

APPROVED Meeting Minutes
Transportation Commission
Monday, October 9, 2017
Council Chambers – Village Hall

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Chalabian called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present: Jack Chalabian, Kyle Eichenberger, James Thompson, Joel Schoenmeyer,
Robert Taylor, Michael Stewart

Excused: Roya Basirirad

Staff: Jill Juliano, Mike Koperniak, Mary Avinger

There was no non-agenda public testimony.

Approval of Tonight's Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Stewart motioned to approve the agenda as presented and was seconded by Commissioner Eichenberger. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of the Draft September 25, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Eichenberger motioned to approve the draft September 25, 2017, Transportation Commission meeting minutes as modified and was seconded by Commissioner Taylor. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote

REVIEW THE EFFECTIVENESS OF TEMPORARY BUMP-OUTS ON BERKSHIRE STREET & GROVE AVENUE TRAFFIC

Transportation Engineer, Jill Juliano gave a presentation speaking about the history on the petition, when it came to the Transportation Commission earlier this year, and how the Village Board of Trustees directed staff to install temporary bump-outs at the intersection. Staff was to conduct an after implementation traffic study and compare it to previous results to determine the effectiveness of the calming measure on traffic. Jill stated based on the mixed results of the after implementation traffic study, staff recommends not to install permanent bump-outs on Grove Avenue at Berkshire Street; rather install north-south stop signs on Grove Avenue at Berkshire Street so as to upgrade to all-way stop signs at the intersection of Grove Avenue and Berkshire Street.

Commissioner Eichenberger asked if the petition was scored with the traffic calming toolbox and Jill responded no because Commission was still working on the toolbox at that time. Commissioner Eichenberger asked what the temporary set up looked like

and Jill showed him and the Commissioners what it looked like. He also asked if there were thoughts to adding a crosswalk during testing and if it would affect the results. Jill responded no and that she wouldn't have any before data to refer to.

Commissioner Taylor asked is there different results between temporary devices and permanent ones and Jill explained why temporary devices are less effective than permanent devices. Commissioner Taylor also asked about stop signs not being speed control devices and Jill explained why stop signs were recommended by staff.

Commissioner Stewart stated he agrees with Commissioner Eichenberger and also likes the idea of continental crosswalks and would like to see scoring of petition in the traffic calming toolbox. Commissioner Stewart spoke about speed and crash data and asked if stop signs don't slow cars down why recommend all-way stop signs. Jill responded that this was the original recommended option from the Commission that went to the Village Board of Trustees. Commissioner Stewart asked how many east/west stop signs are in the area and Jill responded.

A discussion about proliferation of stop signs took place.

Chair Chalabian stated there is not a proliferation of stop signs and questioned how many the Village Board of Trustees approved in the past five years. Commissioner Stewart then questioned how many stop signs have been put in and indicated that his reason for voting against stop signs is because of rolling stops. Chair Chalabian spoke about Mann School users going through Berkshire and Grove and how established walking routes are not in the best layout. Chair Chalabian stated the safe walking route is not working and something must be done to protect pedestrians. Chair Chalabian also spoke about Mann School being an established pedestrian generator especially from the east and spoke about enforcement efforts.

Commissioner Schoenmeyer asked if going forward if the Village will look at stop signs the way staff is doing the pilot parking program study and Transportation Engineer, Mike Koperniak, spoke about the Village traffic study done in 1997-1999 that took three years to study the entire Village.

A discussion about a future traffic study to review and maybe reducing stop signs occurred.

Commissioner Stewart asked Jill Juliano if she had another traffic calming device to try what would it be and Jill responded she would have to look at the traffic calming toolbox to review options but she would most likely pick stop signs or pinch points.

Commissioner Thompson asked Jill Juliano about the 85th percentile speeds on northbound and southbound Grove and if the speeds were acceptable in her opinion and Jill responded from the traffic calming toolbox standpoint no but from her professional opinion yes.

A brief discussion about speed, letters received talking about speed, and no residents showing up tonight occurred.

Commissioner Taylor motioned to reaffirm the original recommendation to upgrade to all-way stop signs and to install continental crosswalks at all four legs of the Berkshire Street and Grove Avenue intersection. Commissioner Eichenberger seconded the motion.

The voice vote was as follows:

Ayes: Chalabian, Eichenberger, Schoenmeyer, Taylor

Nays: Thompson, Stewart

The motion passed four to two.

Commissioner Thompson thinks the petition should be tabled until someone shows up.

Commissioner Stewart quoted Village Engineer, Bill McKenna, stating it is within traffic engineering guidelines, the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) says stop signs should not be used for speed control. Commissioner Stewart stated he sees no one in the audience. According to Jill Juliano, 27-28 miles per hour is an acceptable speed and that he is against putting in the stop sign.

Commissioner Eichenberger stated the Commission already voted on this once before. Commissioner Eichenberger spoke about stop signs not being used for speed control and asked if staff should try something else and figure out the worth of doing so.

Commissioner Taylor stated they got petitions, got emails, has little opposition, and spoke about safe routes to school and having a second grader himself. Commissioner Taylor would like more crosswalks and supports the stop signs.

Commissioner Schoenmeyer stated he supports the stop sign and that people already did their work and showed up at the first meeting even though no one is here tonight.

Commissioner Thompson asked if staff should look at another traffic calming device.

Commissioner Eichenberger spoke about how long this process takes and that the Commission could resolve this and move forward or not do anything. He would like a resolution after all this time.

Chair Chalabian stated he agrees the stop signs should be installed but that the school walking plan is fatally flawed, especially for people from the east.

A discussion on changing the safe routes to school walking plan route, the process and cost, who owns the school route map, adding crosswalks, previous motion made, and what to recommend took place.

Commissioner Taylor motioned to modify the safe walking route at the Berkshire Street and Grove Avenue intersection using the south leg to accommodate all-way stop signs. Commissioner Schoenmeyer seconded the motion.

A brief discussion about looking at the safe route to schools maps for effectiveness, policy changes, to change or keep routes, and sidewalk painting occurred.

The voice vote was as follows:

Ayes: Chalabian, Eichenberger, Schoenmeyer, Taylor, Thompson, Stewart

Nays: None

The motion passed unanimously.

Transportation Engineer, Mike Koperniak had a discussion with the Commission about future meetings. The discussion included information on tentative public meetings on November 8th and 9th, the final review of the parking pilot program at the Commission meeting on November 27th, if a meeting should be held in December, and possibly tabling traffic meetings until January.

Commissioner Schoenmeyer stated tonight was his last Commission meeting.

Commissioner Thompson motioned to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Eichenberger.

The voice vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectively submitted

Mary Avinger

Mary Avinger,
Administrative Secretary