

**TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING COMMISSION**  
**Minutes**

May 13, 2015, 7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers - Village Hall  
801 Burlington Avenue, Downers Grove

Chairman Pro tem Schiller called to order the May 13, 2015 meeting of the Transportation and Parking Commission at 7:02 p.m. and led the commissioners in the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call followed and a quorum was established.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Chairman Pro tem Schiller, Commissioners Carter, Cronin, Saricks, Wilkinson

Absent: Chairman Stuebner; Commissioners Golomb, Wrobel

Staff Present: Dir. Nan Newlon, Transportation Division Mgr. Matt Mayer

Others Present: Ms. Kim Carter, 627 Chicago Avenue, Downers Grove

Chairman Pro tem Schiller reviewed the protocol for the meeting.

**MINUTES**

A change was noted on page 3 in the motion: delete the name "Mr. Wilson" and insert "Mr. Wilkinson." **MINUTES OF THE APRIL 7, 2015 MEETING, WITH CORRECTION, WERE APPROVED ON MOTION BY MR. CRONIN, SECONDED BY MR. SARICKS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE OF 4-0-1. (SCHILLER ABSTAINS)**

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None.

**File #06-15 Neighborhood Traffic Study Area #4 – Final Draft Report** – Traffic Division Mgr. Matthew Mayer summarized the meetings held and public comment received which led up to this point, noting additional comments were received and inserted into the draft since the March 19, 2015 public hearing. Per Mayer, staff was seeking additional input tonight regarding the short-term recommendations with a recommendation moving to the village council. Mr. Mayer walked through a PowerPoint presentation explaining the background of the initial study undertaken by the village and then walked through the study in more detail.

Mr. Michel Worthman, KLOA consultant and project manager, reviewed the traffic study for Area #4, stating that much of the work focused on data collection. Recommendations followed as to intersection traffic control, with the focus on balance. Per Mr. Wilkinson's question about the neighborhood's positive response in Traffic Study Areas 1 and 2, Mr. Worthman explained the village did the follow-up studies for those areas, which appeared to be "reasonable" and most residents were satisfied with the changes to those areas.

Continuing, Mr. Worthman reviewed slides on the overhead discussing the study area's recommendations for pedestrian/bicycle improvements, improved signage, and improved/reflective crosswalks to better channelize traffic and pedestrians.

Mr. Mayer returned and explained the next steps which included a recommendation coming from this commission and finalizing the report to present it to village council within the first three weeks of June. He expected implementation of the recommendations would begin this fall.

## Transportation and Parking Commission

May 13, 2015

Per Mr. Schiller's concern about the document moving forward without any further public input, Mr. Mayer said he anticipated having another week to allow last minute public comments to be considered before the final report was completed and forwarded to the village council for consideration. Mr. Schiller then invited the public to the podium.

Ms. Kim Carter, 627 Chicago Avenue, Downers Grove, indicated she worked with staff to get the stop sign installed at Chicago and Douglas due to her having children attending the nearby school and she appreciated seeing the recommendation for it. Asked if drivers would be forewarned about the new stop sign installation or if any police enforcement would occur, Mr. Mayer indicated there would be temporary signs announcing the new signage and he would consider keeping that signage in place for 30 days for drivers to adjust. He also had considered the same temporary signage for the removal of stop signs. He has been speaking to the police department about this issue. Regarding Ms. Carter's question about bicycle signs, Mr. Mayer responded that the village did have a bicycle and pedestrian plan with various implementations to come in the future.

Regarding the previous comments about Traffic Study # 3 completed last year near Lester School and whether residents/staff had seen any improvements, Ms. Carter was pleased to report that she and the school community did see many improvements in the area.

As to the installation of new stop signs in unexpected intersections, Mr. Saricks mentioned he has seen the red LED lights surrounding some stop signs to catch motorists' attention. Mr. Mayer appreciated the comment.

Regarding Mr. Cronin's question whether the village was planning future traffic studies, Mr. Mayer replied that if the study program is successful and other areas need to be explored, he anticipates there will be more studies. If so, Mr. Cronin suggested that the next study area be around Downers Grove South High School; Mr. Saricks agreed that other areas, with distinct issues, needed to be reviewed.

