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Transportation Commission
Oak Park Village Hall
September 9, 2024
7:00 pm

PRESENT: Chair Pro-Tem Johnston-Ahlen, Commissioners Holzberg, Jenkins, Nudelman, and Johnson

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

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

Roll Call: Chair Pro-Tem Johnston-Ahlen called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

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

Appointment of Chair Pro-Tem-

A motion was made by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commission Holzberg to appoint Commissioner Johnston-Ahlen as Chair Pro-Tem. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Approval –

Staff requested Item 4.b (Draft 2025 Transportation Commission Work Plan) be moved to after item 5.b. A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Commissioner Jenkins and seconded by Commissioner Nudelman to approve the meeting agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Non-Agenda Public Comment –

Manager Keane read a non-agenda public comment into the record.

Hello,

I would like to provide brief comments on the Bike Boulevard plans produced by V3 for the Village and presented in the 08/12/2024 meeting agenda.

As an active cyclist, I appreciate the Commission addressing safe passage and seeking better cycling solutions. In general, I do not agree with the route changes in these proposed plans that mix cyclist with pedestrians within Rehm Park and also steer cyclists away from a clear and direct route to the two primary High Schools (and

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beyond). I appreciate the attempt to create a 'bike boulevard', but do not believe this will be used to the fullest intent without more items addressed.

Five questions:

Does the Village and Park District plan to widen the paths within Rehm Park to keep playground and cycling activities separated?

Will the Village add a stoplight at Scoville and Madison? Scoville and Washington? Scoville and Lake Street? Four-way stop sign at Jackson? I don't see such facility improvements, only the 'beg-button' and flashing light combo as provided at Madison and Lake St crossings – these facilities are not completely effective, so either they are not designed well enough or enforced enough. Until these intersections are updated for safe crossing, I will likely continue to use East Avenue.

This plan disrupts the cyclist from a direct route, are there any manipulations to the common automobile route? Has the Village considered manipulating the East Avenue automobile route so that drivers are encouraged to use other main roads for North/South access?

Has the Village considered reviewing heat maps of cycling activity to guide the design process? This information could highlight active routes where cycling infrastructure would be most beneficial to be added along with automobile deterrents to encourage car traffic onto low-bikeable roads (Austin/Ridgeland/Oak Park Ave/Harlem).

Does the Commission think that re-directing cyclists from a direct North/South route while not providing the same level of controlled intersections as these plans show is sufficient enough to change habits?

Thank you for your active involvement,
Josh Andersson

New Business – 4a.) Petition to implement Traffic Calming Measures at the 1000 & 1100 Blocks of South Humphrey Avenue

Consultant Report – Steve Pautsch, Transportation Engineering Consultant

- Mr. Pautsch presented an overview of the traffic calming petition received by the Village on August 30, 2022. Turning movement counts for the morning and afternoon rushes were collected and reviewed as part of the traffic analysis in this area. Pedestrian counts were also collected and reviewed. East-bound traffic on Harvard was the highest count collected whereas west-bound traffic volume was not significant. Bicycle counts were also collected and reviewed however the overall volume was low during the study period. Mid-block volume

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and speed data were also collected and reviewed for the 1000 and 1100 blocks of S. Humphrey. For comparison purposes, data was also collected on Lyman and S. Taylor Avenue. Volumes were highest on Humphrey.

- Commissioner Jenkins thanked Mr. Pautsch for adding the analysis of the 85th percentile speed vs. time of day.
- Commissioner Holzberg asked if the data was collected before or after the installation of the speed table. Mr. Pautsch confirmed the data was collected prior to the installation of the speed table. Mr. Pautsch then presented follow-up data that showed average daily traffic and speed data following the installation of the speed table. While volumes remained relatively unchanged, the speeds were generally lower.

Recommendations

Based on the available traffic calming toolbox, staff recommends the following:

- Install paint and post curb extensions on all four corners of the South Humphrey Avenue/Harvard Street intersection, extending onto South Humphrey Avenue only.
- Trim trees at the north and east legs of the S. Humphrey Avenue/Harvard Street intersection.
- Deploy temporary radar speed feedback signs on an interim basis.
- Targeted police enforcement near the S. Humphrey Avenue and Harvard Street intersection.

