

Minutes of the Transportation Commission Meeting held on Wednesday, February 21, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Training Room at Village Hall, 1200 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois 60091.

Members Present: Rachel Nocera
Eileen Miller-Girson
Cathy Albrecht
Jim Grosh

Members Absent: Clayton Weaver, Chairperson
Mark Wagstaff
Paul Chouinard

Staff Present: Brigitte Mayerhofer, P.E., Director of Engineering
Linda Reilley, Engineering Assistant
George Carpenter, Police Chief

Also Present: None

Commissioner Albrecht called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

1. Review of Minutes

Motion to approve the January 10, 2007 minutes.

Motion by: Commissioner Grosh
Second: Commissioner Miller-Girson
Discussion: None
Action: Approved by unanimous voice vote

2. 2007 Traffic Calming Projects

- Commissioner Albrecht asked Ms. Mayerhofer to review the material in the agenda packets. She explained that Elmwood Avenue, Fifteenth Street and LeClaire Avenue are local residential streets that stand out as having high volumes greater than 1200 vehicles daily average, consistently high speeds (85-percentile speed more than 7 mph over the posted speed limit of 25mph.) She provided a brief discussion of each street is provided below and traffic data studies are attached.
- Ms. Mayerhofer continued to provide an update of the Municipal Services Committee (MSC) discussion about lowering speed limits on collector streets, as well as the MSC's request for staff and the Commission to continue to review student safety at Community Playfields and Highcrest School. Lastly, she mentioned that there have been some concerns observed at the intersection of Lake and

Hunter, where the striped median was recommended. Opposing left turn bays will be striped as soon as the weather allows.

- Commissioner Albrecht asked what the purpose of the “mode” speed was in the traffic studies, to which Chief Carpenter responded the speed in which the majority of the vehicles are traveling. There was consensus that the most important piece of data relative to speed is the 85-percentile speed.
- The Committee discussed 15th Street and concluded that there is a cut-through concern, but low speeds. Staff indicated it was selected for Commission discussion because of the new pedestrian signal on Lake and the large number of children that use 15th. Chief Carpenter noted the existing drainage berm near Forest may serve as a speed deterrent.
- Commissioner Albrecht asked what the next step is to which Ms. Mayerhofer stated that once a traffic calming project is selected, staff will develop a plan that can then be presented to the residents.
- Commissioner Gosh suggested waiting for traffic calming on Elmwood until the construction of the Montessori School is complete. After looking at the traffic data, staff noted that there has actually been a volume decrease on Elmwood since the Lake Avenue changes were made. Commissioner Nocera asked if there was information on the other east/ west streets north of Elmwood. Ms. Reilley indicated we do have “before and after” Lake Avenue re-striping counts, but her recollection there is not a noticeable change in volumes.
- Commissioner Albrecht asked about the status of the Loyola neighborhood discussion. Ms. Mayerhofer indicated Mr. LaPlante will be giving his final report at the March meeting.
- A discussion ensued about the Central School traffic changes and the congestion on Central between 8th Street and 9th Street caused by queuing vehicles. Commissioner Albrecht asked if this could be on the March agenda, to which Ms. Mayerhofer stated there are already three large discussions in March, including Loyola, Hunter Road speed limit study and a petition for resident permit parking on Park Avenue.
- Chief Carpenter asked what \$20,000 of traffic calming would “buy”, to which Ms. Mayerhofer stated approximately six or seven speed humps.
- Commissioner Albrecht asked for an update on the permit parking change to which Ms. Mayerhofer indicated it was being considered by the Village Board February 27.
- Ms. Mayerhofer provided a brief description of the traffic calming process and stated that the Commission should select a preferred street by April or May at the latest.
- Commissioner Nocera suggested moving forward with the concept of a raised intersection at Hunter and Illinois Roads. Ms. Mayerhofer mentioned the Illinois Safe Route to School grant that was available and thought this project would be a good candidate to receive state funding. The Commission concurred.

Motion requesting staff to pursue a state grant through the Illinois Safe Route to School Program for a raised intersection at Hunter and Illinois Roads.

**Motion by: Commissioner Nocera
Second: Commissioner Grosh
Action: Approved by unanimous voice vote.**

4. Old Business / Pending Matters / Next Meeting

- None

Motion to adjourn.

**Motion by: Commissioner Miller-Girson
Second: Commissioner Grosh
Action: Approved by unanimous voice vote**

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Brigitte Mayerhofer