

APPROVED Meeting Minutes
Transportation Commission
Monday, November 28, 2016
Council Chambers – Village Hall

Call to Order and Roll Call

With only four members present minus the Chair, Commissioner Chesney motioned to make Commissioner Stewart Chair Pro Tem until Chair Chalabian arrived at the meeting. Commissioner Eichenberger seconded the motion and the voice vote was unanimous.

Chair Pro Tem Mike Stewart called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

Present: Jack Chalabian, Kyle Eichenberger, Michael Stewart, Mark Patzloff, James Thompson, Craig Chesney

Excused: Joel Schoenmeyer

Staff: Bill McKenna, Mike Koperniak, Jill Juliano, Mary Avinger

There was no non-agenda public testimony.

Approval of Tonight's Meeting Agenda

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

Approval of the Draft September 26, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Thompson motioned to approve the draft October 24, 2016, Transportation Commission meeting minutes as modified and was seconded by Commissioner Eichenberger. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

REVIEW PETITION FOR INSTALLATION OF TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICE ON THE 1200 BLOCK OF NORTH EAST AVENUE

Jill Juliano gave a presentation reviewing the history for installation of a traffic calming device on the 1200 block of North East Ave. The presentation included aerial views of the intersection and block and information on various traffic calming devices along the 1200 blocks along North Ave. Ms. Juliano went over vehicle speed and volume data collected for the 1200 block of North East and adjacent areas. Jill also presented comparisons between this block and the 1200 block of Woodbine. Ms. Juliano stated it is staff's recommendation to implement either a mid-block pinch-point (choker) or

alternatively mid-block median or bump-outs, also known as curb extensions and mentioned the 1200 block of Woodbine and Jackson Blvd as examples.

Commissioner Chesney asked if speed bumps in alleys need to be petitioned for. Jill Juliano answered yes. Commissioner Chesney also asked about the recent parking survey times and Jill responded, and then asked how bump-outs affect homes and their size and Bill McKenna responded.

Commissioner Stewart stated that he appreciated staff's data collection on adjacent streets.

Commissioner Patzloff asked about the speeds and volumes of the surveys and Jill responded that speeds went up between surveys. Commissioner Patzloff asked if there was a request for traffic calming in the alley on the petition and Jill responded it was not requested. He went on to ask about speed reduction on Woodbine and how long in between surveys was data collected and Jill responded.

Commissioner Thompson asked Jill to repeat staff's recommendation and if a choker narrowed the street to one lane. Jill responded the recommendation is either install a temporary choker mid-block, a median from the Hometown example, or bump-outs and went on to explain what a choker is and how it slows traffic.

Commissioner Eichenberger asked of the two mid-block options how many lost parking spaces would there be and Jill responded that there are about two car spaces per side.

Chair Chalabian asked about the reaction from the North Avenue businesses and Jill responded that businesses were notified. He also asked what the Police response to enforcement was and Jill responded that they do not have data from the Police. Ms. Juliano also mentioned that volumes are at the high end of 800-1200 vehicle range for average daily traffic (ADT). Chair Chalabian asked how East Ave became a collector street. Jill explained from the Village's 1990 Comprehensive Plan, East was a collector street before there was a traffic signal at Columbian and the new plan did not notice this.

A discussion was had between Ms. Juliano, Mr. McKenna, and the Commission about how staff uses the comprehensive plan for street analysis, the definition of collector streets and how to adjust the definition on the new Comprehensive plan.

Commissioner Chesney asked when Woodbine bump-outs were installed and what the resident feedback was and Jill responded that feedback was positive.

Chair Chalabian asked how many houses were on the 1200 block of north East Ave and Jill referred to the aerial view slide of the presentation and counted 18 houses.

At this point Jack Chalabian takes over as Commission Chair.

The floor was opened to public testimony.

Rebecca Beasley of 1212 N East Ave opened with a power point presentation that she and other neighbors on the block would be speaking from to support their petition. Ms. Beasley compared her block's petition to those from Elmwood and Rossell and spoke briefly about the time it's taken from the initiation of the petition to get to the Commission.

Tom Lindsey of 1235 N. East Ave continued with the power point presentation and mentioned his is the first house south of the alley. Mr. Lindsey spoke about the block's relationship with businesses within one minute of East Ave, rush hour traffic, and parking and parking lots of adjacent commercial properties. Mr. Lindsey stated Oak Park is primarily residential community and feels motorists driving through the Village should travel on major streets and that it seems 82% of the 1200 north blocks of traffic calming devices.

