

APPROVED Meeting Minutes
Transportation Commission
Wednesday, June 12, 2017
Council Chambers, Village Hall

Call to Order and Roll Call

Mike Koperniak called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Present: Kyle Eichenberger, Joel Schoenmeyer, Michael Stewart, James Thompson and Roya Basirirad.

Staff: Mike Koperniak, Jill Velan, Dorothy Benson-Baker

Excused Absences: Jack Chalabian, Craig Chesney

Kyle Eichenberger was voted in by other the Transportation Commission members as the Acting Chair.

Approval of Tonight's Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve tonight's meeting. Commissioner Schoenmeyer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Draft May 10, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Schoenmeyer motioned to approve and submit the draft minutes as is. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thompson. The motion passed unanimously.

PETITION TO UPGRADE TO ALL-WAY STOP SIGNS AT FOREST AND GREENFIELD

Jill Juliano gave a presentation on the petition the Village received to upgrade to all-way stop signs at Forest and Greenfield which included an overview of the petition and the reasons for submitting. The presentation included some results of data collected as follows: no collisions have been documented of this vicinity in the past 3 years, there has been speeding on Greenfield but not on Forest, there is more daily car volume on Greenfield, and a low/below daily car volume on Forest. The Village recommendation would be to add bump out to reduce speed and add crosswalk markings.

Acting Chair Eichenberger asked to confirm that this is an uncontrolled intersection with no stop signs and Jill Juliano verified that it is.

Acting Chair Eichenberger also asked about the parking alongside Greenfield.

Commissioner Stewart inquired if any speeding tickets have been issued and Jill Juliano answered no tickets has been issued that we can verify.

Commissioner Stewart spoke on the Village doing a similar study for Belleforte and Jill Juliano responded that the Village is looking into that.

The floor was open to public testimony.

Royace Prather of 1103 Woodbine stated he has lived at Woodbine and Greenfield for 36 years. He spoke about his traffic observations at Woodbine and Greenfield and his perception about speeding bypass traffic. He spoke about trying to get copies of police reports of this area. Also, Mr. Prather mentioned the need for adding a "When Children are Present" sign below the 20mph park speed sign. Finally, he strongly believes there should be all-way stop signs at Woodbine and Greenfield to prevent a fatality.

Martin Rhomberg of 1138 Woodbine was present with his wife Jennifer. He pointed out that safety is the issue. Mr. Rhomberg stated there is no history of reported accidents and he believes adding stop signs is not the answer. The stop signs would make for more carbon monoxide in this area. He agrees with Jill Juliano's recommendation to add a bump out to reduce speed and add crosswalk markings.

Jennifer Sabatino of 1035 Forest has kids who play at Lindberg Park. Ms. Sabatino spoke about cars using Woodbine as a bypass while driving from Oak Park to Harlem. During sports events, she mentioned, parked cars block vision of pedestrians at crosswalks. Ms. Sabatino stated that she has witnessed lots of near missed even though no accidents have been reported and thinks not having a stop sign could be dangerous. She supports adding stop signs because a safe pedestrian crossing is most important.

Elaine Spoerer of 1047 Forest, (the Petitioner), stated that the crosswalks from Lindberg Park lets kids on bicycles drive right out into the street. She mentioned cars that parked on Greenfield along the park hinder visibility. Ms. Spoerer spoke further on how we have to find a way to slow cars down for our children. She stated she calls police every day about these problems and they do not write the tickets. Finally, she mentioned that Lindberg Park is in use more frequently.

The floor was closed to public testimony.

Commissioner Thompson asked about the uncontrolled intersection and how it works. He mentioned that it makes a lot of sense to have stop signs on Forest with the dangerous situations.

Commissioner Schoenmeyer spoke on the goal of cutting down the speed. He inquired about the most effective way to control speed and asked how we could clearly mark the street and use the bump outs.

Jill Juliano responded that we would have to change geometrics and mark crosswalks.

Commissioner Schoenmeyer stated he thinks speeds are too fast on Greenfield and more appropriate measures might be necessary.

Commissioner Thompson asked besides marked crosswalks, can signage be added to draw more attention.

Jill Juliano explained the benefits of using the curb bump outs.

There was a discussion about how parking would work with curb bump outs and stop signs.

Commissioner Stewart stated there is a speeding issue and also illegal parking that needs to be addressed. He spoke about adding more striping, and that the Commissioners could recommend more than the usual 20 ft. "No Parking Here to Corner".

