

APPROVED Meeting Minutes
Transportation Commission
Monday, April 23, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers – Village Hall

1. Call to Order

Chair Chalabian called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Roll Call

Present: Chair Jack Chalabian, James Thompson, Kyle Eichenberger, Meghann Moses

Absent: Roya Basirirad, Michael Stewart, Akiwumi Attawia, Robert Taylor

Staff: Public Works Civil Engineer/Transportation Commission Staff Liaison Mike Koperniak, Parking and Mobility Services Division Manager John Youkhana, Recording Secretary Mary Avinger, Parking Permit Office Supervisor Jennifer Jones

2. Non-Agenda Public Comment

None

3. Agenda Approval

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

4. Approval of Draft Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the draft February 26, 2018 Transportation Commission meeting minutes as amended which was seconded by Commissioner Eichenberger. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the draft March 22, 2018 Transportation Commission meeting minutes which was seconded by Commissioner Eichenberger. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

5. PARKING PILOT PROGRAM (CONTINUED FROM FEBRUARY 26, 2018 MEETING)

Chair Chalabian gave an introductory statement.

Public comment was taken on the proposed parking pilot program as set forth below.

Christi Raymond spoke about the lack of parking enforcement on her block, two hour parking on the east side and no parking on the west side, and driveways blocked many times by people parking on the block. Ms. Raymond also spoke about concerns getting parking enforcement to respond and ticket violators.

Kristi Sloniger submitted written testimony and spoke about the parking pilot program increasing spaces for a problem that doesn't exist, areas close to train stations are becoming commuter parking lots, and believes the overnight parking ban is being overturned and doesn't support cars parking for six days without having to move. Ms. Sloniger doesn't want zones taken away and believes the pilot program will change the historic nature of her neighborhood.

James Gates submitted written testimony and spoke about previously submitting questions and not receiving a response, living in south Oak Park, and his support for the overnight parking ban, and believes the public hasn't been given sufficient information regarding the program. Mr. Gates spoke of his disappointment that public officials haven't been present, that this program will change his neighborhood, and that he doesn't want the Village to move forward with the program.

Cathy Yen, a representative of the Oak Park River Forest Chamber of Commerce, spoke about a survey she did half in and out of the pilot area for the businesses owners in town and got 173 responses. Responses received indicated the main concern is customers followed by where do employees park. Majority of businesses approved no meter costs on Sunday, support for the escalated rates and 3 hour parking, concerned about consistency and clarity to inform customers where to park. Wants to work with the Village to make sure business employees understand rules.

Jennifer Misiak spoke about how changes would cause problems on her block of 100 N. Humphrey Avenue, especially on the west side, and her concerns with parking when working from home, guest parking, being close to the hospital.

Carrie Hageman spoke about the Village's parking clearinghouse and that she has attended previous Commission meetings on the pilot program and asked and posted questions online that have gone unanswered. Ms. Hageman stated she opposes the pilot program due to the lack of real information, no solid base of metrics and need for intensive monitoring and how to enforce three hour restrictions.

Nicolette Butler spoke about living in Oak Park for nine years and had no problem parking until the last two years when parking has become difficult caused in part by the loss of parking lots on South Boulevard and that she feels like she can't go out at certain times because she can't find parking during the week and it is worse on weekends. Ms. Butler also spoke of concerns with the snow parking ban rules, not everyone follows the rules and doesn't get ticketed, and the street doesn't get plowed, and still wasn't able to find parking.

Mary Rinder spoke about living in the village for 35 years and although the pilot program doesn't impact her at home but working at sites in the Village overnight sometimes might. She wanted to get more information for people who couldn't be at the meeting, and didn't like not being able to see the presentation online. Ms. Rinder stated that from reading the comments online, it seems almost 100% are against the program.

Kimberly Garnett stated she was speaking for the 200 block of Clinton since many neighbors could not attend. Ms. Garnett stated the block supports the existing no parking 8am-10am restriction and sees a problem changing to 3-hour parking which would affect renters on the block. She spoke about concerns of fees to park on the street in front of their house.

Harry Pitrowski spoke about parking always been an issue on the 1200 block of Belleforte Avenue and that solutions have to be individualized. Mr. Pitrowski spoke about parking problem caused by North Avenue traffic, his concerns for Lindberg Park visitors by putting more cars in the area, and concerns about who will benefit from the changes.

Parking Mobility Services Division Manager John Youkhana gave a presentation on the history of the proposed parking pilot program, and spoke about the next steps for implementation, outreach, and public comment.

Additional public comment was taken on the proposed parking pilot program as set forth below.

Kristi Sloniger asked what the limiting mechanism is and spoke about most public feedback being negative.

Laurie Marchi asked about overnight guest passes, why no police officers have been present and that safety and enforcement issues are not being addressed. Ms. Marchi spoke about lack of enforcement of two hour parking on her block and how overnight permit parking has been expanded to her block and difficulties with guest parking.

Monique Hudson spoke about parking on the 300 block of south Grove Avenue and her concerns with renting cars and how to pay for passes to park or if she would have to get an annual pass. Ms. Hudson spoke of concerns she won't be able to park on Grove anymore if she's not recognized as a resident of the Village that rents cars.

Bob Becker spoke about the concept of the proposal and believes implementing the pilot would be a failure due to the enforcement of parking and maintenance of the streets. Mr. Becker stated he doesn't think any problem is being solved and thinks there should be a task force to look at what the problem is.

John Youkhana replied to questions raised during public testimony.

John Youkhana read a statement from the Police Department regarding not publically discussing police enforcement techniques.

The Commissioners began discussing the following issues:

- The permits / Passes Matrix
- Issuance of warning tickets when the program is first implemented
- Pros and cons of ending meter feeding at 6 PM versus 8PM
- Adequacy of allocating sufficient resources for enforcement
- How the program would affect residential parking near the hospital complex
- How will program address needs of persons without smartphones
- Pros and cons of allowing overnight parking in some metered parking spaces
- If successful, how the pilot program rules would be expanded throughout the Village
- The schedule of obtaining and deploying new parking technology
- How to deal with non-village residents who work in the village
- The existence of a study of the existing parking conditions
- How less than one hour metered spaces will be dealt with
- The possible consequences of moving employees to parking on east-west streets
- How to implement dynamic pricing and inform the public about what it is and how it works
- The six month or nine month timeframe to implement the pilot program
- Implementation of technology is separate from implementation of plan
- Measures to evaluate the success or failure of the pilot program
- Contents of the 38 pages of public comments received on the village website regarding the parking pilot program

A recess was taken between 9:25pm and 9:30pm.

The Commission continued discussing the following:

- The apparent overwhelming negative comments on the Village parking website
- The \$70 fee for parking in front of one's own home
- The proposed plan doesn't appear to be clear and understandable enough
- The amount of Village Board of Trustee's direction regarding the goals of the parking pilot program
- A further discussion about the broad range of public input
- The role of Dixon Resources Unlimited in the parking pilot program
- A recounting of the history of this study and how it got to where it is today
- Concerns about commuter versus resident parking
- Concerns about the availability of adequate enforcement resources
- The good points found in the proposed plan
- The unknown to the Commission goals of the plan
- A reiteration that there is no intent to overturn the overnight on-street parking ban

The Commissioners agreed no decision would be made at this meeting and deliberations would continue at the April 30th meeting.

6. OTHER ENCLOSURES

None

7. Adjourn

Commissioner Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Commissioner Moses. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 10:17p.m.

Respectively submitted

Mary Avinger

Mary Avinger,
Administrative Secretary