Steve Wendel of 1215 N. East Ave stated that he has two young kids and feels this is a safety issue for 19 young kids living on his block.

Juan Ortiz of 1234 N. East Ave stated that he moved to this block in 2010 and the number of kids has increased since then. He continued with the power point presentation showing pictures of his bushes that were damaged from cars speeding and cutting through the alley as well as damage done to his fence. Mr. Ortiz agrees with Mr. Wendel about safety issues for pedestrians.

Mr. Wendel of 1215 N. East spoke again giving a summary of concerns.

Jill Juliano summarized written public testimony that was received 12 in support and two opposed.

Audrey Ingersoll of 1223 Linden stated that she has lived there five years and feels like she is in the same situation as the 1200 block of north East Ave. Ms. Ingersoll stated she has three small kids and living on the other street with North Ave access a solution needs to be developed for the community and the Village. The problem is not just on East Ave and wants the Commission to look at the situation holistically and not just end up shifting the problem.

Matt Kemper of 1227 N East Ave reiterated the need for a plan to in some type of traffic calming device.

Ben DeBruin of 1228 N East Ave stated he moved to the block in January of 2013 and thinks speed is an issue but that the greater safety issue is the volume of cars on the street. Mr. DeBruin spoke about traffic from Woodbine and how it has gone up over the past three years.

Paul DeJarnatt of 1231 N East Ave concurs with neighbors about kid's safety. Mr. DeJarnatt stated he has two small kids that play outside and feels safety is an issue with the volume of cars.

Dan Finnegan of 6611 North Ave stated he has a business on North Ave that has been there 40 years and he is a part of the North Ave Business District and supports any traffic calming device for the 1200 block of N East Ave even similar to 1200 Woodbine. Mr. Finnegan also spoke about parking in the area and during snow.

John Biag of 1107 N East Ave stated he has three young kids and there are approximately 12 kids on his block. Mr. Biag agrees with the safety concerns of the 1200 N East block and said that there is speeding cars all the time. Mr. Biag also mentioned seeing speeding school busses in the morning.

Orson Morrison of 1204 N East Ave stated he has lived at his address for four years and has two young kids. Mr. Morrison agrees with neighbors that there is a safety issue for kids to be outside.

Thom Carpenter of 1135 N East stated he's lived in Oak Park for 35 years and kids used to be able to play in front of their houses and even played in the street years ago. Mr. Carpenter said there is so much traffic that it takes his wife several minutes to back out of the driveway and with no stop sign between the 1000 and 1100 blocks of north East cars pick up speed. Many other streets along North Ave are closed off to traffic forcing cars off to East Ave and thinks rotating open streets would even out the problem.

Chris Fogarty of 1125 Linden stated he came to listen and wants to know why there are only two streets along North Ave left open – 1200 Linden and 1200 N East. Mr. Fogarty stated they live near St. Giles and there are lots of speeding cars and busses. Mr. Fogarty feels his block has the same problems as 1200 N East and that kid's safety is important.

Janice Smith of 1219 N East stated she's lived there 29 years and petitioned to have something done at the alley 15 years ago and was told no because East Ave was a pathway for emergency vehicles. Ms. Smith stated the number of children has increased over the years and she supports the petition.

Mary Rinder of 923 N Grove stated she has been a resident of the Village for 30 years and thinks the core of the issue is speeding and she doesn't see police ticketing cars and wants more police presence.

Sal Forna of 1200 N East Ave stated there is a north/south stop sign at East and LeMoyné that people don't stop for. Mr. Forna said that he's called his resident beat officer and police only come once in a while and feels police need to be around more often to enforce.

David Lau of 1201 N East Ave stated he has three kids and even when his oldest was younger he was still worried about speeding cars. Mr. Lau shares the same concerns of the other neighbors and thinks drivers don't care.

Public testimony was closed out.

Commissioner Thompson stated that he is persuaded that something needs to be done.

Commissioner Patzloff agrees and said a solution is needed.

Commissioner Eichenberger thinks everyone is looking at Woodbine as a good example and that enforcement is needed in addition to the Transportation Commission's recommendation.

Commissioner Stewart stated he was glad to see the participation and he hears that the resident's concerns are about traffic volume and speed. He likes the Woodbine solution. Commissioner Stewart doesn't like bump-outs and thinks the choker or permanent speed table are good options.

Commissioner Chesney stated the Village put diverters on Elmwood and Rossell and wasn't given options and that created more traffic flow for East Ave. Commissioner Chesney didn't think the choker was received well on Woodbine due to loss of frontage and thinks alleys should be tested for speed.

