

APPROVED Meeting Minutes
Transportation Commission
Monday May 13, 2024 – 7:00 PM
Council Chambers - Village Hall

1) Call to Order

Staff Liaison Jill Juliano called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Roll Call

Present: Jack Eskin, Jenna Holzberg, Julie Johnston-Ahlen, Chair Rob Burke

Absent: Jack Jenkins, Jason Nudelman

Staff: Staff Liaison Jill Juliano, Village Engineer Bill McKenna, Steve Pautsch- Village Consultant from Civiltech,

2) Agenda Approval

Commissioner Holzberg made a motion to approve the agenda and it was seconded by Commissioner Johnston-Ahlen. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote of 4 to 0.

3) Approval of the Draft Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes

3.1) March 11, 2024 Draft Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Eskin made a motion to approve the draft March 11, 2024 Transportation Commission meeting minutes and seconded by Commissioner Johnston- Ahlen. Motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote (4 to 0) with no changes to the minutes.

4) Non-Agenda Public Comments – up to 15 minutes.

One non-agenda comment from Michael Jones, with a complaint regarding parking, would like to speak to the proper channels regarding finding parking spaces in front of his home. Spoke with Takeshi and was told to come to the Transportation Commission to start there.

5) New Business

5a) Petition to Implement Traffic Calming Measures at the Intersection of Home Avenue and Jackson Boulevard

Steve Pautsch, consultant from CivilTech Engineering presented traffic speed and data near this intersection. Traffic data was collected showed the majority traffic is traveling through the intersection instead of turning,

- pedestrian volumes do not coincide with the peak rush times.
- Average daily traffics shows more volume down Home Ave
- 85% of drivers are going at speed limit or slower.
- Critical crash rate

CivilTech and staff recommendations include:

- Additional police enforcement at the intersection due to non-compliance at stop signs,
- Install supplemental back-to-back stop sign panels on left side with existing stop signs.
- Red retroreflective light strip on the east leg post.

Home Ave is a Bike Boulevard and Neighborhood Greenway street with reduced speed limits to 20 mph, enhance bike markings, paint and post chicanes, installed north and south of Jackson Blvd

Public Comment:

Lauren Hyde resides on the 800 block of Home Ave, constantly hears yelling and seeing near misses. She has witnessed drivers go through stop signs. Asking for structural change to have drivers slow down so residents may feel safer.

Charles DeVore resides on the 800 block of Home Ave, he agrees with Steve Pautsch with the recommendation presented. He is concerned about the kids walking to and from school.

Ryan Middlebrook on the 700 block of Home Ave, has experienced near misses and feels there is a lack of laws at this intersection. Funeral traffic has been an issue as well where drivers will swerve and go around causing near accident.

Jeremy Adams resides on the 700 block of Home Ave expressed his concerns at the corner of Home and Jackson. He would like to emphasize the main issue is on Jackson Blvd. His would suggest having physical barriers would be more beneficial other than visuals.

Steve McFarlin resides on the 800 block of Home Ave. He suggests using physical barriers as well instead of just visual, also suggests a crossing guard, or speed hump to slow traffic.

Meaghan O'Brien 700 block of Home Ave, on the corner of Jackson and Home there is a day-care and she would like to see the intersection crossing shortened so pedestrians have shorter distance to cross.

Commissioner Eskin asked why there is no stop light at this intersection or HAWK signal for pedestrians, Steve Pautsch commented if a HAWK signal was added we would need to remove all the stop signs.

Village Engineer Bill McKenna gave a brief explanation on why a traffic signal is not able to put in due to more warrants and compliances. Village Engineer Bill McKenna states they are trying to coordinate with funeral homes to work out a better route for funeral processions so the Village can limit the amount of traffic in that area.

Chair Burke suggested additional recommendations:

- Flashing stop signs at the intersection
- Speed bumps or speed tables in the middle of the street
- Stationing of a crossing guard at the intersection by District 97

Village Engineer McKenna stated speed tables in the middle of the street would not be allowed under current policy.

Commissioner Eskin made a motion to accept staff's recommendations with addition of 1) the installation of a speed table at the intersection of Home Ave and Jackson Blvd, 2) adding flashing lights to the stop signs, 3) engaging District 97 about deploying crossing guards at the intersection, and 4) permanent speed sign feedback at the intersection. Commissioner Holzberg seconded the motion.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: Eskin, Holzberg, Johnston-Allen, Chair Burke

Nays: None

The motion was passed unanimously with a vote of 4 to 0.

5b) Information Regarding the Transportation Commission's Recommendations for the 900 Block of Home Avenue Traffic Calming Petition.

Staff Liaison Juliano gave a brief overview of the Transportation Commission's recommendation for this intersection. Village Engineer McKenna does not disagree with the intent of these recommendations, yet there will be some concerns with future projects. The Village has already installed bump outs last year but with tabling the intersection the cost would be around \$170,000. There is a feasibility issue as the street is very flat but the Village would need to raise the street about 2 inches from existing conditions without adding substantial costs and artificial low spots in the roadway.

The Village had concerns about the cost of that magnitude and actual effectiveness of a possible speed table when we are looking at doing a new design of the Home Ave bridge with all new entryways, potential realignments of the bridge, completely reconstructing the roadways in this area that would allow us to table the intersection with that much larger project. We wouldn't want to do it with that sizable cost with minimal effect when we'll be ripping it out in a few years to redo it as part of the future Home Ave bridge project. So, we don't want to move forward with that at this time.

6) Old Business

None

7) Adjourn

With no further business, Commissioner Holzberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Commissioner Johnston-Ahlen. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote of 4 to 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 PM

Submitted by,

Anita Bahena

Administrative Assistant.