

TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING COMMISSION
Minutes

July 13, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers - Village Hall
801 Burlington Avenue, Downers Grove

Chairman Stuebner called to order the July 13, 2016 meeting of the Transportation and Parking Commission at 7:00 p.m. and explained the protocol for the meeting.

Roll call followed and a quorum was established.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairman Stuebner, Commissioners Aguzino, Carter, Saricks, Wilkinson, and Wrobel

Absent: Commissioner Schiller

Staff Present: Public Works Director Nan Newlon

Public:

Jeff Mohd 4605 Cross, China Delesh & John Hott 4608 Cross, Wayne Hoppenrath 4512 S. Cross, Michael A. Hendron 4823 Cross, Scott Rogers 4504 Drendel, Wayne Ewerson 4805 Cross, Aaron & Raegan Cates 2537 Indianapolis, Elaine Carbine 4511 Cross, Miriam Fife 4516 Cross, Judi Davenport 4617 Cross, Mark & Donna Samiec 4615 Drendel, Chris & Donna Dalu 4617 Drendel, Lorie Pilster, School District 58, Gordon Goodman 5834 Middaugh, Donna Aikens 4618 Cross, Gary Mori Hamilton Partners

MINUTES OF MARCH 9, 2016

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 9, 2016 MEETING WERE APPROVED ON MOTION BY MR. SARICKS, SECONDED BY MR. CARTER. MOTION CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 5-0 WITH CHAIRMAN STUEBNER ABSTAINING.

PUBLIC COMMENT (on non-Agenda items) – None.

A change in the agenda followed:

File # 05-16 – Lacey & Esplanade All-Way Stop Control Action Requested: Per Public Works Director Nan Newlon this item is being presented at the request of Hamilton Partners who was represented at the meeting by Gary Mori. Currently, the Village Code includes a two-way stop at this intersection with Esplanade Road stopping for Lacey Road. During the evening peak travel time the predominant traffic movement

at this location is northbound on Esplanade to go eastbound on Butterfield. Traffic on northbound Lacey Road is turning right onto Esplanade, and traffic exiting the parking garages and parking lots south of Esplanade is having a difficult time crossing Lacey Road. Hamilton Partners retained a consultant to review the traffic in this area, which resulted in two initiatives by Hamilton Partners.

The first initiative was to work with IDOT to improve traffic flow from Esplanade onto Butterfield. Instead of the current one lane in and one lane out, they have proposed to have two existing right-turn lanes, eliminating the southbound lane of Esplanade. They received preliminary approval from IDOT for this change and are finalizing construction plans for review by IDOT.

The second initiative was to request approval from the Village to convert the Lacey Esplanade intersection from a two-way stop to four-way stop control. Their consultant performed a traffic study and found that the peak hour warrants for this change were met within a couple of vehicles. They then worked with Village staff and implemented temporary traffic controls and installed four way stop control under the Village Manager's temporary authorization. This has been in place for more than 60 days and it is staff's opinion and the traffic consultant's opinion it is has been operating well. Staff recommends that this action be approved.

Gary Mori, Hamilton Partners, stated that he manages the Esplanade and has been involved with this development for over 30 years. He is very concerned for the safety of his tenants and was motivated by previous crashes and stories of near misses by tenants attempting to cross Lacey at Esplanade. It is also his vision that this intersection represents the "front door" to these important buildings and that tenants should be able to access their offices via this intersection. He believes he has done his due diligence in reviewing all issues, and has heard many positive comments since the temporary changes have been put in place.

Mr. Wrobel stated that he has driven in this area on many occasions and has concerns about adding a four-way stop control at this intersection. His thought is that other measures, such as a traffic circle or round-about would be preferable as it would allow more free-flowing traffic.

Mr. Mori stated that his consultant reviewed several options and did not think that a traffic circle was feasible because of congestion during the afternoon peak hour as well as the limited right of way.

Mr. Wilkinson stated that he works in this complex and believes it is a positive improvement. He asked if this will have positive improvements for pedestrians, to which Mr. Mori responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Stuebner commented that the visibility of the stop sign on Lacey could be improved by moving the "stop ahead" signs further back and Nan Newlon stated that would be reviewed.

Chairman Stuebner opened up the meeting to public comment and there were no public comments.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. SARICKS THAT THE TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING COMMISSION FORWARD A POSITIVE RECOMMENDATION TO THE VILLAGE COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF AN ALL-WAY STOP CONTROL AT THE INTERSECTION OF LACEY ROAD AND ESPLANADE ROAD.