Jill Juliano responded saying that only one resident complained about the choker on Woodbine and wants the Commission to realize alley speed tables is not permanent. They are installed in the spring and removed late fall for snow plowing operations.

Chair Chalabian asked Jill Juliano if the petition asked about speed tables in alleys and Jill responded no.

Chair Chalabian stated that he hears that the neighborhood has changed a lot in a short amount of time and feels the Commission is sold on speeding and volume issues. There is no so much a parking issue. Chair Chalabian feels the comprehensive plan is wrong as far as East Ave being a collector street and that the quality of life has gone down but you can't measure it or put a number on it. Chair Chalabian said speed tables worked on Woodbine and thinks the Village Board made errors by not allowing speed tables and that the Commission should recommend them anyway. He feels bump-outs work and supports speed tables. Chair Chalabian stated the problem is speeding in the middle of the block and when geometrics are reduced, speed gets reduced. He also suggested the Village needs to take a holistic approach to keep conflict down between businesses and residents.

Commissioner Chesney thinks people who made policies aren't here anymore and thinks the speed table should be recommended.

Bill McKenna spoke about alley petitions and Jill Juliano explained the petition timeline, the delay with the traffic calming toolbox, and stated that due to time it was decided to push this item along.

Chair Chalabian spoke about the petition process and the Village Board's views on cul-de-sacs and traffic calming devices.

Bill McKenna spoke about reasons for installing speed tables and diverters on Woodbine and what staff can do to recommend them to the Village Board.

A discussion took place about speed tables on Woodbine and effects on Fire and Public Works. The discussion continued about speed tables on the 200 block of south East Ave as well as what can be done and what to recommend to the Village Board.

Commissioner Stewart motioned to recommend change to revise Parking and Traffic policy to include speed tables along border streets. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eichenberger. The voice vote was as follows:

Ayes: Chalabian, Patzloff, Eichenberger, Stewart, Thompson, Chalabian

Nays: None

The motion passed six to zero.

Commissioner Chesney motioned to 1. Install bump-outs at the alley, 2. Install a speed table mid-block, 3. Complete a speed study on the 1200 block of Linden and after a six month study install temporary traffic calming devices, and 4. Do speed counts in alleys adjacent to the 1200 block of north East Ave. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thompson. The voice vote was as follows:

Ayes: Chesney, Stewart, Eichenberger, Patzloff, Thompson, Chalabian

Nays: None

The motion passed six to zero.

DETERMINE TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICE TO BE TESTED ON GROVE AVENUE NEAR BERKSHIRE STREET(PER VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEE DIRECTION)

Jill Juliano gave a presentation that included background information on determining a temporary traffic calming device to be tested on Grove Ave. near Berkshire Street, per the Village Board of trustee direction. The presentation included a summary of testimony and a letter of explanation for the petition, an aerial view of the intersection and surrounding area, and comparison traffic study data for the 1200 block of Woodbine. Jill stated staff is considering one of two traffic calming measures; either bump-outs on Grove at the crosswalks north and south of Berkshire or two pinch-points (or medians) on the 900 and 1000 blocks of north Grove.

Chair Chalabian stated motorists don't know that they are required to stop when there are pedestrians in crosswalk.

A discussion took place between the Commission, Bill McKenna, and Jill Juliano about speed bumps/tables on interior streets of the Village, the effects of geometric changes on vehicle traffic, and the costs of various physical traffic control devices like diverters, chokers, bump-outs and who should pay those costs. The discussion continued about bike-friendly solutions to bump-outs, stop in pavement for pedestrians versus chokers, costs of traffic control devices and traffic calming devices.

The floor was opened to public testimony.

Mary Rinder of 923 N Grove spoke about being against installing a stop sign and spoke about how more enforcement is needed in the area.

Public testimony was closed out.

The discussion continued about chokers versus bump-outs.

Commission Thompson motioned to direct staff to come back with bike-friendly bump-out opportunities designs. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stewart. The voice vote was as follows:

Ayes: Chesney, Stewart, Eichenberger, Thompson

Nays: Chalabian

Abstain: Patzloff

The motion passed four in favor, one against, and one abstention.

Commissioner Patzloff motioned to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Stewart.

The voice vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 PM.

