

MINUTES  
Transportation Commission  
Oak Park Village Hall  
August 12, 2024  
7:00 pm

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

**STAFF PRESENT:** DS Parking and Mobility Services Manager Sean Keane, and Parking Restrictions Coordinator Takeshi Thompson

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** None

**Roll Call:** Chair Burke called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

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

**Agenda Approval** – A motion was made by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Johnston-Ahlen to approve the meeting agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes** – A motion was made by Commissioner Eskin and seconded by Commissioner Johnston-Ahlen to approve the meeting minutes of June 10, 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

**Non-Agenda Public Comment** – None

**New Business – 5 a)** Petition to implement a Traffic Calming Measure on the 500 and 600 Blocks of S. Grove Ave.

**Consultant Report** – Steve Pautsch, CivilTech Engineering

- Petition passed the scoring matrix and met the criteria threshold to bring forward to the Commission.
- Two-block area located in southwest part of the Village, north of 290 and east of Harlem.
- Data was collected in fall of 2022 when Lincoln School was in session during:
  - Morning Rush – 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.
  - Evening Rush – 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- Overall traffic in comparison to other streets is low as is traffic speed.

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- Crash data – over 5-year period no intersection related crashes happened.

### **Recommendation** – Based on Village Standard Table of Measures

- Add Radar Speed Feedback signs along Grove on interim basis.
- Restripe crosswalks.
- Add “Cross Traffic Does Not Stop” to existing Stop signs.
- Stay with existing traffic controls at intersections.

### **Public Comment**

- Six residents living on Grove Avenue presented arguments to Commission for approval of the Traffic Calming Measure on the 500 and 600 block of Grove.

### **Village Staff – Bill McKenna, Village Engineer**

- Village staff is reviewing the draft recommendation for the Madison Street Corridor.
- As part of the review process looking at Grove.
  - Saw a 1 to 2 mile an hour speed increase.
  - No noticeable volume increases.
- As a result, there is a recommendation for speed reduction measures.
  - Paint and posts-pinch points.
  - Allow two-way traffic – necessitates drivers to slow down.
- Village will continue to review the study and present findings in the fall in conjunction with the Village 2025 budget process.

### **Motion**

Commissioner Eskin made a motion:

In addition to the CivilTech Engineering consultant’s recommendations, the Commission would like staff to evaluate bump-out control measures on Grove, south of Walgreens, as well as on Adams on east bound branch adjacent to South Grove Avenue. Also, staff should explore an offset bump-out that addresses turning traffic specifically.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Nudelman.

Motion passed unanimously.

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### **New Business – 5 b) Vision Zero Oak Park – Draft Strategies and Recommendations**

#### **Consultant Report – Alex Hansen, Sam Schwartz Consulting**

- Goal for the Vision Zero Plan is for Oak Park to have zero deaths or zero serious injuries from traffic crashes by 2035.
- Using Engage Oak Park survey data and fact finding, a set of 10 strategies to improve traffic conditions and address issues has been developed.
- Want to focus on the areas where the highest percentage of crashes occur.

#### **Recommendations**

- Create 2 pathways for local traffic calming projects:
  - Data Driven – Using prioritization process to guide staff in selecting project locations/designs.
  - Resident Petition – Moving from rolling application process to a yearly timeframe to submit petitions.
- Find ways to streamline data collection using available data and staff tools.
- Develop a criteria around vertical deflection tools.
- Move to a traffic calming by policy model and implementing traffic calming measures during resurfacing.
- Create safe, comfortable and complete networks for walking and biking.
- Update Complete Streets Policy.
- Look at target speed policies.
- Look at the potential for bringing in City of Chicago and IDOT traffic safety improvements to Oak Park.
- Make sure there is clear guidance for contractors doing construction regarding maintenance of traffic and how to route people walking and biking.
- Implement specific enforcement efforts that are focused on issues identified through data.
- Have regular meetings to assess trends and target enforcement efforts.
- Make sure officers have training to be able to effectively enforce laws.
- Install red light cameras on High Injury Network.

#### **Public Comment**

- 1 resident from 1100 N. Grove Avenue suggested of community service as a result of red-light camera enforcement. He made an argument for no right turn on red to be implemented and cautioned against the language used around speed.

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### **Village Staff – Bill McKenna, Village Engineer**

- Staff would like feedback from Commission on items that there are concern on to create a finalized set of recommendations with the goal of a final adopted plan.

### **Old Business - 6 b) Review Neighborhood Greenways design along the North-South Route**

### **Village Staff – Bill McKenna, Village Engineer**

- Feedback from last meeting has been incorporated into a plan for the Greenway System.
- Project from Roosevelt to Chicago is out for bid with hopes to start construction this fall.
- Project on Kenilworth from Madison to Chicago is under contract.
- Scoville and Fillmore:
  - Used green striping to route cyclist through the turn.
  - Guide cyclists through Rehm Park instead of East Avenue using a curb cut-through.
  - Sidewalk ramp widened to 10 foot.
  - Intersection protected with 2 pairs of RFBs.
- East Avenue – bike lanes over the bridge and up until Van Buren.
- Painted markings at Van Buren and Scoville.
- RFBs at Jackson crossing.
- Pavement markings at Adams.
- Madison - Curb protected by bike lane on North end, removed nose of median island, added push buttons at intersection.
- Washington – paint and post bump outs and RFBs, crossing treatments, advanced warning signs.
- Chicago – RFBs and bump-outs at Augusta.
- Colored crossing at Thomas and Greenway.
- Cannot use preferred curves due to tight intersections.
- Working with the high school for parking and route consideration.
- Received a grant from Cook County Department of Highways - \$125,000.

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

Adjourned at 9:49 p.m.