SECONDED BY MR. CARTER.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE OF 5-0 WITH MR. WROBEL ABSTAINING.

File # 06-16 Middaugh Road & Ogden Avenue – Right Turn Only Restriction

Requested: Ms. Newlon reported that staff initiated this request in response to a request from School District 58. The District is currently completing improvements to the parking lot to Herrick School and is making changes to traffic circulation in the lot to make it easier for traffic that is exiting this site and traveling northeast to use Middaugh to Ogden, instead of driving south through the residential neighborhood. The morning drop-off times coincides with rush hour on Ogden Avenue, and traffic backs up when drivers attempt to turn left onto Ogden Avenue. Staff reviewed the request and concurred that a right turn only restriction during the hour of 8am to 9am on weekdays would improve traffic flow from the site and have limited impact on traffic from other properties.

Mr. Wilkinson asked why the restriction was proposed during the morning and not in the afternoon. Ms. Newlon commented that the afternoon pick-up times are between 3pm and 4pm and that it is not as difficult to turn left onto Ogden Avenue at that time. Staff will monitor this operation and proposed additional restriction times if this is a problem.

MOTION BY MR. WROBEL THAT THE TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING COMMISSION FORWARD A POSITIVE RECOMMENDATION TO THE VILLAGE COUNCIL TO INSTALL “RIGHT TURN ONLY 8AM TO 9AM WEEKDAYS” RESTRICTION ON THE SOUTH LEG OF THE INTERSECTION OF MIDDAUGH ROAD AND OGDEN AVENUE.

SECONDED BY MR. WILKINSON.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOICE VOTE OF 6-0.

File # 04-16 – Drendel/Cross/Indianapolis – Public Sidewalk Request: Ms. Newlon reported that this item was initiated by a petition that was submitted on behalf of residents in this neighborhood request consideration of the construction of public sidewalks. Ms. Newlon presented the attached Powerpoint presentation that provided an overview of the request, the Village's policy toward sidewalk construction and approach to sidewalk construction. She stated that the purpose of this meeting is to provide an opportunity for the public to provide comments and to create a public record.

Mr. Wrobel stated that prior to the meeting he drove through this neighborhood and observed that the streets are narrow and do not provide an area for pedestrians.

Chairman Stuebner opened up the meeting to public comment:

Gordon Goodman, 5834 Middaugh, Downers Grove, he volunteers at and visits the Prairie and is familiar with this neighborhood and feels that the pedestrian amenities could be improved. He referenced the Village's Comprehensive Plan.

Raegan Cates, 2537 Indianapolis, she has lived in the neighborhood for 3-4 years, young children, neighborhood changing, more children, concern about safety and condition of streets

Jeff Mond, 4605 Cross – NW Belmont Improvement Association, 96-97 plan for new routing related to the proposed Walnut Commuter Station, address cut through traffic, width of Indianapolis, flooding, etc.

China DeLishe, 4608 Cross – Flooding, never addressed narrow streets

Donna Daly, 4617 Drendel – Streets need improvements, drainage, address these first

Wayne Enerson, 4805 Cross – Across from prairie, does not have a strong opinion about sidewalks. Would school still provide busing if sidewalks were built, limited row by Prairie?

Judi Davenport, 4617 Cross - does not believe sidewalks are needed, address speeding

Scott Rogers, 4504 Drendel – has children, runs and uses the Belmont Commuter station, supports sidewalks

Donna Aikens, 4618 Cross Street

Wayne Hoppenrath 4512 Cross – Streets and drainage, concerned that children could be in danger because of coyotes

Co-signers of petition spoke a couple of times and said that signatures of petition all fully supported sidewalks

Judi Davenport, 4617 Drendel, supports sidewalks

4805 Cross – likes coyotes

Raegan Cates, 2537 Indianapolis, verified that petition was signed by households, not individuals, measures were included in home construction to mitigate drainage

Mark Samiec, 4615 Drendel – problem with Hertz parking – put down gravel

MOTION BY MR WILKINSON THAT THE TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING COMMISSION FORWARD A RECOMMENDATION TO THE VILLAGE COUNCIL TO COMPLETE A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF TRAFFIC, DRAINAGE, STREET CONDITIONS AND SIDEWALKS FOR THIS NEIGHBORHOOD.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE OF 6-0.

Gordon Goodman, 5834 Middaugh, requested the Village consider programming the traffic signals at Main and Curtiss to display automatic walk across Main between the hours of 9am and 4pm

Chairman Stuebner requested communication be made with DGNH to consider having buses park off street instead of on Saratoga after hours.

Adjourned at 9:28 motion by Wrobel, second by Aguzino