Respectively submitted

Mary Avinger

Mary Avinger,
Administrative Secretary

APPROVED Meeting Minutes
Transportation Commission
Monday, April 24, 2017
Room 101 – Village Hall

Call to Order and Roll Call

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

Present: Jack Chalabian, Kyle Eichenberger, James Thompson, Roya Basirirad

Excused: Craig Chesney, Michael Stewart, Joel Schoenmeyer

Staff: Mike Koperniak, Jill Juliano, Jill Velan, John Wielebnicki, Deputy Chief Scott Bartelt, Sgt. Dave Jacobson, Mary Avinger

The floor was opened to non-agenda public testimony.

Monica Sheehan of 626 Fair Oaks read her statement about the Village not conducting routine annual maintenance of the community/high school garage and that there is no record of the garage's inspections and completed repairs and no routine repair schedule. Ms. Sheehan stated that she's been contacting the Village since August of 2016 regarding the elevator being out of service and it took six months to repair but learned from teachers at the high school it was inoperable for 18 months. Ms. Sheehan stated the Village should have routine maintenance and repair for all of its garages and the high school is only responsible for daily maintenance. Ms. Sheehan's written testimony is attached to these minutes.

Non-agenda public testimony was closed out.

Approval of Tonight's Meeting Agenda

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

Approval of the Draft March 20, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Eichenberger motioned to approve the draft March 20, 2017, Transportation Commission meeting minutes as modified by Chair Chalabian and was seconded by Commissioner Thompson. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Commissioner Thompson motioned to move the petition for installation of traffic calming devices on the 1200 blocks of north East and Linden avenues to the first

agenda item and was seconded by Commissioner Eichenberger. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

PETITION FOR INSTALLATION OF TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES ON THE 1200 BLOCKS OF NORTH EAST AND LINDEN AVENUES

Jill Juliano gave a presentation starting with the history for petitions requesting installation of traffic calming devices on the 1200 blocks of North East and Linden Avenues. Ms. Juliano spoke about the collected parking and traffic data for 1200 East and Linden including vehicle crash history, vehicle volumes, and speed percentiles. The presentation also included information on existing traffic calming devices along North Avenue.

Chair Chalabian asked for confirmation of staff's recommendation for bump-outs on East and Linden and Jill responded.

Commissioner Thompson asked where bump-outs would go and Jill responded just south of the east/west alley.

Commissioner Basirirad asked how parking survey information was collected and Jill responded that staff physically went out to the locations and did it.

Chair Chalabian asked why there are higher speeds and volumes on these blocks compared to adjacent streets. Jill responded with her professional opinion. Chair Chalabian asked about the difference between local and collector streets. Jill responded that residential streets are mainly used for residents to reach their homes while arterial streets like Oak Park, Ridgeland, etc. for through traffic with limited access to east/west streets. Collector streets are streets used to get to arterial streets from local streets.

Chair Chalabian went over previous recommendations from the Commission and asked what happened when it went to the Village Board of Trustees. Jill responded that it didn't go to the Village Board due primarily because of Fire Dept. concerns regarding speed bumps/humps/tables.

Deputy Chief Scott Bartelt explained that speed tables slows emergency response times, certain ambulance patients can't take bumps, and spoke about maneuvering large vehicles.

The floor was opened to public testimony.

Paul DeJarnatt of 1231 N East stated he's lived here since 2012 and has two kids under the age of six and how there are lots of new families with young kids. Mr. DeJarnatt won't let his kids play outside because of the traffic volume and wants a traffic calming device soon and prefers a speed table.

Tom Lindsey of 1235 N East stated he is concerned about the traffic volume and there is lots more traffic than what the residents create. Said there are lots of parked cars at the north end of the block from people walking to North Avenue businesses. Mr. Lindsey said this doesn't fall into the spirit of the comprehensive plan and thinks some parkers could be employees of the businesses because they park longer than two hours. Mr. Lindsey went on to state that there are 22 intersections with 18 being addressed with restrictions and wants the Commission to look into further restrictions. Mr. Lindsey also thinks Commission should look at two hour restrictions and maybe change it and spoke about free parking versus paid meters on North Avenue.

Robert Roscoe of 1209 Columbian spoke about the traffic signal on Columbian and North Avenue and said that anything that happens on East and Linden affects his block even though they have a traffic light. Mr. Roscoe stated if after studies show increased traffic on Columbian then remove temporary diverters.

Julian Foster of 1205 Columbian stated he thinks it's a good idea to have a comprehensive plan but with four streets in a row with access to North Avenue what benefits East and Linden will affect Euclid and Columbian. Mr. Foster also stated there are many young children on his block and the traffic light has been there for decades and is not new. Mr. Foster stated Columbian has higher traffic and speed from drivers trying to make the light.

