



Meeting Minutes

Transportation Advisory Board

Thursday, June 1, 2023

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

A. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Melaniphy called the June 1, 2023, Transportation Advisory Board Meeting to order.

This was closed.

B. ROLL CALL:

Present 6 - Michael Brown, Mary Howenstine, Scott Hurley, Michael Melaniphy, Inga Orolin, and James Webb

Absent 3 - Janet Blubaugh, Suzanne Hart, and Matthew Seeberg

C. PUBLIC FORUM:

Bruce Jones from the N.E.S.T. gave a presentation and spoke about the need for residential developments coming into Naperville to have codes and ordinances that require they have the proper electric hookups for electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

Howenstine asks what being renovated would require this change.

Bruce Jones states that he is recommending modifications for commercial buildings when they make changes to the existing parking infrastructure.

Howenstine asks how much this would cost.

Bruce Jones states it would be 500 dollars but it varies.

Hurley wants clarification on what would trigger a change in providing the infrastructure.

Bruce Jones states that it would be larger parking infrastructure modifications.

Hurley asks if there is such a value for commercial developments to do this, why would it be required for Naperville to add it into their code.

Bruce Jones states that primary objective is multi-family developments.

Melaniphy asks if he has also been working with the electric utility.

Bruce Jones states that they have NEST meetings with Brian Groth monthly but

this topic has not came up yet. He states that Naperville is well on their way to having the infrastructure needed for this.

Melaniphy asks if he has cities that have established best practices that are a bit farther along.

Bruce Jones states that he does have cities and counties that have best practices and updated ordinances.

Hurley asks if their is a way to have easy charging for electric bicycles through the same infrastructure.

Tom Craighead states that the electric bicycles use an outlet for charging. He also states that safe places for electric bicycles to charge would be ideal.

This was closed.

D. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Police Department Report

Sergeant Zook states that they have completed two campaigns. The Route 59 campaign was successful and grant funded and across the whole stretch of Route 59 including other municipalities. They also had a successful Memorial Day Campaign.

He states that they will have another campaign for speed enforcement from June 12th-June 17th along with an independence day campaign. He also states that a back to school campaign in August will include school bus stop arm compliance.

Melaniphy thanks NPD and Public Works for all the work that they put in to have a successful Memorial Day Parade and festivities.

This was closed.

1. Approve the minutes of the May 4, 2023, Transportation Advisory Board Meeting

A motion was made by Hurley, seconded by Webb, approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Brown, Howenstine, Hurley, Melaniphy, Orolin, and Webb

Absent: 3 - Blubaugh, Hart, and Seeberg

2. Approve the recommendation to establish a "No Parking Zone" on the north side of Highland Avenue from the centerline of Brainard Street to a point 171 feet to the east.

Project Manager Michael Prousa explains the need for a no parking zone on Highland Avenue just east of Brainard Street.

Melaniphy asks if the neighborhood was alerted of the change.

Prousa state that 10 residents including North Central College were notified and the City got 5 response back that were positive and 5 no responses.

Melaniphy asks if this is across the street from a parking garage.

Prousa states that it is.

A motion was made by Webb, seconded by Orolin, approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Brown, Howenstine, Hurley, Melaniphy, Orolin, and Webb

Absent: 3 - Blubaugh, Hart, and Seeberg

3. Approve the recommendation amending the approved 2023-2024 Annual New Sidewalk Program

Project Engineer Christine Rhoades gives a presentation of the New Sidewalk Program for 2023-2025. She mentions changes that are being proposed to the 2023-2025 program.

Sandy Peters states that she lives on Enclave Court and she is unable to cross the street at Book Road to get to church and parks that she frequents. She states that the sidewalks starts and stops multiple times. She also states that on Clearwater they have the sidewalk going across Book Road to nowhere and that they should move that connection to Enclave Court where across the street (Book Road) is incorporated.

Michelle Ackmann lives on Loomis Street and she wants the sidewalk on the east side of the street because of the amount of children that live on the street that walk to school (Highlands Elementary School). She states that the School Walk Route for Highlands Elementary has children using the east side of Loomis to get to school and there is no sidewalk connection. She states that North Central College is building a new parking structure that will add traffic to the street.

Melaniphy wants to recognize the three public comments that were made via email. Those comments are below:

Kristen Horan:

I am fully supportive of new sidewalks on Loomis between Highland and Porter. In fact, are we able to add a sidewalk on Porter between Loomis and Sleight as well? I have two elementary aged children and with all the traffic at the college (and the new parking lot they just implemented), I believe safety is an issue. We have so many college aged drivers with cars flying past the street and safety is really an issue. My sister got hit by a car when she was in 3rd grade and I am terrified this will also happen to my children. I have tried many times to get sidewalks on both Loomis as well as Porter and have had no luck. I will be out of town for the meeting but would love to support the sidewalks on Loomis and as well add Porter (between Loomis and Sleight) to this list.

