

Minutes of the **Transportation Commission Meeting Held on July 21, 1998 at 7:30 p.m** in the Training Room of the Village Hall, Wilmette, Illinois.

Members Present: Neil Ferrari  
Dominick Gatto  
Andrew Hansen  
Alan Swanson, Chairman

Members absent: Barbara Lusky  
Roger Teal

Staff Present: Robert S. Lewis, Village Engineer  
Robert La Mantia, Deputy Chief of Police  
Linda Reilley, Engineering Assistant  
Officer Julie Parisi, Traffic Coordinator

**1. Approval of the minutes of the May 13, 1998 meeting**

Before calling for the approval of the minutes of the meeting, Chairman Swanson introduced Amy Panici, and welcomed Robert S. Lewis, Village Engineer to the Commission. Commissioner Ferrari asked that the May 13th minutes be revised to reflect considerable discussion concerning the availability of sufficient staffing to cover all crossings, particularly by the Police Department. Commissioner Ferrari noted that on May 13<sup>th</sup>, Officer Parisi commented that although sometimes difficult, sites are staffed most times, and Commissioner Ferrari further stated that Police Chief Carpenter said police staffing was sufficient but the Commission will have to keep staffing limitations in mind as additional sites are considered.

Chairman Swanson moved that the minutes be approved pending the revision. Commissioner Gatto seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote.

**2. Request for Parking Restriction on the 700 & 800 blocks of LeClaire**

Ms. Helen Honchell of 827 LeClaire presented the basis for the petition for resident permit parking Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 10:00a.m. on school days, and noted that Loyola Academy had been contacted.

Linda Reilley noted that this request was consistent with other residential streets in the school zone around Loyola Academy.

Deputy Police Chief La Mantia reminded everyone that approval of the entire block would be required.

A motion to accept the petition as presented was made by Commissioner Gatto, and seconded by Andrew Hansen. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

**3. Traffic Study of the Highcrest School**

Chairman Swanson. introduced Mr. Don Jakesch, Engineering Manager of TY LIN International, who presented the results of the study, an off-shoot of the bicycle study at Hunter & Illinois roads--two sharply-angled intersections. The implementation and cost\benefit of five alternatives were discussed.

Chairman Swanson. recognized Mr. James Mattern, District 37, who raised two major concerns of the School Board concerning safety and education issues relative to a diagonal crosswalk.

Chairman Swanson. called for a vote in favor of the recommendations. Additional discussion of temporary measures followed.

It was agreed that traffic flow information and education would best be achieved through PTO and Police Department efforts.

A suggestion to make island removal a priority was addressed by Village Engineer Robert S. Lewis who thought (if motor fuel tax monies were used) the project might well be incorporated into the current street patching program to be completed this year or next.

Mr. Mattern suggested a motion to accept the consultant's recommendation with the exception of the diagonal crossing. This motion was made by Commissioner Ferrari and seconded by Commissioner Hansen. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

**4. Review of final draft report of the four problematic areas for the Bicycle Route System**

Chairman Swanson. recognizes Commissioner Gatto who introduced the Bicycle Task Force and the study. Solutions and cost/benefit concerning

each of the four problematic areas were outlined by Don Jakesch.

Chairman Swanson. raised the point of Trustee Chung's observations and comments and asked about funding sources.

Mr. Jakesch explained T21, CMAQ, and IDNR funding at an 80% - 20% split, and outlined the application process.

Robert S. Lewis advised the Commission that the review and submittal timeline can be expedited if you fund it yourself, and asked Mr. Jakesch if the plan to run through Gillson Park property presents a 4F problem because the Park District is a separate taxing body.

Don Jakesch suggested that the Village invite the Park District to become a joint applicant.

Commissioner Gatto suggested coordination of redevelopment around Metra station with the IDOT activities. Robert S. Lewis concurred and pointed out that by showing strategic links, our position for grant money is enhanced.

Chairman Swanson. recognized Commissioner Gatto who moved that the Commission accept & approve the Bicycle Task Force goals as a framework. **(See attachment)**. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ferrari The motion carried unanimously.

Additionally, Commissioner Gatto pointed out that a bicycle had been donated for give-away at the September 13th Village Fair.

Chairman Swanson. thanked everyone for their contributions to solve significant and serious issues and asks for any OLD BUSINESS.

**5. Old Business**

a. Crossing Guards:

Officer Parisi needs two more.

b. Neighborhood Traffic Watch:

Pilot programs have been educational and moderately successful.

**6. Pending matters to come before the Commission at the August and September meetings**

- a. No Parking (restricted 2:00 a.m. - 5:00 a.m.) on the 400 block of Isabella.
- b. Sign change (no turn on red) at Wilmette & Hunter.
- c. Traffic Calming Issue
- d. Traffic Signal at Fairway & Bunker.
- e. Petition from the 1700 & 1800 blocks of Forest  
re: commercial cut-through
- f. Request for an all-way stop at Washington & 16th Street,  
and at Washington & 17th Street.
- g. Parking Issues at 5th & Linden.

After discussion, it was determined that a regularly scheduled monthly meeting was preferred, and was set for the third Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be August 18, 1998.

Chairman Swanson moved for adjournment. The motion was seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Amy E. Hellwig

**Attachment  
Transportation Commission  
Minutes 7-21-98**

7-21-98

**Request to Transportation Commission from the Bicycle Task Force for Village Board action:**

After the presentation by TY-Lin/Bascor, of their May 1998 draft report, we would like the Commission to take the following actions:

The Village Board, following the recommendation of the Bicycle Task Force and the Transportation Commission, has adopted as goals to implement the Bicycle Route System outlined by ERA, to promote bicycling in Wilmette, and to take actions to make our Village more “bicycle friendly”. We are asking the Transportation Commission to ratify and urge the Village Board to take the following steps now to further the accomplishment of these goals:

1. Accept and approve the report of TY-Lin/Bascor which outlines recommended solutions to the problems of routing bicycles across Sheridan Road, Green Bay Road, Ridge Road, and through the intersection of Hunter and Illinois Roads. Include these recommendations in the goals and as a framework for implementing the Bicycle Route System.
2. Due to the Park District’s efforts, part of the route system has been completed from Hunter Road to Locust Road, through the Community Playfield. To increase the portions of the system which could be completed in the near future, allocate resources and direct the Village engineering staff to survey the West legs of the system. This includes the blue route, from Locust Avenue, along Glenview Road and Laramie Avenues, to connect with the North Branch Trail near New Trier West, and the brown route to the Community Recreation Center via Wilmette Avenue. Then, take the necessary steps and make improvements to prepare these portions for use as parts of the Bicycle Route System.
3. Coordinate with on-going Village activities and use existing funds to build a connection between the Green Bay Trail and the Bicycle Route System. This would encompass the consultant’s recommendation for a bicycle route crossing of Green Bay Road.

4. Allocate resources for a Phase I engineering study of the recommended crossing under Sheridan Road at the South end of Gillson Park. this would provide a needed link in the route system which would further increase the completed portion of the system. Following this study, seek Federal and State funding to build this crossing and other components of the Bicycle Route System.
5. Approve the inclusion of educational materials concerning issues related to bicycling and to traffic calming in the application packets for Village vehicle registration in 1999.