

## COUNCIL WORKSHOP ITEM

**ITEM:** File #14-02  
**DATE:** July 12, 2002  
**PREPARED BY:** Dorin Fera, Traffic Manager  
**PURPOSE:** To Amend Ordinance to Include Parking Restrictions Along the South Side of Grant Street.

### DISCUSSION:

Staff has received a request from School District 58 and Pierce Downer School regarding modifying the current parking restrictions along Grant Avenue.

The school is proposing to change their pick-up and drop-off location, beginning this September. The new location will be along the north side of Grant Avenue immediately adjacent to the school grounds to make use of the existing sidewalk. As a result of this action, the school is requesting that parking restrictions be modified along the south side of Grant Avenue in the PM to assist with this change.

The Parking and Traffic Commission recommends that along the south side of Grant Street, between Seeley Avenue and Oakwood Avenue, no person shall park or let stand any vehicle at any time between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. on any day except Saturday, Sunday and holidays.

### ATTACHMENTS:

Recommendation of Parking and Traffic Commission – July 10, 2002

July 10th Minutes of the Parking and Traffic Commission, File #14-02 is discussed on pages 2 through 4.

### RECOMMENDATION:

An ordinance amending parking restrictions. Place this item on a future Workshop Agenda.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **File #12-02 Parking Restrictions on the 4700 Block of Oakwood Avenue**

**Chairman Johnson** read the staff report for File #12-02.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Staff has received requests from the adjacent residents regarding the parking problems currently experienced within the 4700 block of Oakwood Avenue. The basic problem described by the residents is the growth in on-street parking from North High School extending to Oakwood Avenue, since this is the first street west of Main Street without any parking restrictions. While the parking situation was not so adverse in the past, it has become more severe lately. Staff has reviewed this location and has prepared the following evaluation.

#### **STUDY**

The adjacent streets, including Middaugh, Linscott and Saratoga Avenues all have restricted parking in this section, either "No Parking Any Time" or "No Parking 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.". There is additional concern with the presence of grade-school children utilizing Oakwood Avenue to/from Pierce Downer School at Grant Avenue. Their visibility is an important safety concern, and moving vehicles must be afforded an unimpeded view of them.

Staff finds that this request for parking restrictions is consistent with the parking restrictions imposed on adjacent streets experiencing similar parking problems.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff advises that the Parking and Traffic Commission forward a positive recommendation to the Village Council that the following be implemented:

- ALONG BOTH SIDES OF OAKWOOD AVENUE, BETWEEN CHICAGO AVENUE AND PRAIRIE AVENUE NO PERSON SHALL PARK OR LET STAND ANY VEHICLE FOR MORE THAN FOUR (4) CONSECUTIVE HOURS BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 6:00 AM AND 6:00 PM EXCEPT SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS.

**Chairman Johnson** stated that the petition that was submitted to the Village by the residents of the 4700 block of Oakwood (Attachment #1) requested similar restrictions. He said that these restrictions however, are not consistent with parking restrictions on similar streets in the area and may cause an enforcement problem for the Police Department. He then welcomed audience participation.

**Ms. Pamela Simon**, 4700 Oakwood Ave., stated that she appreciates the effort that Staff has made in looking into the problem on Oakwood and agrees with the Village's assessment. She said that the reason that the residents are requesting a four-hour parking restriction on Oakwood, as opposed to the 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. restriction that is on adjacent streets, is because the residents would like to have the ability to park their cars on the street during the day if they need to do so. She further stated that she

agrees with the Village's safety concerns. She went on to say that the intersection at Chicago and Oakwood is hazardous even though it is a four-way stop and the visibility of children walking to and from Pierce Downer School is a definite safety concern.

**Ms. Chris Sterr**, 4709 Oakwood Ave., stated that the parking problem has gotten worse and the students are now parking right up to the driveways and fire hydrants. She stated that the residents would rather have no restrictions at all than to have the 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. parking restriction. She said that she understands that the four-hour restriction may be difficult to enforce but asked if the signs would be self-enforcing.

**Mr. Schiller** stated that the signs would be self enforcing for a short while until a couple of students test parking there and get away with it. He stated that the problem is that once a Police Officer comes out and chalks the tire they have to come back four hours later and many times the Officers may get held up and not make it back to ticket the car before it is moved. He further stated that the Village has recently begun using the reduced restriction of no parking from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in areas around the high school. He explained that this restriction allows the Police Officers to drive down the streets and give automatic tickets. He stated that this restriction has been used since 1999 to try to make the parking less restrictive for the residents.

**Ms. Sterr** asked if the restriction could be from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. instead because all of the residents should be off to work or school by then.

**Chairman Johnson** stated that at least a three-hour time period is needed by the Police in order to patrol the area. He said that he realizes that this is an ongoing problem that grows every year. He further stated that as more students reach driving age during the school year the problem increases. He said that students are very resilient and are prepared to walk further if they need to in order to park their vehicles.

**Commissioner Yeksigian** stated that one of the big concerns is to have an unimpeded view of the children walking to and from school. He asked if allowing parking on both sides of Oakwood even during certain times of the day would cause visibility problems.

**Mr. Schiller** stated that a resident's car or a student's car does not make a difference in terms of impeding visibility.

**Ms. Sterr** stated that the residents do not park the way that the students do.

**Chairman Johnson** stated that many of the streets in the area are designated no parking on one side of the street and have restrictions such as 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on the other side of the street. He said that this is one way to control the visibility concerns but further restricts the residents.

