 2019 TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING)

Transportation Engineer Jill Juliano gave a presentation regarding the petitions for traffic calming. Jill presented the history of the petitions, speed and volume data collected, and crash rate history for the intersections.

There was a brief discussion regarding correctable vs. non-correctable crashes.

The floor was opened to public testimony.

Laura Stefanic, of the 1150 block of Clinton, supports the petition and spoke about her concerns with increased traffic on Home from the Jewel grocery store. Ms. Stefanic also supports the petition for Clinton and talked about her concerns regarding speeding vehicles off of Roosevelt.

Timothy Walsh, of the 1100 block of Clinton, feels cars drive too fast on his block to avoid Roosevelt traffic. Mr. Walsh supports the petition to slow down traffic.

Diane Sherry, of the 1150 block of Clinton, is in favor of the petition and spoke of traffic volume increasing over the year. Ms. Sherry thinks school traffic causes congestion and makes the street narrow. She stated it seems a lot of trucks and delivery trucks from Jewel use Clinton. Ms. Sherry doesn't think the full impact from the Montessori School has been realized due to its late opening.

Eugene White, of the 1150 block of Home, spoke about problems with speeding traffic from Jewel and from Roosevelt but especially from Jewel. Mr. White mentioned previously speaking resident beat officers and arguments with speeding motorists. He

supports having a speed bump to slow down traffic. He also spoke about traffic from Roosevelt using Home as a cut through which causes problems which also causing a speeding problem.

Nancy Fliehler, of the 1150 block of Home, spoke about living on the block for 25 years and her main concern is safety. She supports the petitions for the blocks and just wants to prevent accidents. Ms. Fliehler spoke about high pedestrian traffic due to Jewel and businesses on the Berwyn side of Roosevelt. She spoke about rolling stops and thinks flashing stop signs or high visibility crosswalks would help. She also agrees that the parking impact from the school isn't known due to opening late and noticed an increase in parked cars and speeding traffic.

Nancy Luepke, a 30-year resident of the 1150 block of Clinton, spoke about things parents on block are doing and safety being her main concern. Ms. Luepke spoke about Clinton being a narrow street, her car being side swiped years ago, and surprised there hasn't been more similar accidents. She is concerned about Fillmore and Clinton intersection with Fillmore having no stop sign and would like the Commission to consider a stop sign at the intersection.

The floor was closed to public testimony.

Jill spoke about Montessori School enrollment being over 60% full prior to the most recent data collection.

The Commission discussed

- Permanent traffic calming options and financial responsibility
- Petition being general as opposed to specific requests
- Traffic calming further narrowing street
- Temporary rush hour Do Not Enter restriction for north/south streets at Roosevelt
- Commissioner Katner's personal observation of traffic on Home and Clinton
- Home Avenue bike route
- Amount of cars versus speed
- Jewel store being huge traffic generator
- Making Home Avenue one-way south and Clinton Avenue one-way north
- Traffic calming measures on Berwyn side of Roosevelt Road
- Bump-out at alley north of Roosevelt Road
- Previous requests for residential streets near main/retail streets
- Holistic approach to look at Village wide

Bill McKenna, Village Engineer, spoke about the Village wide holistic approach being on the Commission's 2020 work plan and staff wants to work with the Commission on it. Mike Koperniak stated one-way streets were looked at in the late 80's and residents opposed to the idea. Commissioner Stigger spoke about a study that suggests speed

increases on one-way streets. Bill stated the Commission can work on petition process this year as part of the work plan and the Village Board supports area wide studies.

The Commission further discussed:

- 1150 blocks Home and Clinton eligible for speed bumps
- Next steps based on Commission recommendations
- Alley speed bumps petition process
- Speed hump versus speed table
- Speed table costs over several years – 5-10 years
- Coming to a resolution – residents have waited a long time
- Next most effective traffic calming strategy that won't cost residents money
- Pinch points or bump-outs not being effective on blocks
- Flashing stop signs
- Possibly pushing problems to another street
- Staff's objection to speed table
- Speed tables paid for by SSA.

Commissioner Katner made a motion to 1. Accept staff's recommendation for the 1150 blocks of Home and Clinton Avenues for a temporary speed trailer and radar signs, 2. For staff to investigate flashing stop signs or other Level 1 traffic calming measures, and 3. Support installation of speed tables on the 1150 blocks of Home and Clinton Avenues as long as neighbors support it. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Taylor.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes – Katner, Taylor, Fink, Stigger, Thompson, Burke
Nays – None

Recommendation passed with a six to zero voice vote.

7. DISCUSSION REGARDING PARKING PERMITS FOR REGISTERED LOCAL BUSINESSES

John Youkhana, the Interim Parking and Mobility Services Division Manager introduced Daniel Lassiter the incoming Parking Mobility Services Manager.

John then began a discussion looking for interest from the Commission regarding parking permits for many types of registered local businesses in Oak Park that need to park in residential areas at various times of the day, especially when there are parking restrictions. The permits would override some or all parking restrictions.

An Arts District rep in the audience spoke about supporting the idea, looking for handicap parking, and possibly extending these permits to employees of local businesses. Another Arts District rep in the audience also stated she is also looking for information on permits for employees.

The Commission discussed

- Possible fees
- Next steps
- Permits for businesses that goes to home to provide service
- Businesses from outside Oak Park
- Looking at best practices in other communities
- How to deal with UPS, FedEx, etc.

Dan gave his perspective on how the process works. The Commission supports the idea but reserves concern about burdening elderly residents having to get permits for caregivers.

An Arts District liaison in the audience spoke about the need for early morning employee parking particularly in the Arts District. John Youkhana said Parking staff has spoken with the Arts District liaison before and can continue meeting with her regarding this concern.

8. DISCUSSION ABOUT PERMANENTLY CHANGING THE MEETING DAY OF THE MONTHLY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING TO THE 2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

Public Works Civil Engineer/Transportation Commission Staff Liaison Mike Koperniak spoke about the reasons for wanting to change the Commission's meeting day.

Mike read an email from Commissioner Moses stating she agrees to this change. Commissioner Taylor can't meet on Wednesdays, but Thursdays might be slightly better. Wednesdays are bad for Chair Burke, Commissioner Fink is okay with the change, and Commissioner Thompson cannot meet on Wednesdays until May due to teaching. Commissioner Katner is okay either way. Chair Burke would like staff to ask what the next best option is. Mike will check and bring information back to the next Commission meeting on February 24th.

Chair Burke asked about process for creating meeting agendas and would like to schedule a regular work plan agenda item starting in February.

Bill McKenna gave an update to the Commission regarding the three upcoming projects on Lake Street. Bill also gave an update about the Plan Commission's meeting regarding the Rush Oak Park Hospital garage project being moved to March. There may be a need to use the Commission and Parking for implementing parking restrictions.

Chair Burke spoke about parking petitions in the pilot area. John Youkhana stated Parking does accept and looks at petitions.

9. OTHER ENCLOSURES

10. Adjourn

Commissioner Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Commissioner Stigger. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 9:30p.m.

Respectively submitted

Mary Avinger

Mary Avinger,
Administrative Secretary