

**VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
5202 Washington Street
Suite 2
Downers Grove, IL
OGDEN AVENUE COMMITTEE
August 15, 2001**

Co-chairs Jan Kopis and Scott Krafthefer called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Co-Chairs Jan Kopis and Scott Krafthefer, Bob Schiller, Joe Garafolo, Cathy Schuster

Absent: None

Jan and Scott welcomed everyone to this first meeting of the Ogden Avenue Committee. The purpose of the meeting is to establish short and long-term goals. Joe suggested that we add additional members to the committee so that we can be more effective and have broader representation. It was decided that Steve Rockwell should ask the following people to join: *Matt Klaus* from Stevens Plumbing representing central Ogden, *Jean Irigoyen* representing east Ogden, *Jim Wannemaker* representing west Ogden, Amanda Browne, Ken Rathje, Brian Pabst and Mike Baker. Bob reminded us to be sure to clear invitations to join our committee with the person's manager before the invite is offered.

The Committee reviewed the Ogden Avenue Lakota Plan in detail and adopted its major goals. First on the agenda is determining what TIF dollars are available now and in the future. Cathy will contact Marty Lyons and obtain this information.

A discussion regarding signage followed. The Committee reviewed the sign options developed by John LaMotte and *chose the blue format*. Cathy will contact John and ask him to provide us with Ogden Avenue logo designs, schematics for gateway signage, bracket system information and review wind load factors. She will also check with Ken Rajthe regarding signage and green space ordinances. The Committee reviewed LaMotte's signage suggestions and will try to incorporate as many of them as possible into the improvements.

The Committee decided to *create a best practices design brochure* that will help educate business owners regarding signage, landscaping, architecture, etc. We will ask the marketing committee for their assistance in developing this brochure. Offering incentives to business owners may help the process along, as well as *presenting awards to businesses that improve their facades*. Although LaMotte gave us some suggestions, a professional architect should be hired to provide more detail.

Bob Schiller told the Committee that IDOT was already working on coordinating traffic lights to reduce congestion. Cathy will call Gary Mesika and obtain update.

Bob Schiller informed the Committee that Todd Jacobson is the Village's Landscape Specialist. He has software that assists in the landscape design process. The Lakota Plan design recommendations were reviewed. Bob will tell Kerstin that Cathy will be calling to schedule a meeting with this Committee. The goal will be for Todd to create landscape design ideas for Ogden, which will be conveyed to the business owners. Future discussions with the Public Works Director are needed to determine if Village staff may be able to implement some of these improvements. Decorative cobblestone should be used to help beautify the corridor in appropriate places.

Bob Schiller told the Committee that installing sidewalks on Ogden was a complicated issue. While it is the number one priority on the of Public Works sidewalk matrix, it is costly and raises all kinds of issues such as who owns the property, will the sidewalks be in a consistent line all along Ogden, etc. He will call engineering to determine what sidewalk improvements are planned for this year. The Committee decided to place sidewalk improvements under the long-term goal category.

Bob Schiller also told the Committee he felt that hiring a person specifically to perform maintenance on Ogden Avenue would not be possible this year. Cathy Schuster suggested we investigate using community workers. She will contact Ann Piorello to determine the feasibility of this option.

Bob Schiller offered to call IDOT to request a new pedestrian crossing at Cross Street and ask that they widen and re stripe existing crossings at major intersections.

Jan, Scott, Joe and Cathy discussed their upcoming visit to Morton Grove to view Waukegan Road. They selected several dates all were available and Cathy will call to schedule and email the Jan and Scott the chosen date and time. Bob will join us if his schedule permits.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Schuster