

## COUNCIL WORKSHOP ITEM

**ITEM:** File #23-02  
**DATE:** November 14, 2002  
**PREPARED BY:** Dorin Fera, Traffic Manager  
**PURPOSE:** To Amend Parking Restrictions on Parkview Drive at El Sierra School

### DISCUSSION:

El Sierra School and its Safety Committee have requested staff to investigate and recommend, if necessary, parking regulations and restrictions along the south side of Parkview Drive located across the street from the El Sierra School.

Parkview Drive is a curvilinear roadway, which terminates at Fairmount Avenue on the west and Claremont Drive on the south. It is a relatively short section of roadway. There is no posted speed limit, but approximately the northern half is located within a school zone during school hours.

### ATTACHMENTS:

Recommendation of Parking and Traffic Commission – November 14, 2002.

November 13, 2002 Minutes of the Parking and Traffic Commission, File #23-02 discussed on pages 10 through 16.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Place this item on the Workshop Agenda for January 28, 2003 for Council review and consideration.

November 14, 2002

**MAYOR BRIAN KRAJEWSKI AND COUNCIL MEMBERS**

RE: P & T File # 23-02                      Parking Regulations on Parkview Drive at  
El Sierra School

**Dear Mayor Krajewski and Council Members:**

On Wednesday, November 13, 2002, the Parking and Traffic Commission adopted the following motion:

**COMMISSIONER YEKSIKIAN MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE VILLAGE COUNCIL TO MODIFY THE EXISTING PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF PARKVIEW DRIVE "NO PERSON SHALL PARK OR LET STAND ANY VEHICLE AT ANY TIME BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 7:00 A.M. AND 9:00 A.M. AND 2:00 P.M. AND 3:00 P.M. ON ANY DAY EXCEPT SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS.**

**COMMISSIONER STAPLETON SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**Roll Call:                      AYE: Mr. Yeksikian, Mr. Stapleton, Mr. Carlquist,  
Mr. Thurston, Mr. Wendt, and  
Chairman Johnson.**

**NAY: None**

**Motion Carried: 6:0**

El Sierra School and its Safety Committee have requested staff to investigate and recommend, if necessary, parking regulations and restrictions along the south side of Parkview Drive located across the street from the El Sierra School.

Parkview Drive is a curvilinear roadway, which terminates at Fairmount Avenue on the west and Claremont Drive on the south. It is a relatively short section of roadway. There is no posted speed limit, but approximately the northern half is located within a school zone during school hours.

Sincerely,

Ross Johnson, Chairman  
Parking & Traffic Commission  
**VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE**

RJ/cc

**COMMISSIONER YEKSIKIAN MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE VILLAGE MANAGER THAT BETTER SIGNAGE BE UTILIZED DURING CROSSING HOURS, DIRECT STAFF TO WORK WITH THE POST OFFICE REGARDING PARKING OF POST OFFICE VEHICLES, REVIEW THE ADULT CROSSING GUARD WARRANTS AT THE INTERSECTION OF SEELEY AVENUE AND GRANT STREET. HE FURTHER RECOMMENDED STAFF TO INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF ADULT CROSSWALK VOLUNTEERS.**

**COMMISSIONER THURSTON SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**Roll Call: AYE: Mr. Yeksigian, Mr. Carlquist, Mr. Stapleton, Mr. Thurston, Mr. Wendt and Chairman Johnson.**

**NAY: None.**

**Motion Carried: 6:0**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **File #23-02 Parking Regulations on Parkview Drive at El Sierra School**

**Chairman Johnson** read the staff report for File #23-02.

#### **BACKGROUND**

El Sierra School and its Safety Committee have requested staff to investigate and recommend, if necessary, parking regulations and restrictions along the south side of Parkview Drive located across the street from the El Sierra School.

Parkview Drive is a curvilinear roadway, which terminates at Fairmount Avenue on the west and Claremont Drive on the south. It is a relatively short section of roadway.

There is no posted speed limit, but approximately the northern half is located within a school zone during school hours.