Phil Hausken of 1220 Columbian stated a petition was sent in 2010 for traffic calming and was told no and traffic still has lots of traffic. Mr. Hausken stated the City of Chicago has put in speed bumps on their side of Columbian.

Tiffany Roberts of 1224 N East stated she has three kids that she can't let play freely on the block. Ms. Roberts stated her youngest has crossed the street without permission and without getting hit. Ms. Roberts is concerned about kids outside and there are at least 20 on the block. She feels people avoid Fair Oaks and Columbian by cutting through alleys and speed down the block from North Avenue.

Audrey Ingersoll of 1223 Linden stated she has three kids and there are over 15 kids under the age of 10 on her block. Ms. Ingersoll feels Linden is a thoroughfare for cars going to St. Giles, not following speed limit, and frequently accelerating down the block. Ms. Ingersoll stated they need a device to reduce speed.

Jennifer Cunningham of 1222 Linden stated she has lived in the Village for 12 years and that Euclid, Columbian, Linden, and East Avenue bear the brunt of North Avenue traffic. Ms. Cunningham spoke about drivers avoiding the light at Columbian and mentioned the new driveway for US Bank that's about to open would force traffic to turn on Linden. Ms. Cunningham also liked the idea of removing parking meters on North Avenue.

Ben DeBruin of 1228 N East stated he is concerned about volume of cars going up. Mr. DeBruin mentioned how Rossell, Elmwood, and Woodbine got traffic calming devices and stated it is not fair to East Avenue when other streets had lower volumes. Also stated East Avenue is used as a thoroughfare between North Avenue and Division with only two stop signs in between. Mr. DeBruin mentioned seeing police in area more often and they had set up speed radar on the block, but that is only temporary.

Rich Schurr of 1209 N Euclid stated he has lived in the Village for 26 years and is concerned about speeding with people going north on Oak Park using side streets to go around traffic. Mr. Schurr thinks with the US Bank about to open, that speeds will increase and supports a holistic solution.

Tom Carpenter of 1135 N East stated he has lived in the Village for 35 years and traffic is a problem. Mr. Carpenter explained that kids used to play in the street and they can't anymore. He stated traffic is a problem and doesn't think East is a residential street. Mr. Carpenter stated there is a volume problem and if the adjoining streets are restricted then cars will go down Columbian. Mr. Carpenter thinks all streets should be opened because people driving down East don't respect the community.

Rebecca Beasley of 1212 N East thinks traffic increased in last two years and that it's because of all the other streets with traffic calming devices. Ms. Beasley stated East and Linden are at the top of the speed and volume thresholds while other streets with calming devices had less traffic when diverters were installed.

Brian Kaunelis of 1136 Linden spoke about similar problems on the 1100 block of Linden with lots of kids. Mr. Kaunelis stated that past actions have affected them now and is concerned about the safety of kids.

Ed Ferraro of 1209 Linden stated he's lived in the Village for 38 years and spoke about motorists having a lack of respect for traffic controls, and trying to avoid traffic signals. Mr. Ferraro stated people will only do right when forced and thinks maybe traffic cameras should be considered.

Janis Smith of 1219 N East stated she's lived in the Village for 30 years and wanted a cul-de-sac 30 years ago on East but was told no by the Village due to emergency services. Ms. Smith thinks Village should consider safety for first two blocks south of North Avenue.

Pam Sheppard of 1234 Linden stated she's lived in the Village 29 years and thinks traffic moves down East because traffic from Natoma in Chicago turns to go down East. Ms. Sheppard spoke about the volume of traffic on Linden from Master Yu Karate Studio on North Avenue in the evenings. Ms. Sheppard doesn't think volume of cars will be lessened; all they can do is calm them.

Public testimony was closed out.

Commissioner Thompson stated residents made good points and that the Village has used band-aid solutions instead of holistic approach. Jill Juliano responded about the traffic calming toolbox and also spoke about Rossell and Elmwood. Commissioner Thompson asked if any traffic calming measures were removed and Mike Koperniak responded speed bumps were removed on East Avenue north of Washington. Commissioner Thompson also asked about speed cameras.

Commissioner Basirirad stated that the 18 of 22 intersections along North Avenue is a lot of traffic calming measures and asked if that was consistent with the comprehensive plan. Jill Juliano responded with information about other traffic calming measures along Austin, Harlem, and Roosevelt.

Commissioner Eichenberger mentioned cars parking on the blocks for longer than two hours on East Avenue and how enforcement should be notified. Commissioner Eichenberger also asked for clarification on the traffic calming budget. Bill McKenna spoke about \$25,000 for traffic calming and how it is first come, first served with budgeting. A discussion about budgeting occurred.