Commissioner Nudelman questioned if there was an opportunity to install bike boulevard infrastructure as part of these proposed traffic calming improvements. Village Engineer McKenna stated the exact location of the east/west bike boulevard treatments in this area are still to be determined and installed in 2025.

The Commissioners discussed the potential for mid-block pinch points on the 1000 and 1100 blocks of S. Humphrey.

Public Comment

- Mia Garcia Hills of the 1100 block of S. Humphrey Avenue spoke in support of the traffic calming petition.
- Doug Hills of the 1100 block of S. Humphrey Avenue spoke in support of the traffic calming petition.
- Meg Svec of the 1100 block of S. Humphrey Avenue spoke in support of the traffic calming petition.
- Megan Jackson of the 1000 block of S. Humphrey Avenue spoke in support of the traffic calming petition.
- Alma Martinez of the 1000 block of S. Humphrey Avenue spoke in support of

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the traffic calming petition.

- Joshua R. of the 1100 block of S. Humphrey Avenue spoke in support of the traffic calming petition.

Motion

Commissioner Jenkins made a motion:

Accept Village staff's recommendations and, in addition, recommend mid-block pinch points on the 1000 and 1100 blocks of S. Humphrey.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Holzberg.

Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business – 5 a) Petition to Implement a Traffic Calming Measure on the 500 and 600 Blocks of South Grove Avenue (as discussed at the August 12, 2024 Transportation Commission Meeting).

Consultant Report –Steve Pautsch, Transportation Engineering Consultant

- At its August 12, 2024 meeting, the Transportation Commission agreed with staff's recommendation to:
 1. Install "Cross Traffic Does Not Stop" signs at Grove/Adams (east leg) and Grove/Monroe
 2. Repaint the crosswalk pavement markings
 3. Deploy temporary radar speed feedback signs on an interim basisOn August 12, 2024, the Commission requested staff prepare conceptual drawings of additional treatments in response to this petition.
- Mr. Pautsch presented the conceptual plans to illustrate the proposed designs of a paint and post curb extension at the northeast corner of S. Grove Avenue and Adams Street and a paint and post pinch point on S. Grove Avenue at the alley south of Madison Street.

Recommendations

- Village Engineer McKenna stated that staff recommends the pinch point at the alley south of Madison Street but did not recommend the paint and post curb extension at the northeast corner of S. Grove Avenue and Adams Street.

Motion

Commissioner Jenkins made a motion:

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Accept Village staff's recommendations and, in addition, install the treatments at the northeast corner of S. Grove Avenue and Adams Street and a paint and post pinch point on S. Grove Avenue at the alley south of Madison Street.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Holzberg.

Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business - 5 b) Draft 2025 Transportation Commission Work Plan

Village Staff – Sean Keane, Parking & Mobility Services Manager and Bill McKenna, Village Engineer

- Manager Keane stated the agenda packet includes a copy of the approved 2024 Transportation Commission work plan as well as a draft of the 2025 work plan. The work plan outlines projects and activities for the Commission to perform pursuant to its mission as well as the Village Board's adopted goals for 2024-2025. Draft work plans will be submitted to the Village Manager's Office later this year for eventual review and approval by the Village Board. Village Engineer McKenna and Manager Keane provided an overview of the work plan items proposed for 2025.

Discussion

- Commissioner Holzberg requested the 2025 work plan reflect the Commission's involvement in the Day in Our Village event.
- Commission Nudelman requested the 2025 work plan reflect an initiative to improve bus routes in the Village. Commissioner Holzberg concurred and suggested the Commission engage with Regional public transportation partners in future years. Village Engineer McKenna stated that the 2025 work plan could include a work plan item that specifically calls for engaging with public transit agencies.

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

Adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Submitted by,
Sean Keane
Parking & Mobility Services Manager