

FINAL

TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING COMMISSION
Minutes – June 12, 2019
Council Chambers – Village Hall
801 Burlington Avenue, Downers Grove

Chairwoman Dunne called the June 12, 2019 meeting of the Transportation and Parking Commission to order at 7:04 P.M. and led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairwoman Dunne, Commissioners Wilkinson, Schiller, Saricks

Absent: Commissioners Wrobel, Carter, Jenkins

Staff: Public Works Traffic Engineer Will Lorton, Officer Fisher, Public Works Administrative Secretary Andrea Banke

Visitor Roster: Ian Knorr

A quorum was established.

Chairwoman Dunne reviewed the procedures to be followed for the meeting, explaining that the Commission will forward a recommendation to the Village Council for approval.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 13, 2019 MINUTES
NO MEETING MINUTES TO APPROVE.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS
No public comment on non-agenda items.

Chairwoman Dunne proceeded to files on the agenda.

File #4-19 Forest Avenue – Parking Revisions

Traffic Engineer Will Lorton reported File 4-19 was initiated by the Library and a letter of support was included in the TAP packet. The library is looking to relocate their book drop from the east side of the building to the west side. Presently it's in an alley and disrupts circulation from the parking lot to Curtiss. The change will allow for increase in circulation and faster completion of book drop for the library. The two spaces recommended to be revised are 3-hour parking. Proposed revision is to make the north stall an ADA stall, and the south stall one 15-minute stall. Staff has no issues with this and would like to proceed with recommendation for approval pending the finalization of the new book drop location.

CHAIRWOMAN DUNNE OPENED DISCUSSION AMONGST THE COMMISSION

Chairwoman Dunne asked if there are other 15-minute duration parking spaces throughout downtown. Mr. Lorton confirmed this to be true stating typically there is one per block, and this block does not have one. Chairwoman Dunne asked if staff has any issues with cars on Forest

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Ave. if cars are turning over more often than they are with the 2-3 hour spot. Mr. Lorton stated there should be no issues.

Commissioner questioned why the ADA spot is not closer to the library.

Mr. Lorton stated it is closer to the ramp. If the first space is the 15-minute stall and second space is the ADA stall, then major curb work would have to be done. As shown, they can access the crosswalk ramp.

Commissioner asked if the two drop off boxes on the west side when walking down to the ramp by the doorway are the new ones or will they be closer to the street. Mr. Lorton stated he is unsure where they will be.

Commissioner asked since two parking spots will be taken away, can the library give up two spaces in the parking lot? They currently have two – 15 minute spots, and two handicapped spots. Mr. Lorton stated the library only asked for the 15-minute space. The ADA stall was a recommendation of the Village and the library staff. As part of the downtown study this lot will be looked at more thoroughly. Mr. Lorton believes the number of ADA spaces are three adjacent to the library, one or two in the northeast corner, and he believes that one extra ADA space is required. If the revisions of the downtown traffic study make that meet instead of exceed, they would look at getting a net two new spaces in the lot, so essentially those two spaces would be replaced. The Commissioner stated that something should be done in the meantime because taking one ADA parking spot out of the lot creates two parking spaces.

CHAIRWOMAN DUNNE OPENED UP THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

1. Ian Knorr, Operations Director for the DG Public Library: Met with Will to discuss this early within the year. They have the ADA spots in the lot, but it is difficult for people with disabilities to navigate, especially in the wintertime. By putting the ADA stall in the street, they are able to move the book drop closer to the street to serve as more of a drive up and drop off, and are also giving ADA accessibility so people can navigate the ramp to the handicapped entrance which is not such a steep grade and also easier for elderly patrons. Originally, they wanted to do something on Curtiss, but putting in one ADA spot takes up three regular spaces and downtown parking is already difficult to contend with, so this is the best outcome solution to serve the community, public, and patrons.