Commissioner Stewart added his bicyclist friends are opposed to curb bump outs and they gave reasons on the website and six bike-friendly bump options to Jill Juliano.

Commissioner Stewart believes the most effective measure would be speed bumps.

Mike Koperniak agreed with the Acting Chair that enforcement is needed and striping should be added. There should be no parking in the intersection.

Commissioner Schoenmeyer spoke on if stop signs are overused, then they can become ineffective and he gave reasons. Enforcement seems to be a big problem. He seemed to prefer bike-friendly bump outs. In addition to enforcement, we are looking for a proven method that is safe for bikers as well as pedestrians. He concluded that speed have to be monitored and also the parked cars that are causing problems.

Commissioner Basirirad spoke about making a decision in regards to the illegal parked cars and she wants more improved enforcement.

Commissioner Thompson asked about continental crosswalks and in-road stop for pedestrians sign.

Jill Juliano commented that we would have to do an Engineering study to add additional signage.

Commissioner Schoenmeyer asked can we test the bump outs and Jill Juliano responded yes. He further asked how long would we have to test and Jill Juliano responded that we would want to encompass sports season so until sometime in the fall.

Acting Chair inquired when Greenfield was last paved and Jill Juliano could not recollect. He further asked has the Village been approached by the Park District to develop park safety plans and Jill Juliano responded not to her knowledge.

Acting Chair spoke on the parks needing a traffic management plan. He mentioned the No Parking on the east side of Marion. And added that we should treat this process holistically. We need to look at making recommendations around the whole park.

Next, there was a discussion about how bump out geometrics would work with turning cars and parked vehicles

Commissioner Schoenmeyer asked about installing bump outs on Forest.

Commissioner Stewart spoke about the park and parking. He concluded that this looks like a 6-month study. He agreed with the Acting Chair that we should look at park holistically.

Commissioner Schoenmeyer added we should partner with the Park District to make it safer for park users.

There was a discussion on what recommendations should be include in a motion.

Commissioner Stewart motioned to add continental striping across Greenfield and on Forest and expand the "No Parking Here to Corner to 30 feet from crosswalks. Commissioner Schoenmeyer seconded the motion.

The voice vote was as follows:

Ayes: Eichenberger, Stewart, Schoenmeyer, Thompson, Basirirad

Nays: None

The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Schoenmeyer motioned to add a northbound stop sign at Forest. At Greenfield. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion.

The voice vote was as follows:

Ayes: Eichenberger, Schoenmeyer, Thompson, Basirirad

Nays: Stewart

The motion passed four to one.

Commissioner Schoenmeyer motioned to add a temporary bike friendly bump out on Greenfield and test for several months and bring back for discussion. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion.

The voice vote was as follows:

Ayes: Chalabian, Thompson, Eichenberger, Basirirad
Nays: Stewart

The motion passed four to one.

Commissioner Stewart motioned to put in additional speed signage on Greenfield and seek further parking enforcement around the park (or parking restriction signage). Commissioner Basirirad seconded the motion.

The voice vote was as follows:

Ayes: Eichenberger, Stewart, Schoenmeyer, Thompson, Basirirad

Nays: None

The motion passed unanimously.

CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRAFFIC CALMING TOOLBOX

Mike Koperniak gave presentation which included a revised draft. The Transportation Commission is ok with the criteria table.

The Transportation Commission is okay with the revised traffic calming measures table.

The Transportation Commission wants to look at the November 26, 2012 draft speed table policy again in light of the traffic calming toolbox approach.

The Transportation Commission agreed that the revised petition form is ok.

After a brief discussion, the Transportation Commission agreed to keep the 51% signature requirement and not to use 75%.

Staff and the Transportation Committee reviewed the staff recommendations about paying for various traffic calming measures. It was agreed to by all parties that further discussion would take place at the next meeting.

Transportation Commission agreed with a staff recommendation that the funding mechanism discussion with Village Board of Trustees should take place and results will be incorporated into final document.

Staff mentioned possible use of a consultant to take Transportation Commission toolbox product and make it into a finished publishable product.

Transportation Commission and staff agrees that this is a living document and can be changed in the future.

Commissioner Basirirad suggested adding the Transportation Commission Village Website URL on to the revised petition. All parties agreed that this was a good idea.

CONFIRM FUTURE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING DATES

Five present Commissioners confirmed availability for June through October Transportation Commission meetings.

Commissioner Schoenmeyer 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 9:15 PM.

Respectively submitted

Dorothy Benson-Baker

Dorothy Benson-Baker
Administrative Secretary