Chair Chalabian stated that in his nine years on the Commission, this is the first petition that wants holistic approach. Chair Chalabian went on to speak about his experiences while living near Roosevelt Road and how the Transportation Commission and the Village Board relate to each other in terms of traffic calming.

Chair Chalabian spoke about the need to do something because this process has gone on long enough. He went on to speak about the comprehensive plan possibly misidentifying East Avenue as a collector street and it should be made a residential street. Chair Chalabian supports bump-outs, feels a need for enforcement efforts and based on his observations, didn't see a parking problem in the area. Chair Chalabian thinks no one uses meter on North Avenue and with the low utilization rates on meters, maybe they should be removed to encourage parking on a commercial street. Chair Chalabian spoke about mobility and access versus quality of life.

Commissioner Thompson advocates bump-outs on East but feels it is another band aid to other band aids.

Commissioner Thompson motioned to 1. Support the staff recommendation for bump outs on the 1200 blocks of North East and on Linden, south of alley, not speed bumps. 2. Recommend increased police enforcement. 3. Look at parking on North Avenue and effectiveness of parking meters on North Avenue and North East Avenue parking enforcement. 4. Do follow-up traffic studies on the 1200 blocks of N East, Columbian, Euclid, and Linden. Commissioner Eichenberger seconded the motion.

The voice vote was as follows:

Ayes: Chalabian, Thompson, Eichenberger, Basirirad

Nays: None

The motion passed four to zero.

UPDATE ON THE VILLAGE WIDE PARKING STUDY

Jill Velan gave an update about the Village wide parking study for parking on and near North Avenue and Roosevelt Road. Ms. Velan explained the process the Village Board directed staff to follow for the parking study.

Chair Chalabian stated the Transportation Commission was under a different understanding from what the Village Board wants. He stated he thought the Commission would be a sounding board for the public and an active participant in the process. Chair Chalabian stated the Transportation Commission would have a more engaging process. Chair Chalabian stated he will follow up with the Trustee liaison about the Transportation Commission's role.

Commissioner Eichenberger knows the Village Board will look at the study components but wants to know when will there be public input.

A general discussion was had about what is the Transportation Commission's actual role in the parking study process including participatory versus being an endorser.

Jill Velan stated the Village Board is the ones holding the public meetings and the Transportation Commission is one component of the process. The Village Board is doing the parking study and wants the Transportation Commission's input.

A discussion about North Avenue and Roosevelt Road recommendations occurred.

Chair Chalabian likes one or the other; No Parking 8am-10am or 3 Hour Parking options and needs to pick one. Chair Chalabian stated enforcement issue is critical and doesn't like time limits because it is difficult to enforce and causes frustration to motorists. He prefers prohibitions because they are easy to enforce and understand and should consider land use and how it affects parking. Chair Chalabian stated if we standardize it, then make it simple.

Commissioner Thompson stated he agrees with Chair Chalabian and also prefers time prohibition versus time limits.

The discussion continued about on-street overnight permit parking along Roosevelt Road and parking along Roosevelt Road was had. The discussion also covered the appearance of maximizing use of meters on North Avenue and on Roosevelt Road.

Commissioner Thompson motioned for 1. Standardizing parking and get rid of daytime parking permits, 2. Maximize effectiveness of parking meters, and 3. Max out overnight permit parking zones. Commissioner Basirrad seconded the motion.

The voice vote was as follows:

Ayes: Chalabian, Thompson, Eichenberger, Basirirad
Nays: None

The motion passed four to zero.

Chair Chalabian wants Transportation Commission to be present when Village Board has its public discussions.

Bill McKenna asked the Transportation Commission if they would like Police, Fire, and Public Works to come back. Chair Chalabian responded that Commission should have one exclusive toolbox meeting and invite them back.

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

The voice vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 PM.

Respectively submitted

Mary Avinger

Mary Avinger,
Administrative Secretary

APPROVED Meeting Minutes
Transportation Commission
Monday, August 21, 2017
Council Chambers – Village Hall

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Chalabian called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present: Jack Chalabian, Kyle Eichenberger, Roya Basirirad, Michael Stewart, Craig Chesney

Excused: James Thompson, Joel Schoenmeyer

Staff: Bill McKenna, Mike Koperniak, Jill Juliano, Mary Avinger, Sgt. Jacobson, 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 Eichenberger. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of the Draft July 24, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Eichenberger motioned to approve the draft July 24, 2017, Transportation Commission meeting minutes as presented and was seconded by Commissioner Chesney. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

PETITION FOR INSTALLATION OF TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES ON THE 1200 BLOCKS OF COLUMBIAN AND NORTH EUCLID AVENUES

Chair Chalabian explained how public testimony works to the audience and that the Commission makes recommendations to the Village Board of Trustees.