Commissioner asked about drop relocation if both of the ones off of the alley on the east side will be moved over. Ian responded that both will be closed up and signage put up stating they have been relocated. There is a permit application in with Stan Popovich for the book drop to be located at Forest right before the ramp for ADA door, and they plan to move one of the book drops by the ADA door all the way out so it is all the way almost by the main walk. This will help clear up traffic in the alley.

Commissioner asked if they plan to move any book drops on the south side. Ian responded they will keep one by the ADA entrance and the other one will move to be an all-purpose return, which will be the one closer to Forest.

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Commissioner asked if they need the three ADA spaces in the parking lot and the two 15-minutes. Ian said that he and Will discussed it and they are willing to give up some of those spots if they can go ahead and accomplish this because they think they will all be better utilized as proposed. Will stated that they are looking at those independently because the lot has to meet a minimum number.

CHAIRWOMAN DUNNE CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING AND OPENED DISCUSSION AMONGST THE COMMISSION

WITH RESPECT TO FILE #4-19, MR. SCHILLER MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION AS STATED.

SECONDED BY MR. SARICKS.

ALL IN FAVOR. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE 4:0.

File #5-19 Brookbank Update

Mr. Lorton stated the new segment of roadway from 59th to 61st that was not completed with the original subdivision has been completed. They took before counts last April, and followed up with similar counts this April to provide residents with an update on how traffic has changed. A lot of the traffic from Carpenter going south on 59th and cutting over to Brookbank to 63rd, has moved to Brookbank. The volume on that segment which used to be about 16 per day going the wrong way down the east side of the road has greatly increased. That was expected with the segment being completed and non-existent previously. Throughout the network of Brookbank and Carpenter, speeds have roughly remained the same. There was no dramatic increase in any speed with the exception of that segment that was previously zero. Some speeds south of 61st decreased. The residents of Brookbank were not notified about this meeting. They will receive this information via letter individually and can reach out Will with comments and concerns. Other than that, there have been no residents reaching out to Will with traffic issues. The only issue brought to his attention was striping at 59th and Brookbank for a crosswalk.

Commissioner questioned if there have been any sight line comments from residents. Mr. Lorton confirmed there had not. Chairwoman Dunne questioned if there was the potential for that? Commissioner stated there can be areas that are hard to see.

Commissioner stated that he was the one to request the re-striping due to it being part of a safe route to school. Mr. Lorton stated there is about \$45,000 to \$50,000 planned in the budget for re-striping in the Village this year.

DISCUSISON OF OLD BUSINESS:

1. Commissioner had question about follow up on Kingsley. Mr. Lorton stated they had taken counts and they do not meet the warrants for any of the all-way stops. He is working with the school to get a plan in place and met on site with them to discuss the signage they will be changing. Buses on Palmer have shifted to Norfolk so signage will be changed there. The dismissal times on Monday have changed to 2pm and are at 3pm for Tuesday through Friday which will require revisions Village-wide on any ordinances around schools. Working with the school staff to iron out the rest of the issues.

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Commissioner asked if there were any additional crossing guards added. Officer Lilly stated they are working on getting more.

Commissioner asked if PD was enforcing speeding in the area. Officer Lilly stated that officers have been in the area, and few citations have been issued. Boy Scout troop sent PD a letter thanking them for their increased presence in the area and stating it has made a difference for safety. The police presence is also preventing cars from passing school buses.

Commissioner stated that that Kingsley PTA should get parents to help as crossing guards.

Commissioner asked with the budget this year, if the striping around the schools are going to be a priority. Mr. Lorton confirmed this to be true.

Communications

1. BNSF Metra town hall meeting is 6/20/19 at 7pm at the Lincoln Center.

Chairwoman asked what the specific focus of the meeting is. Mr. Lorton stated it would probably be similar to the Naperville one regarding overcrowding.

ADJOURN

MR. SARICKS MOVED TO ADJOURN, SECONDED BY MR. SCHILLER.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE 4:0.

Chairwoman Dunne adjourned the meeting at 7:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Andrea Banke

Recording Secretary