

MINUTES
Transportation Commission
Oak Park Village Hall
November 11, 2024
7:00 pm

PRESENT: Chair Burke, Commissioners Eskin, Jenkins, Johnston-Ahlen, Nudelman, and Johnson.

ABSENT: Commissioner Holzberg.

STAFF PRESENT: Parking and Mobility Services Manager Sean Keane, Village Engineer Bill McKenna, Assistant Village Engineer Christopher Welch, Parking Restrictions Coordinator Takeshi Thompson, Transportation Engineering Consultants Kristen Hahn and Steve Pautsch.

ALSO PRESENT: Trustee Brian Straw

Roll Call: Chair Burke called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Ron Burke	Present
Jack Eskin	Present
Jenna Holzberg	Absent
Jason Jenkins	Present
Erika Johnson	Present
Julie Johnston-Ahlen	Present
Jason Nudelman	Present

Agenda Approval –

Commissioner Eskin made a motion to approve the agenda.

Seconded by Commissioner Jenkins.

Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

4.a.) Recommendation to Establish Permit Parking within the Enclave Parking Lot Located at 1245 Fair Oaks Avenue

- Sean Keane, Parking and Mobility Services Manager introduced the item.

The Village received feedback from residents of 1245 Fair Oaks Avenue / 6533 North Avenue, asserting there is a lack of overnight parking access in this area. This area of the Village does not qualify for overnight on-street permit parking designation since its zoning classifications are primarily single-family residential

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or within the north avenue business district. Residents generally rely on privately-owned parking in this area. Based on feedback received and analysis, staff's initial recommendation was to convert the entirety of the enclave parking lot into permit parking, comprised of day, night, and 24-hour permits to allow for shared use of the spaces. Notification letters were mailed on October 11, 2024 to adjacent residents and businesses to inform them of staff's recommendation and solicit public testimony in advance of the November 11, 2024 public hearing. Based on the public testimony received, staff revised its recommendation as follows:

- 1.) Designate night permit parking within the ten (10) spaces. These permits would be valid from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m., Monday through Saturday and 24-hours on Sundays.
- 2.) Designate pay-by-plate (metered) parking within the ten (10) spaces Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. This will encourage turnover for existing and potential adjacent businesses and also align with the existing restrictions on the 6500 block of North Avenue.

The Commission deliberated and came to a consensus that permit sales should be limited to five (5) given the apparent current demand for overnight parking. Furthermore, the Commission asked for staff to update the Commission in the near future on the actual utilization of the overnight residential parking permits and the general location of those permit holders.

Commissioner Eskin made a motion:

Accept staff's recommendations with the revision that was discussed to limit the permit sales to five (5) and also come back to the Commission in six (6) months with utilization data for this specific lot.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Jenkins.

Motion passed unanimously.

4.b.) Petition to Implement Traffic Calming Measures at the 700 & 800 Blocks of N. Lombard Avenue and 800 Block of N. Taylor Avenue

- Steve Pautsch, Traffic Engineering Consultant from CivilTech Engineering introduced the item.

The agenda item includes three (3) traffic calming petitions that were received in 2021. The three (3) petitions were reviewed together given their proximity. Consultants and Village staff presented the following traffic calming

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recommendations in response to the petitions:

- Install three (3) chicanes along the 700 block of N. Lombard Avenue;
- Install paint and post curb extensions on all four corners of the N. Taylor Avenue/Thomas Street intersection, extending onto both streets;
- Restripe the high visibility crosswalk markings at the intersection of N. Taylor Avenue/Thomas Street;
- Install paint and post curb extension on all four (4) corners of the N. Lombard Avenue/Thomas Street intersection, extending onto both streets; and
- Install paint and post curb extensions on the northwest and northeast corners of the Hayes Avenue/Thomas Street intersection, extending onto Hayes Avenue only.

Public Comment:

Clayton Massey of the 700 block of N. Lombard Avenue expressed his support for the traffic calming measures due to the offset intersection that exists at Thomas Street and N. Lombard Avenue.

Nate Koschmann of the 700 block of N. Lombard Avenue stated he believed the vertical deflection traffic calming measures would be the most effective treatment.

Lous Garapolo of the 700 block of N. Lombard Avenue expressed his support for the traffic calming measures. Furthermore, Mr. Garapolo expressed concerns that vehicles would disregard the chicanes and simply speed around these treatments as they do now with parked vehicles.

Robert V. of the 700 block of N. Lombard Avenue expressed his support for the traffic calming measures and stated he believed vertical deflection traffic calming measures would be the most effective treatment.

Maggie Santos of the 700 block of Hayes Avenue expressed her support for the traffic calming measures.

Robert Cares of the 800 block of N. Taylor Avenue expressed his concern about traffic safety on the 800 block of N. Taylor Avenue.

Kathryn Fridberg of the 800 block of N. Taylor Avenue expressed her support for the traffic calming measures and support for other measures, such as speed bumps.

Nancy Carleton Pennington of the 800 block of N. Taylor Avenue expressed her disapproval with the recommended traffic calming measures for the 800 block of

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N. Taylor Avenue.

Quentin McGee of the 800 block of N. Taylor Avenue expressed his support for the recommended traffic calming measures on the 800 block of N. Taylor Avenue.

Village Engineer McKenna stated chicanes would be wider than the average parked vehicle. Furthermore, he stated vertical deflection tools are the most effective at reducing vehicular speed. The Commission discussed the importance of ensuring bicycles could traverse through the chicane and any future potential vertical deflection installations.

Commissioner Nudelman made a motion:

Approve staff's recommendations for traffic calming measures at the 700 and 800 blocks of N. Lombard Avenue and 800 block of N. Taylor Avenue.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Jenkins.

Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

5.a.) Draft Vision Zero Action Plan

- Alex Hanson, Director of Transportation Planning at Sam Schwartz introduced the item.

Mr. Hanson provided an overview of the year-long process the Village undertook for its Vision Zero initiative. Key elements discussed include the use of vertical deflection tools, traffic calming by policy, and automated enforcement.

Chair Burke suggested the Commission take additional time outside of the meeting to review the Vision Zero Action Plan. The Commission came to consensus to hold a special meeting on December 2, 2024 to provide its feedback to staff and the consultant.

The Village Board will have a study session in January 2025 to review the draft plan.

Public Comment:

Daniel Retzner of the 200 block of South Grove Avenue stated he believes Vision Zero needs to comprehensively address pedestrian safety in the community.

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Michael Erickson of the 900 block of South Boulevard expressed his support of the Vision Zero Action Plan.

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn to was made by Commissioner Nudelman and seconded by Commissioner Eskin. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Submitted by,
Sean Keane
Parking & Mobility Services Manager