Transportation Engineer Jill Juliano gave a presentation beginning with the history of the petitions and their explanations. The presentation included aerial views of the petitioning blocks and a picture showing the current traffic calming devices on the 1200 blocks along North Ave. Jill went over detailed speed and volume data for the petitioning and surrounding blocks as well as showed a bypass movement map showing how vehicles moved through the area. Jill also talked about peak hour volume data and enforcement hours which included traffic stop and citation information. Staff recommends the mid-block placement for traffic calming devices on the 1200 block of North Euclid Ave as well as 1200 block of Columbian Ave.

Commissioner Eichenberger asked when police enforcement hours were and Jill responded during rush hours.

Commissioner Basirirad asked about the timing of the US Bank driveway closure and Jill responded that 2017 data was collected after the driveway closure.

A discussion about traffic controls in the area, enforcement on East Ave, the follow up on the May 2017 study, traffic on Oak Park Ave, US Bank driveways egress points, and alley counts turning from Oak Park Ave to North Euclid Ave was had between the Commission and Jill Juliano.

Chair Chalabian asked about Columbian Ave versus East Ave as a collector street and Jill explained the different street classifications – local, collector, and arterial.

Commissioner Eichenberger stated he likes the bypass traffic data and asked how other cities deal with cut through traffic and Jill responded with an example of I-290 exits into Oak Park and spoke about City of Chicago bypass traffic issues.

Commissioner Basirirad asked about the classification of Columbian Ave compared to East Ave and if width of streets has anything to do with classification. Jill responded width does not affect classification.

Chair Chalabian asked if Columbian Ave was officially a collector street and Jill responded that she is currently working with the Plan Department on it.

The floor was opened to public testimony.

Jennifer Cunningham of 1221 Linden Ave is representing the block and spoke about the traffic increase over 30 years. Ms. Cunningham stated with more speeding cars and distracted drivers the block suffers from traffic calming devices on surrounding blocks. She wants the traffic calming toolbox done and a decision made for all blocks because a possible development on the Chicago side of North Ave would bring even more cut through traffic.

Phil Hausken of 1220 Columbian Ave asked if other blocks in the Village have mid-block pinch points and Jill responded no. Mr. Hausken asked about the design and Jill responded that before anything permanent would be installed, temporary devices would be installed and a follow up study done. Jill explained that although she is not a designer it is possible they could be concrete curbs with grass or plant material or just curbs. Mr. Hausken asked how the mid-block point is determined or if it is measured and Jill responded it is not measured and usually about mid-block and depending if there is a fire hydrant but that is something the designer would take into consideration. Mr. Hausken also stated his concerns for bicyclists and how they would be accommodated and Jill responded that there could be a possible cut-through.

Kelly Arquette of 1225 N. Euclid Ave spoke about traffic being a frustration for a long time and that she was waiting on a holistic approach and the traffic calming toolbox to be finished. Ms. Arquette stated traffic studies done for one day is not enough. She

wants staff to look at the timing of traffic signals at Oak Park and North Avenues also but these studies are just a snap shot of the situation. Ms. Arquette also spoke about cars blowing through stop signs, how she's gone to Village Board meetings and submitted her own data to the Village, and she thinks there are other options.

Ben DeBruin of 1228 N. East Ave stated his block is the one that turned in a petition 2-1/2 years ago and he supports traffic calming toolboxes for surrounding blocks. Mr. DeBruin briefly spoke about comparing East Ave and Columbian Ave as collector streets and stated his concern of increased traffic since their petition was turned in.

Julian Foster of 1205 Columbian Ave stated he supports the petitions and this is an area wide problem that needs a holistic approach. Mr. Foster stated speed is an issue and their blocks are the last ones cars can get through besides Oak Park Ave. He is in favor of the pinch points and disagrees that Columbian Ave is a collector street and doesn't think Columbian Ave or East Ave should be collector streets.

Dan Finnegan of 6611 North Ave stated he is a part of the North Avenue Business Association and supports the residents as long as there is access and parking for the North Avenue businesses. Mr. Finnegan spoke about the effectiveness of speed bumps in the alley and how maybe they should be installed on the blocks.