#### **STUDY**

Staff has measured and observed vehicular traffic along Parkview Drive. The Average Daily Traffic (or ADT) volume on Parkview Drive is approximately 350 vehicles per day, which is significantly lower than the typical Village average of 800 vehicles per day. The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed observed along Parkview Drive is 26 miles per hour.

Parkview Drive is approximately 29 feet wide. There are current parking restrictions along the west side, "*No Parking or Standing 2-4 PM, except Saturdays, Sundays & Holidays*". Within the last 3 years, there were no vehicular crashes along Parkview Drive.

At the request of El Sierra School, the Village has recently installed "School Drop Off Zone" along the east curb line, leading to the school's concrete apron, and driveway.

While this action has addressed the northbound traffic flow, the southbound traffic may still drop-off passengers on the west side in the AM. During the morning drop-off, there is no space on Parkview Drive for two-way traffic flow.

Staff is concerned that this condition can contribute to vehicular blockage, such that non-school motorists and emergency service vehicles cannot effectively use the street. Conversely, should AM restrictions be placed, the tendency for southbound motorists would be to turn around in someone's private driveway in order to discharge passengers.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff has developed several options for this location. However, no specific recommendation is proposed at this time. Rather, staff would await the comments and concerns of the area residents before making a final recommendation to the Parking and Traffic Commission.

**Chairman Johnson** asked Mr. Fera if he had anything to add to the staff report.

**Mr. Fera** replied that the area has been observed on several occasions as far as how traffic is coming and going. He said the reason a staff recommendation was not made in the staff report was to allow for residents to express their opinions on the situation. He said there is concern over an alternate drop off location if parking restrictions are implemented. The ideal option would be for all vehicles to approach from one direction. The children would only be crossing from one side of the street.

**Chairman Johnson** asked if prior to installation of drop off signage was the actual drop off on school property.

**Mr. Fera** replied drop off has always been on the roadway. He understands the schools intent was to allow drop off at the driveway closest to the entrance.

He further stated an option would be to eliminate drop off on the south side of Parkview Drive and relocate it to Fairmount Avenue as there is an adult crossing guard present. The overall point of the request was to shift the drop off area.

He said he was present during the afternoon school pick up and did not observe any violations of the parking restrictions. There were not any vehicles parked on the south side of Parkview Drive, no blockage of the roadway and no vehicles making U-turns. He feels that implementation of morning restrictions would work in the same manner.

**Chairman Johnson** asked if there was currently drop off along Fairmount Avenue.

**Mr. Sembach** replied there is a large amount of drop off along the west side of Fairmount Avenue. Children are dropped off and then utilize the adult crossing guard.

**Chairman Johnson** welcomed audience members to come forward with any questions or comments.

**Mr. Don Levy, 6933 Parkview Drive**, said he has witnessed parked vehicles in the No Parking area on the west side of Parkview Drive. He expressed concern over double parking on Parkview Drive. He has contacted the Police Department on several occasions regarding the issue. The problem will temporarily go away but then return. His driveway has been blocked on several occasions with vehicles waiting to pick up children. He expressed concern over the safety of the children crossing the street.

**Commissioner Wendt** asked how long of an interval double parking is present.

**Mr. Levy** replied there is double parking for approximately ten minutes on a daily basis.

**Chairman Johnson** stated that regardless of what parking restrictions are implemented vehicles would still park in the No Parking area. Residents feel that sitting in a parked vehicle is not actually parking.

**Commissioner Carlquist** asked if consideration has been made to establish a temporary one way entrance during school hours. This would eliminate northbound traffic on Parkview Drive allowing drop off on the west side of the street. This would be similar to the set up on Hill Street at Whittier School.

**Mr. Schiller** stated Whittier School has a one way restriction from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. There has also been discussion to implement a one way configuration for a shorter period of time at Pierce Downer School. The problem with the short restrictions would be on-street parking during the time period, or vehicles entering the wrong way on a one way configuration near the end of the time period. He feels this creates confusion for motorists. There is also an issue with setting up and taking down the one way barricades.

He further stated that Hill Street only has a single private driveway affected. Parkview Drive would have several private driveways affected, if the entire contiguous block segment would be converted to one way.

