



Meeting Minutes

Transportation Advisory Board

Thursday, January 4, 2024

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

A. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Melaniphy called the January 4, 2024 Transportation Advisory Board Meeting to order.

New member Michael Krzywinski, City Council member Jennifer Bruzan Taylor, and student members Krish Saluja and Fionn Pianetto introduced themselves.

Current TAB members introduced themselves as well.

B. ROLL CALL:

This was accept.

Present 8 - Jennifer Bruzan Taylor, Suzanne Hart, Scott Hurley, Michael Krzywinski, Michael Melaniphy, Inga Orolin, Matthew Seeberg, and James Webb

Absent 1 - Michael Brown

C. PUBLIC FORUM:

There were no speakers for public forum.

D. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Police Department Report

Traffic Sergeant Derek Zook went over the Thanksgiving and Christmas campaign statistics. He went over the Super Bowl campaign and the speed study on Gartner and Charles.

Melaniphy thanks the great job that the police department did on a recent pond rescue of a vehicle.

1. Approve the minutes of the September 7, 2023, Transportation Advisory Board Meeting

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

Aye: 7 - Hart, Hurley, Krzywinski, Melaniphy, Orolin, Seeberg, and Webb

Absent: 1 - Brown

2. Approve the 2024 Transportation Advisory Board meeting schedule

Deputy City Engineer Andy Hynes brings awareness to how the schedule works and how staff decides whether a meeting will be held.

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

Aye: 7 - Hart, Hurley, Krzywinski, Melaniphy, Orolin, Seeberg, and Webb

Absent: 1 - Brown

3. Receive staff's evaluation of traffic calming measures on Gartner Road between Washington Street and Charles Avenue

Prousa gives a presentation on the Gartner Road Study.

Marilyn Schweitzer mentions that the new signage at the trail crossing on Gartner and Edgewater have helped but she does not think it should have taken so long for the signs to get added.

She is glad to see that the added traffic calming measures have helped on Gartner in spots. She welcomes any more measures that can be done. She states that speeds on Gartner between Charles and Olesen and Charles between Chicago and Canonero should be studied.

She also states that the stop compliance at Charles and Gartner is a problem and too many cars don't even stop in the presence of cars and pedestrians. She details examples of when this happens. She requests that a stop compliance study is completed at Charles and Gartner.

She states that this is not just her area where this is happening but everywhere.

Ben Hutchinson lives on the northeast corner of Charles and Gartner. He prepared a video from the camera at his house showing stop compliance concerns at the intersection. He fears that a speeding vehicle will end up in a house. He would like blinking lights on the stop signs and temporary rumble strips. He would also like to see red retroreflective tape on the stop sign.

Webb asks what possibilities there are to improve the intersection.

Prousa states that they could take a look at improving the lighting, red retroreflective strips, and a flashing beacon. He states that staff have not installed stop sign flashing beacon within the City and do not know the impacts they would have on the public.

Taylor asks if the red retroreflective tape would work during the daytime.

Prousa states that they would work for reminding that a stop sign is at the intersection, but they would not help with what the video was showing.

Taylor states that she would be interested in the data regarding the flashing stop signs.

Zook states that from his experience, these drivers probably live in the neighborhood and are making the decision to not stop at the stop sign.

Seeberg asks if this intersection was a part of the traffic study.

Prousa states that it was not a part of the study.

Seeberg asks if staff had sought public input when recommending taking away some parking boxes for the striped median.

Prousa states that staff is not changing any parking ordinances at the intersection but that citywide ordinances would still be in effect.

Seeberg asks about the higher traffic volume within the neighborhood and what the reasons for that would be.

Prousa states that with the Washington Street Bridge and the world coming out of the COVID pandemic, staff expected higher volumes.

Zook states that Gartner is a primary focus for PD and they will do a full enforcement study on Gartner in late January with statistics on stops and tickets.

Hurley states that sometimes the toolkit may move too slowly at the risk of safety. He asks if there is evidence of the measures working somewhere when they didn't work here.

Prousa states that he agrees the requests sometimes take some time, this request specifically came late in the year when the pavement contract was already completed. The tools involving pavement marking weren't able to get installed until the following summer. He states that the traffic calming toolkit is a tiered approach.

Hynes states that the tools vary on every case and they have worked in the past. Staff believe they are effective and will follow the data.

Hynes states that some of the more intrusive measure require design and engineering and they will take time.

Orolin asks if another study will be completed in the future to see if the new measures work.

Prousa states that another study will be completed but only in the areas where new measures are being added.

Seeberg asks about timing on the new measures.

Prousa states that majority of the tools will be installed in the summer of 2024.

Melaniphy asks if the driver feedback signs will be installed this year and where.

Prousa explains that the permanent driver feedback signs are currently being purchased.

Hurley asks if a homeowner recognizes the vehicles of who is speeding and driving recklessly would it be wise to confront.

Zook recommends that they call the police department and to not put themselves in a situation where an altercation may occur. He states that a lot of times it ends up being an education piece.

Taylor states that PD issues warnings often by knocking on a residents door to remind them of the infractions.

Melaniphy thanks the residents and staff who spoke on this topic.

This Report was received.

- 4.** Approve an ordinance to establish a “No Parking” zone at a distance of 80 feet north and south of the centerline of Porter Avenue on Loomis Street

Project Engineer Phil Tartaglia presents staff recommendation at the intersection of Porter and Loomis.

Melaniphy asks if additional parking is being put in by the school.

Tartaglia states that they are building a parking structure.

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

Aye: 7 - Hart, Hurley, Krzywinski, Melaniphy, Orolin, Seeberg, and Webb

Absent: 1 - Brown

- 5.** Recommend approval to modify parking restrictions in the Park Addition neighborhood

Prousa presents staff's presentation on the park addition parking modifications.

Hurley asks staff to explain the map.

Prousa states that the map shows the time restrictions within the neighborhood.

Melaniphy thanks the staff for cleaning up the ordinances.

A motion was made by Hart, seconded by Orolin, approved. The motion

carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Hart, Hurley, Krzywinski, Melaniphy, Orolin, Seeberg, and Webb

Absent: 1 - Brown

6. Receive the fall 2023 commuter parking update

Hynes gives a staff overview of the commuter parking changes.

Ashish Bhagwar states that a number of commuters were impacted by the parking changes and understands why they were done. He states that he wishes more outreach was done. He states that the app is expensive and has convenience fee that are high. He hopes that something can be addressed that would allow more options for how people commute presently by only going in to the office 2 or 3 days a week.

Taylor states that it is her understanding that commuter outreach has occurred by staff over the last few years.

Hynes agrees and goes over the outreach and notifications that occurred.

Hurley asks what the service level agreement is for the application.

Zook states that the vendor will notify the city when there are issues and that PD is able to handle appeals as they come in.

Webb asks if going forward staff will be able to collect data on the daily/weekly/monthly purchases.

Hynes states that in the future they will have that data.

Melaniphy asks if staff will find better ways to service customers as technologies modernizes.

Hines states that they will.

This Report was received.

E. OLD BUSINESS:

Melaniphy thanks staff for getting the curb extension completed on Eagle and Jefferson.

This was closed.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

Hynes asks if any TAB member would be interested in joining the TAB/NEST task-force.

Hurley states that he is willing to talk about the group to anyone interested.

This was closed.

G. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Hart, seconded by Seeberg, to adjourn the Transportation Advisory Board Meeting at 8:20 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Hart, Hurley, Krzywinski, Melaniphy, Orolin, Seeberg, and Webb

Absent: 1 - Brown