Edward Ferraro of 1209 Linden Ave stated he's lived in the Village for 38 years and spoke about enforcement and questioned the speeds at which enforcement kicks in. Mr. Ferraro also spoke about speeds, asked about bypass movement data, and about the traffic signal at Columbian Ave and North Ave. Bill McKenna responded the Chicago study was to increase left turn bay onto North Ave but will reach out to Alderman's office for more information and will look at small tweaks in the traffic signals for the Oak Park side.

Public testimony was closed out.

Bill McKenna spoke about working with IDOT to check the timing of the Oak Park Ave and North Ave traffic signal to make sure it is working as intended.

Commissioner Chesney explained to Commissioner Basirirad how the Commission tried to deal with this situation by using speed humps in recommendations to the Village Board; and was told no until residents came and spoke at a Board meeting. Commissioner Chesney stated the Commission needs a holistic approach because speeding is an issue and need to keep the streets open.

Commissioner Stewart stated that looking at how to deal with excess speed, speed tables or bumps seem to be the answer but the Village Board of Trustees says no to them. Commissioner Stewart also stated he was glad someone from the North Avenue Business District came and was glad to hear the resident who spoke about bicyclists. Commissioner Stewart supports the use of speed humps and tables which is the standard option to deal with excess speeds.

Commissioner Eichenberger stated he agrees with Commissioner Stewart about the speed tables. He stated no one is saying they don't want pinch points but there needs

to be something done on a larger scale than a choke point. Commissioner Eichenberger stated this should be a “respect our neighborhood” issue.

A discussion occurred about possibly cutting off access from LeMoyné Pkwy; Columbian Ave and East Ave not being collector streets; how enforcement is done; the use of speed humps and traffic circles in the City of Chicago; and if the Commission can recommend speed bumps.

Chair Chalabian asked about the status of the four petitioning streets and Jill Juliano responded with information on all streets and explained the recommendations for all blocks will go to the Village Board of Trustees at the same time. Chair Chalabian stated he believes East Ave and Columbian Ave are residential streets and should be treated as such. He also spoke about volume issues and speed reduction because there is a speeding issue that can be addressed on all four blocks. Chair Chalabian briefly spoke about cut through traffic and stated there are successes with speed humps in alleys because they work, chokers work, mid-block pinch points work because they slow down traffic. He stated he likes speed bumps and we need to figure out how to make them work and thinks this is addressing the problem holistically.

A brief discussion on speed issues, pinch points, driveways, and parking occurred.

Commissioner Stewart motioned to install speed humps on the 1200 blocks of Columbian, N Euclid, Linden, and N East Avenues.

Bill McKenna stated the Commission can't forward a recommendation for the 1200 blocks of N East Ave and Linden Ave because they were not notified and were not present and spoke about speed tables not being allowed.

Chair Chalabian stated polices should be flexible and that the Commission agrees speed bumps/tables work and that he disagrees about what the Village Board wants.

A discussion about using alternate back-up recommendations, trying to use pinch points, and speed humps in recent history, and bringing all four streets at the same time took place.

Commissioner Eichenberger asked about the midblock choker and how it would operate and Jill Juliano responded.

Commissioner Chesney spoke about what the Commission should do in regards to the recommendation.

Commissioner Stewart motioned to add speed bumps or tables on the 1200 blocks of Columbian, N Euclid, Linden, and N East Avenues. Commissioner Basirrad seconded the motion.

Another discussion took place about making recommendations for all four streets at the same time or whether to make two recommendations.

Bill McKenna spoke about the best process to get the petitions approved is to get the traffic calming toolbox approved by the Village Board of Trustees first and then if it's approved notify all four blocks about the next step.

The voice vote was as follows:

Ayes: Chalabian, Stewart, Basirirad

Nays: Eichenberger, Chesney

The motion passed three to two.

Chair Chalabian explained to the audience what happens next and invited the residents to come to the Village Board of Trustees meeting in September.

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION 2018 WORK PLAN

Chair Chalabian explained to Commissioner Basirirad what the Commission's Work Plan is and what the Commission does to develop one each year.

Mike Koperniak went over the Commission's 2017 Work Plan and their accomplishments as of August. Mike and the Commission went over the draft 2018 Work Plan and decided what the Commission should work on and when it should be accomplished.

The Commission discussed their schedules for future meetings, agendas, and availability, as well as recommendations and what letter that would need to be sent to all four blocks, and the recommendation going to the September Village Board of Trustees meeting.

Commissioner Chesney motioned to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Basirirad.

The voice vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM.

Respectively submitted

Mary Avinger

Mary Avinger,
Administrative Secretary