Jamie Stenger:

I'm sending this email on behalf of my husband Nick Stenger and myself in support for the installation of sidewalks on S Loomis St across from North Central College. We recently welcomed our first baby home on May 5th and are taking advantage of the beautiful summer weather by getting out for daily walks. With a stroller in tow, crossing the street and getting up over the sidewalk is not ideal. There are quite a few families with young children on our block that this poses a safety hazard for. We would appreciate the installation of sidewalks on our side of the street and think this will be beneficial for our community including current homeowners and prospective families in the future.

Irwin and Julie Williamson:

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I am writing to express my deep concerns and objections regarding the proposed installation of sidewalks in front of my house. As a senior citizen and long-term resident of this community, I feel it is crucial to address the significant negative impacts this project will have on my property, quality of life, and the overall appeal of our neighborhood.

Firstly, the removal of the 50-year old maple, elm, and magnolia trees that stand majestically on my property is distressing. These beautiful trees, with their vibrant foliage and unique characteristics, hold great sentimental value and significantly contribute to the curb appeal and character of our community. Their loss would not only result in the removal of natural beauty but also negatively impact property values in the neighborhood. I kindly request the City Council to explore alternative solutions that would allow the preservation of these remarkable trees while still meeting the need for sidewalks.

Secondly, the proposed proximity of the sidewalk to my living room window raises serious privacy concerns. A sidewalk situated a mere 15 feet from my window would encroach upon my personal space and compromise the privacy I have cherished in my home. Such a close proximity would expose my daily activities and conversations to the constant view of passerby. As a senior citizen who values tranquility and peace, this invasion of privacy is deeply concerning. I urge the City Council to reconsider the alignment of the sidewalk to ensure a reasonable distance is maintained between my property and the public walkway, allowing for a sense of privacy and comfort.

Furthermore, the responsibility of clearing snow and ice from over 150 feet of sidewalks is a daunting task, particularly for a senior citizen like myself. Harsh winter conditions pose safety risks, and I am deeply concerned about my ability to consistently maintain a hazard-free pathway for pedestrians. This additional burden could compromise my well-being and potentially lead to accidents or injuries. Considering the potential risks involved, I kindly request that the city takes responsibility for snow and ice removal on the sidewalk, thereby alleviating the physical strain on me and ensuring the safety of all residents.

Additionally, it is crucial to address the prevalent issue of reckless and drunk drivers on our street. The installation of sidewalks without simultaneously address these ongoing traffic concerns would be counterproductive. Instead of enhancing safety, the presence of sidewalks may inadvertently attract

pedestrians close to the road, potentially exposing them to accidents caused by these irresponsible drivers. I implore the City Council to prioritize implementing measures to address the issue of reckless driving before proceeding with the sidewalk project.

In conclusion, I respectfully urge the City Council to reconsider the proposed installation of sidewalks in front of my house. The removal of mature trees, invasion of privacy, increased burden of snow and ice clearance, and the lack of adequate measures to address reckless driving are valid concerns that demand careful consideration. Moreover, the negative impact on property values resulting from the removal of these beautiful trees must not be ignored. I firmly believe that a balanced solution can be reached by taking these concerns into account and exploring alternative options that promote community safety while minimizing the adverse effects on my property, well-being, and the overall aesthetics of our neighborhood.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I trust that you will genuinely consider my perspective and act in the best interest of all residents. I am available for further discussion and would greatly appreciate the opportunity to address this issue in person at a City Council meeting.

Rhoades states that the City went out and measured and that they would try and save the trees while building the sidewalk.

Hurley asks if there are any resources available for the elderly residents for snow removal on sidewalks/driveways.

Rhoades states that the Jaycees have had a program in the past.

Webb asks about the crosswalk on Book Road and any warning signals that would go with it.

Rhoades states that there are certain criteria that go into whether or not a crosswalk would go in.

Howenstine states that she would like a line-item vote for the new sidewalk program.

A motion was made by Hurley, seconded by Brown, approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Brown, Hurley, Melaniphy, Orolin, and Webb

Nay: 1 - Howenstine

Absent: 3 - Blubaugh, Hart, and Seeberg

4. Approve the recommendation to amend the existing truck route ordinances to comply with new IDOT terminology and city weight restrictions.

Mike Prousa gives a presentation on the truck route language and additions.

Webb asks if adding Ambassador and Freedom and the weight increase are the only changes?

Prousa states that is correct.

Hurley asks if we can expect a shorter lifespan on these roads because of the increase in weight.

Prousa states that the City does not expect that.

Hurley asks if the weight is with a load or without the load.

Officer Anderson states that its a gross weight with or without the loads.

A motion was made by Howenstine, seconded by Orolin, approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Brown, Howenstine, Hurley, Melaniphy, Orolin, and Webb

Absent: 3 - Blubaugh, Hart, and Seeberg

E. OLD BUSINESS:

Mike Prousa gives an update on the trail crossing report at Gartner and Edgewater.

This was closed.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

This was closed.

G. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Orolin, seconded by Brown, to adjourn the Transportation Advisory Board Meeting at 8:01 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Brown, Howenstine, Hurley, Melaniphy, Orolin, and Webb

Absent: 3 - Blubaugh, Hart, and Seeberg