



AGENDA

VILLAGE OF OAK PARK
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING
MONDAY, October 28, 2024 – 7:00PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – VILLAGE HALL

- 1) Call to Order / Roll Call
- 2) Agenda Approval
- 3) Approval of Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes
 - 3.1) July 8, 2024 Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes
 - 3.2) August 12, 2024 Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes
 - 3.3) September 9, 2024 Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes
- 4) Non-Agenda Public Comment – up to 15 minutes

Public statements of up to three minutes may be made in person or writing. Written comments will be read into the record at the meeting. To comment, email a request to transportation@oak-park.us, indicating an intent to speak at the meeting or including a statement to be read into the record. Requests must be received no later than 120 minutes prior to the start of the meeting. Written comments also may be placed in the Oak Park Payment Drop Box across from the south entrance to Village Hall, 123 Madison St., no later than the day prior to the meeting.

- 5) New Business
 - a) Oak Park Bike Plan Update
 - b) Madison Street Corridor Traffic Study
- 6) Old Business
 - a) Draft 2025 Transportation Commission Work Plan (continuation from the September 9, 2024 Transportation Commission meeting)
- 7) Adjourn

If you require assistance to participate in any Village program or activity, contact the ADA Coordinator at 708.358.5430 or email ADACoordinator@oak-park.us at least 48 hours before the scheduled activity.

DRAFT Meeting Minutes
Transportation Commission
Monday, July 8, 2024 – 7:00 PM
Council Chambers - Village Hall

1. Call to Order

Staff Liaison Jill Juliano called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

Roll Call

Present: Jack Eskin, Jason Jenkins, Julie Johnston Ahlen, Jason Nudelman, Chair Ron Burke, and Mike Sturino, Plan Commission Chair

Absent: Jenna Holzberg

Staff: Staff Liaison Jill Juliano, Village Engineer Bill McKenna, Parking & Mobility Services Manager Sean Keane, and Sam Schwartz Consultant Mark Bennett

2. Agenda Approval

Commissioner Jenkins made a motion to approve tonight's agenda and it was seconded by Commissioner Eskin. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

3. Approval of the Draft May 13, 2024 Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Eskin made a motion to approve the draft May 13, 2024 Transportation Commission meeting minutes. It was seconded by Commissioner Jenkins. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

4. Non-Agenda Public Comment

None.

5. New Business

5a) Kickoff Meeting for the update to the Oak Park Bike Plan and Neighborhood Greenways System study documents (2024 Transportation Commission Work Plan Item)

Village Engineer Bill McKenna and Sam Schwartz Consultant Mark Bennett gave a review of the original bike plan, along with the addendum, and discussed how the Village will be updating the plan.

Mark Bennett presented, reviewing past plans and community engagement. Their goal is to have an initial recommendation for a budget in September, with the project scheduled

to be completed by late fall. He reported that, according to the data from the Vision Zero survey, cyclists do not feel safe biking in Oak park.

The project team plans to have conversations with schools and host open houses to assist in further outreach to the community.

Bike facilities on Ridgeland Avenue are possible and the Village will be working with IDOT to assess the feasibility of any plans. Bike parking will be looked at as part of the bike plan update.

Cul-de-sacs and traffic diverters will be a part of future recommendations.

Commissioner Nudelman stated that once we get the residents feel safer it would create a network effect.

Chair Burke questioned if this project will focus solely on infrastructure or if it would also include bike and pedestrian behavioral changes along with traffic considerations. Mark Bennet explained that the project scope does not include demand management, although education is an important aspect of enhancing the bicycle culture in the Village.

Commissioner Jenkins would like Sam Schwartz to consider how we are going to integrate future projects with the Bike Plan update. One of the biggest sources of conflict is safety between pedestrians, cyclists, and motor vehicles.

Project outcomes:

Mike Sereno questioned if the plan will have a requirement for the infrastructure for plan development. He suggested the improvements of the Eisenhower would reduce the cut-through into Oak Park, which is a plus.

Village Engineer Bill McKenna said the Village is working with IDOT to change the roadway at Ridgeland Ave to make it 3 lanes as well as add bike lanes.

Chair Burke went into the next question - What streets are the best and worst to bike on, with neighborhood side streets being the best and the arterial streets being the worst. The bike plan shows where the two can coincide.

Commissioner Jenkins commented that East and Augusta have a bike plan yet there is a high traffic volume.

Jenkins stated that Ridgeland, North Ave and Harlem are the intersections of the most concern and also intersections near schools are not consistent and cause chaos and need to be improved. Chair Burke mentions East and Home for a possible area to be looked at on how can we find a way to make it safer for cyclists.

Key Network Gaps:

Chair Burke stated that we should be working with the high school on how to figure out and give a safer route for their pick-up and drop-off.

What would be important to know to evaluate bike share feasibility?

Chair Burke commented he thinks there are enough bike share trips in Oak Park.

Commissioner Nudelman suggested we link up with Chicago to link two different adjoining systems. He stated we could possibly add stations with similar density like Cicero and Berwyn who use the same bicycle system.

6. Old Business

None

7. Adjourn

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM

Submitted by,
Anita Bahena
Administrative Assistant.

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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.

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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