**Commissioner Carlquist** asked if a Do Not Enter sign could be posted on Parkview Drive.

**Commissioner Wendt** said this would be similar to the signage Pierce Downer School would be placing in the roadway.

**Mr. Schiller** said A Do Not Enter sign would be a form of regulatory control, which has specific requirements to its posting and locations.

**Mr. Fera** stated that the volume of traffic is considerably higher on Parkview Drive and this is taken into consideration.

**Chairman Johnson** asked if there has been discussion regarding El Sierra School widening their parkway and including a drop off area on school property.

**Mr. Schiller** replied that he met with El Sierra School approximately four years ago. At that time, they had contacted the Village regarding traffic patterns at the school. Several options staff suggested involved the reconfiguration and use of school property for providing drop off areas. At that point the School Principal was not agreeable to any reconfiguration of driveways, parking lots, etc. to accommodate a drop off zone on their property. They felt it created a difficult situation and were unwilling to further investigate.

**Chairman Johnson** said there appears to be adequate school property to allow for a drop off area.

**Mr. Fera** stated another option would be to investigate providing a cul de sac on Parkview Drive. This would eliminate southbound traffic on Parkview Drive.

**Chairman Johnson** stated this would create an issue with vehicles turning around in driveways to exit Parkview Drive.

He further asked Mr. Fera from his observation the severity of the problem at El Sierra School.

**Mr. Fera** replied there is a daily occurrence of double parking on Parkview Drive.

**Chairman Johnson** asked the width of Fairmount Avenue.

**Mr. Schiller** replied that Fairmount Avenue is approximately 32 feet wide.

**Chairman Johnson** asked if there were "No Parking" restrictions on the east side of Fairmount Avenue allowing for drop off on the west side.

**Mr. Fera** replied this was correct.

**Sergeant Nehls** said he has met with parents and concerned residents regarding this issue. Their main concern was drop off on the west side of Parkview Drive during morning hours. Vehicles are double parked with children crossing the street. A gentleman from the Safety Committee expressed concern over the high volume of traffic during drop off periods. The Safety Committee has expressed an interest in placing a volunteer or safety cone out to promote better safety for the children.

**Ms. Laurel Bowen, 829 Clyde Drive**, asked if the Police Department could draft a letter requesting parents to abide by the No Parking restrictions.

**Sergeant Nehls** replied this has been done in the past at different schools and does not appear to be effective.

**Commissioner Yeksigian** questioned if the Safety Committee issued a letter to parents.

**Sergeant Nehls** indicated the Police Department has recommended the Safety Committee to issue letters.

**Chairman Johnson** stated that past experience indicates that certain school principals have been more aggressive than others.

**Ms. Bowen** asked if tickets have been issued to illegally parked vehicles.

**Sergeant Nehls** replied that yes, tickets have been issued in the past.

**Chairman Johnson** stated there should be a way to create a designated drop off zone. He feels there is enough land to provide adequate staff parking, driveways and a designated drop off zone on school property.

He further stated this matter should be looked further into and suggested to El Sierra School.

**Mr. Schiller** replied staff could look further into a drop off zone on school property. The Parking and Traffic Commission could formally request the School District to investigate available options.

**Ms. Sue Rankin, 202 Foxfire Court**, stated she is a teacher at Whittier School, she questioned if there was currently a drop off lane at El Sierra School. She feels the drop off zone at Whittier School functions very well.

**Chairman Johnson** said there is only roadway signage on one side of the street indicating drop off zone at El Sierra School.

He further stated it might be worthwhile to implement more restrictive parking restrictions along with communication to parents that drop off is only allowed on the east side of Parkview Drive. He said staff could work with El Sierra School to enforce no drop off and pick up on the south side of Parkview Drive.

**Ms. Christine Fregeau, 1918 Elmore Avenue**, said that contact should be initiated with the School District as the last discussion was four years ago. She feels this issue may be on a district level and a collaborative effort should be looked at. She said the violators tend to be parents of the school children. She feels all schools should be evaluated not just one school at a time.

**Chairman Johnson** concurred with Ms. Fregeau's comment. He feels the issue could be better addressed at the District level.

**Commissioner Yeksigian** asked the time frame parking restrictions would be implemented during morning hours.

**Mr. Schiller** replied the hours would be from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Monday through Friday.