Asked if there were future traffic study areas being considered by the village/staff, Mr. Mayer stated there were none at this time -- just side discussions by staff for now. However, he stated the topic could be placed on the agenda and discussed at next month's meeting. Mr. Cronin appreciated that. Asked if traffic signal interconnection was suggested for the next steps, Mr. Mayer explained there were interconnections along Fairview Avenue, along with other master controllers, at other intersections and one of his initiatives coming to the village was to get the communication out into the field so he could better control it utilizing software. However, there were challenges.

Asked whether KLOA studied the area around the two churches and the nearby park that was being utilized everyday, Mr. Worthman, from KLOA, reported it was reviewed and there were many complaints about parking on both sides of the street as well as the restricted parking but with the issue of vehicles still parking near the park, even when signs restricted it, he emphasized that enforcement still had to take place, as recommended in prior reports. Many of the issues raised were vehicles parking too close to driveways or blocking them. KLOA suggested painting the curbs red or yellow to warn motorists not to park in certain areas. Asked if the new parking lot at the high school relieved any congestion in the neighborhood, Mr. Worthman reported that from his own experience driving past the area, he did notice there has been more on-street parking but it was due to the parking restrictions currently there. He believed traffic would still occur before and after school, vehicles would still park short-term waiting for students, and cut-through traffic would still occur to avoid Ogden Avenue, which was why improvements were suggested for Grant and Main to improve the ingress and egress to the

## Transportation and Parking Commission

May 13, 2015

parking lot. As to the exact location of the drop-off area at the school, Mr. Worthman stated the drop-off area was located in the parking lot on the south side. Better clarification followed by Mr. Worthman on the steps taken to improve this area.

Lastly, per a question, Mr. Worthman explained that with this particular study he did not review and take into consideration the existing parking restriction signs since it was not part of the assignment and he believed the village would review that independently.

**WITH RESPECT TO FILE #06-15, MR. CARTER MADE A MOTION THAT THE TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMISSION FORWARD THE RECOMMENDATIONS, AS OUTLINED IN THE TRAFFIC STUDY REPORT, TO THE VILLAGE COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION. SECONDED BY MR. WILKINSON.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE OF 5-0.**

**File #05-15 McCollum Park – Various Streets – Parking Restrictions, April 1 to**

**November 1** – Mr. Mayer recalled the commissioners' last discussion about parking restrictions around McCollum Park and reported that even though April 1<sup>st</sup> had passed, staff did file a village manager's temporary authorization to install the fabricated signs along the south and east sides of McCollum Park. Mr. Mayer reported that final approval would be going before the village council wherein the temporary village manager's temporary authorization would expire and then move into the village ordinance. He reported that he also has written a letter to the residents on 67<sup>th</sup> Street and the north end of the park to see where the parking overflow has pushed to and has received three responses to date, two of which support weekend restrictions and one that states the existing conditions are fine. He intends to treat the responses as a parking petition wherein if five responses for parking restrictions are not received by staff in the next week or two, no further study will take place.

Asked for a follow-up as to why the lights on the northeast side of the park were remaining on, Mr. Mayer stated he spoke to the park district and the Roadrunner Soccer Club and stated the park district communicated to him that the district will not be utilizing the temporary lighting for the upcoming season and it should not be a future concern. Mr. Mayer also spoke with the park district about using its staff to do "buffer enforcement" between the police department and residents, which was not opposed, but he added park district staff was already responsible for that role, and if necessary, the village could pursue the matter further.

A question was asked if additional parking tickets were issued on Sunday mornings as a result of the new parking restrictions being installed to which Mr. Mayer offered to follow up with the police department in about a month since they were installed just last week.

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

**COMMUNICATIONS** - None

**ADJOURN**

**MR. SARICKS MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:00 P.M.**

**MR. WILKINSON, SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE OF 5-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste Weilandt, Recording Secretary  
(as transcribed from MP3 digital recording)