

APPROVED Meeting Minutes
Transportation Commission
Monday, January 8, 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, James Thompson, Robert Taylor, Michael Stewart, Kyle Eichenberger (late arrival)

Excused: Roya Basirirad

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

Parking Consultant: Julie Dixon of Dixon Resources Unlimited

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 Taylor. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of the Draft October 9, 2017 Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Taylor motioned to approve the draft October 9, 2017 Transportation Commission meeting minutes as modified and was seconded by Commissioner Thompson. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of the Draft November 27, 2017 Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Thompson motioned to approve the draft November 27, 2017 Transportation Commission meeting minutes as modified and was seconded by Commissioner Stewart. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED PARKING PILOT PROGRAM

John Youkhana, Mobility Services Manager, gave a presentation to review the proposed parking pilot program. He began the presentation with a brief overview, history, and goals of the parking pilot program. John introduced Julie Dixon, the parking pilot program consultant from Dixon Resources Unlimited, who explained the objective is to

find the most balanced, standardized parking solution for Oak Park. The presentation included a chart that condensed potential solutions based on previous meetings and online feedback from residents and stakeholders into Conservative, Hybrid, and Progressive plans. Ms. Dixon indicated that the overnight on-street parking ban would remain in effect under the proposed plans.

The Commission discussed differences in eliminating the overnight parking ban and how the parking pilot program would allow registered vehicles to park overnight in the Village.

John and Julie reviewed the on street day restrictions with the Commission.

The Commission asked questions pertaining to standardization, the definition of parking permits versus passes, time restrictions, and time limits.

A discussion about 8-10am restrictions versus 3-hour parking limits, how often cars would have to be moved, potential capacity issues on the weekend, was had.

John and Julie reviewed the approaches for parking meters with the Commission.

The Commission asked questions about graduated rates, demand pricing, parking in commercial areas, what time permits/passes should begin in commercial areas, and what time paid parking should begin. Questions were also asked about how people would be charged for parking at meters, feedback from parking enforcement, and distinguishing the difference in restrictions/time limits within and outside of the pilot program area.

John and Julie reviewed the approaches for permit/pass parking (11pm – 6am) with the Commission.

The Commission asked questions about moving cars during snow removal and street cleaning, how guests could park on permit restricted streets, and if there will be a problem with people not caring and willing to get tickets under the Progressive Plan.

A discussion was had about guest parking and the possibility of an increase in people parking in the proposed neighborhood, what programs could be started to cover seniors and low-income individuals to lower the cost of a permit/pass.

John and Julie reviewed the approaches for off street day restrictions, meters/pay stations, and permit parking with the Commission.

The Commission asked questions about the difference between what is currently in place and what is being proposed in the Hybrid plan, and where permit parkers and people with passes will be allowed to park, and if people with permits will be allowed to park in front of single family homes.

Questions were asked followed by a discussion about the new technology, how license plate recognition (LPR) will work to validate that someone is parked legally, if the data collected will be public, if it's a possibility to have too much data, and if a premium parking permit holder cannot find parking, could they park elsewhere without having to call in.

The Commission noted the upcoming public outreach and the plans to wrap this up and go to the Village Board of Trustees.

Commissioner Taylor is concerned that the Commission will not be presenting much more than what was presented at the first public forum.

Commissioner Eichenberger thinks he could make arguments for and against the options presented but is still trying to understand it.

Commissioner Stewart likes much of the Hybrid plan but also spoke of what he didn't like about it. He is concerned about the affect the pilot program will have outside of the pilot area and that the technology won't be ready to go. Commissioner Stewart spoke about online comments about pay boxes being confusing to customers and customers preferring parking meters and feels the Commission needs to be aware of the demographics of people who don't have the app. He spoke of the previous changes that were made by the Commission, the deficiency of overnight parking in the pilot area, and limiting the permits sold in the Y2, Y3, and Y4 zones as well as concerns with overnight parking in front of single family homes. He concluded that hopefully this parking plan would address the needs of the Y2, Y3, and Y4 zones regarding the actual deficiency in the number of parking spaces.

Commissioner Thompson stated he likes the Hybrid plan but is concerned once the pilot is done how the program would be measured to see if it worked or didn't.

Chair Chalabian thinks the hybrid plan has merit but doesn't agree with all of it. Chair Chalabian spoke about previous public outreach and people who will figure out how to misuse the pilot program. He stated a top-down approach is not the way to go and that there will be a lot of opposition. Chair Chalabian said he is not sold on one approach and that Oak Park is different than other municipalities. He wants to present all of the plans to the public, hear what they have to say, then come back and determine what should be done.

John Youkhana explained that he would like the Commission to narrow down the choices for the public forum to reduce time for the presentation, questions, and comments. The Commission discussed what to do for the public forum, what people at the forum will be most concerned about, and how to narrow down the information for the public forum.

Julie Dixon drafted spreadsheet of options based on the comments from the Commission throughout the meeting then discussed and modified the options with the Commission.

Commissioner Thompson motioned to approve the spreadsheet and present the information to the public at the forum and Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion.

The voice vote was as follows:

Ayes: Thompson, Stewart, Eichenberger, Taylor

Nays: Chalabian

The motion passed 4 to 1.

The Commission discussed the format of the upcoming public forum and putting information on the Village website before the meeting.

An audience member spoke about businesses and simplifying the use of meters in business districts.

A brief discussion occurred about dates for the public forum and the second Commission meeting in January.

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

The voice vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 PM.

Respectively submitted

Mary Avinger

Mary Avinger,
Administrative Secretary