**Commissioner Kren** stated that the Commission has tried to enforce the 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. restriction in needed areas around North High School in order to have consistency. He stated that he does not want to restrict the residents. He further stated that he does not like the four-hour restriction because it is too difficult for the Police to enforce.

June 12, 2002

**Commissioner Carlquist** asked if the Police still enforce the area around North High during non-school times.

**Mr. Sembach** replied that the Police respond to resident complaints but do not enforce the parking restrictions in the area on their own.

**Commissioner Carlquist** stated that the four-hour restriction would be an enforcement problem. He further stated that he does not want to restrict the residents and their guests from parking.

**Ms. Simon** stated that she would be happier with the 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. restriction than with nothing at all. She said that she feels that she should be able to park in front of her house anytime that she wants to but understands that there needs to be some type of restriction placed. She asked that the restriction be made the least restrictive to the residents as possible. She went on to say that the high school should provide ample parking for the people that need to use the facility in the same way that Delta Sonic had to have sufficient parking for its users.

**Chairman Johnson** stated that the Commission recognizes the problem but does not think that the School Board at the high school level is going to make any move to rectify the problem anytime soon. He then said that consistency in restrictions is important especially when it comes to Police enforcement. He further stated that the Village provides a provision that if a resident is having guests or needs to park on the street for a particular reason they can notify the Police Department and the Police would then not ticket them.

**Ms. Sterr** asked if the residents are given any leniency if tickets are given. She further asked what the cost of the ticket is.

**Chairman Johnson** stated that it is not up to the Village to retract a ticket and the matter would have to be brought before a judge.

**Mr. Sembach** stated that the parking fine is \$20.00. He further stated that the Police Department has helped out residents on occasion when the residents have explained extreme circumstances. He said that for the most part a judge does have to decide if a ticket would be retracted.

**Mr. Tim Hopkins**, 829 62<sup>nd</sup> St., asked if permit parking may be an answer to the problem.

**Commissioner Kren** stated that if residents have guests all that they have to do is call the Police in advance and they would not ticket the vehicles on the street.

**Chairman Johnson** stated that permit parking has been discussed before but that the Village Council has never agreed to it because it could be an "administrative nightmare" due to counterfeiting, forgotten stickers, borrowed stickers, etc. He stated that the Village has chosen not to use permit parking in the residential areas.

**VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE**  
**COUNCIL ACTION SUMMARY**

**INITIATED:** Traffic Engineer  
(Name)

**DATE:** August 6, 2002

**RECOMMENDATION FROM:** Parking & Traffic Commission **FILE REF:** 14-02  
(Board or Department)

**NATURE OF ACTION:**

- Ordinance
- Resolution
- Motion
- Other

**STEPS NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT ACTION:**

Motion to Adopt "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON GRANT STREET" as presented.



**SUMMARY OF ITEM:**

On Wednesday, July 10, 2002, the Parking and Traffic Commission recommended to modify parking restrictions on Grant Street near Pierce Downers School.

**RECORD OF ACTION TAKEN:**

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ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON GRANT STREET**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Village of Downers Grove, in DuPage County, Illinois, as follows: (Additions are indicated by shading; deletions by ~~strikeout~~.)

SECTION 1. That Section 14-101.2 of the Downers Grove Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

**14-101.2. Between 2:00 P.M. and 4:00 P.M., except on weekends and holidays.**

Except on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, no person shall park or let stand any automobile, motor vehicle or other vehicle at any time between the hours of 2:00 P.M. and 4:00 P.M., local time, in any of the following locations:

*Fairmount Avenue*, on the east side from Parkview Drive to Sixty-Eighth Street.

*Grant Street*, on the south side between Seeley Avenue and a point one hundred ten feet west of the west line of Oakwood Avenue.

*Parkview Drive*, on the south side from Fairmount Avenue to a point three hundred thirty-five feet south and east of the east line of Fairmount. (Ord. No. 1983, § 3; Ord. No. 2313, § 1.)

SECTION 2. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication in the manner provided by law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Passed:

Published:

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Village Clerk

[Grant]

DRAFT

Orig. 07/15/02

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Passed:

Published:

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Village Clerk

[Grant]



14-02

**PARKING AND TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
ORDINANCE REQUEST FORM**

1. Chapter and Section of the Municipal Code to be amended: 14-101.2
2. Text of ordinance requested (including measurements, complete street names (i.e. Avenue, Road, etc.), directions, etc.):

Except on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, no person shall park or let stand any automobile, motor vehicle, or other vehicle at any time between the hours of 2:00 P.M. and 4:00 P.M., local time, in any of the following locations:

- *Grant Street*, on the south side between Seeley Avenue and a point one hundred ten feet west of the west line of Oakwood Avenue.

3. Current restrictions at this location. (For example, is there currently a stop sign that is to be changed to a yield sign?)

14-104.8 It shall be unlawful for any person to park or let stand any vehicle at any time between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 9:00 A.M., local time, on any day other than Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, in the following location:

- *Grant Street*, on the south side between Seeley Avenue and a point one hundred ten feet west of the west line of Oakwood.

4. List of all current ordinances that will conflict with or be affected by the requested ordinance and the requested changes to these ordinances:

N/A

*Please attach this form to the Council Action Summary Sheet.*