**Commissioner Yeksigian** questioned when school started.

**Mr. Schiller** replied between 7:40 a.m. to 8:10 a.m.

**Chairman Johnson** read an email received from Mr. Merle Malave, 6943 Parkview Drive, expressing his concern over safety of the school children.

He further stated that a meeting should be organized with the School District to discuss the issue further along with the possibility of utilizing adult crossing guards.

**COMMISSIONER YEKSIGIAN MOVED TO MODIFY EXISTING 2:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M. PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF PARKVIEW DRIVE TO ALSO INCLUDE “NO PARKING OR STANDING FROM 7:00 A.M. TO 9:00 A.M. EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS”.**

**COMMISSIONER STAPLETON SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**Roll Call: AYE: Mr. Yeksigian, Mr. Carlquist, Mr. Stapleton, Mr. Thurston, Mr. Wendt and Chairman Johnson.**

**NAY: None.**

**Motion Carried: 6:0**

**COMMISSIONER YEKSIGIAN MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO DIRECT STAFF TO WORK WITH EL SIERRA SCHOOL AND SCHOOL DISTRICT 58 TO IMPROVE THE DROP OFF AND PICK UP PROCEDURES.**

**COMMISSIONER STAPLETON SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**Roll Call: AYE: Mr. Yeksigian, Mr. Carlquist, Mr. Stapleton, Mr. Thurston, Mr. Wendt and Chairman Johnson.**

**NAY: None.**

**Motion Carried: 6:0**

**Chairman Johnson** stated that the Parking and Traffic Commission is only a recommending body and that the recommendation would be sent to the Village Council for approval. He stated that it may be four to six weeks before this item goes before the Village Council. He said that the Village Council's agenda is posted in the Village

Corner section of the Downers Grove Reporter and that the residents could check it to see when this item would be on the Council's agenda. He thanked the residents for their participation.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **File #15-02 Parking Regulations on Cumnor Road north of Ogden Avenue**

**Chairman Johnson** did not read the staff report for File #15-02 Parking Regulations on Cumnor Road north of Ogden Avenue as residents are familiar with the situation.

He said a previous recommendation was forwarded to the Village Council in July 2002. At the Council meeting there were several changes made to the recommendation and there are currently no parking restrictions in place as a result.

He stated the purpose of the Parking and Traffic Commission is to act as a sounding board for the Village Council. The Commission holds public meetings to discuss issues and obtain input from affected residents. The Commission then makes a recommendation to the Village Council to alleviate the issue. He further said that the previous recommendation regarding the parking restrictions on Cumnor Road north of Ogden Avenue had addressed all concerns. He feels the Village Council may not have been privy to all of the discussion held by the Parking and Traffic Commission at its July 2002 meeting.

He further stated a request has been made for the Parking and Traffic Commission to readdress the issue.

## **BACKGROUND**

At its July 10, 2002 meeting, the Parking and Traffic Commission was presented with the staff findings and recommendations for the subject location. After receiving comments and discussion from the public, the Commission approved the staff recommendations for parking restriction and controls on Cumnor Road, north of Ogden Avenue.

The Commission's then forwarded a positive recommendation to Council for implementing these parking restrictions. However, at the Council's August 6, 2002 meeting, the parking restrictions were revised to reflect additional citizen input.

## **CURRENT STATUS**

After the installation of the Council's recommended parking restrictions, staff received several phone calls from area businesses along Ogden Avenue to re-investigate the parking restrictions. The citizens who attended the July 10, 2002 Commission meeting felt that their parking issues were addressed and supported

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

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON PARKVIEW DRIVE**

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 Section 14-104.11 of the Downers Grove Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

**14-104.11. Same-Between 7:00 A.M. and 9:00 A.M., 2:00 P.M. and 3:00 P.M. except weekends and legal holidays.**

No person shall stop or let stand any automobile, motor vehicle or other vehicle, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. or between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m., except on weekends or legal holidays, in the following location:

*Indianapolis Avenue*, on the south side, between Fairview Avenue and Florence 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.

SECTION 3. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. 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

[parkvw]