



**CITY OF NAPERVILLE
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL CENTER**

**MEETING MINUTES
December 6, 2018**

Approved by the TAB on 3/7/19.

A. CALL TO ORDER:

The TAB meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:

Present: Gustin, Howenstine, Melaniphy, Overholt, Preissig

Absent: Fischer, Meyer, Seeberg

Staff Members: Andy Hynes, Jennifer Loudon, Deputy Chief Jason Arres

Student Member: Dayton Melaniphy

C. PUBLIC FORUM:

Ellie Stanich – 1145 Omaha Court

Ms. Stanich expressed her concern regarding traffic concerns on Mill Street adjacent to Naperville North High School during arrival and dismissal times. Loudon responded that staff had previously provided a detailed response to Ms. Stanich's concerns. Gustin complimented Ms. Stanich on her presentation and stated that her concerns are related to a later agenda item.

D. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Presentation of the Police Department Report

Deputy Chief Arres provided a summary of their Thanksgiving and upcoming Christmas enforcement campaigns.

The Traffic unit is working on speed complaints near 103rd and Route 59. The Police are also working on neighborhood overnight parking concerns in various areas.

1. 18-1014 Approve the minutes of the October 4, 2018 Transportation Advisory Board meeting

A motion was made by Melaniphy, seconded by Gustin, to approve the meeting minutes of October 4, 2018.

Ayes: Gustin, Howenstine, Melaniphy, Overholt, Preissig
Nays: None

Motion approved (5-0).

2. 18-1033 Provide direction on conducting a Neighborhood Traffic Study for the residential area located north and west of the Central Business District

Louden provided a summary of the request to conduct a neighborhood traffic study in the area north and west of downtown Naperville.

Public comment:

Rob Armour – 439 W. Franklin Avenue

Mr. Armour discussed the results of a neighborhood survey regarding area traffic. He also discussed the proximity of his neighborhood to the downtown and train station; school traffic at Naper Elementary School and Washington Junior High School, and Naperville North High School; and changes to the neighborhood has over the past 10 years. He is looking for solutions to address traffic concerns.

Gustin expressed concern about the timeframe to implement solutions and asked for Mr. Armour's suggestions. His suggestions include cameras, flashing signs, consistent stop sign application, and speed humps.

Priessig asked for clarification as to what has changed over the past 10 years. Mr. Armour mentioned more children in the area, the overcrowding of the area schools, as well as ongoing construction.

Howenstine asked if the school was involved in the survey. Mr. Armour stated that the school was not included. Howenstine requested that the schools be involved in the discussion going forward.

Kathy Benson – 51 Forest Avenue

Ms. Benson discussed how the number of children has increased with the teardown activity that has occurred in the area over the past 10 years.

Naper Elementary is located on Eagle Street which carries a large traffic volume. Cut through traffic on Spring Avenue is related to Metra commuters and children going to Naperville North High School. Other concerns include:

- The alternating two way stop system in her neighborhood is not consistent with driver expectations at some intersections.

- Mill Street traffic backs up from the Fifth Avenue traffic signal to Benton Avenue due to the high school traffic.
- The lack of stop signs on Jefferson Avenue to the west of Mill Street is a concern as well as the crash history at Jefferson and West Street.
- Douglas Avenue provides a cut through route from Mill Street to Jefferson Avenue.

Ms. Benson believes these traffic conditions are above and beyond what the neighborhood should be expected to experience. A full traffic study should be done to evaluate conditions and develop a holistic approach to address the neighborhood concerns.

Gustin inquired about the priority of the concerns as well as the issues related to the potential redevelopment of the 5th Avenue properties and Children's Museum. Ms. Benson stated the HOA did not vote on the priority of the various concerns, but her primary concerns are Spring Avenue and the application of the stop controls, and school traffic at arrival and dismissal times.

Gustin asked if the police have a presence near the schools. Deputy Chief Arres explained that schools are a priority but there are 36 schools and only 11 police officers available at any one time for all types of police work. All these schools have similar issues related to traffic and parking.

Priessig asked if Ms. Benson had any recommendations with regarding immediate safety implementation and thoughts on the Zone 11 study. Ms. Benson suggested flashing lights by the school, driver feedback signs on Douglas Avenue, and Jefferson and West four way stop control. Regarding the Zone 11 study, Ms. Benson discussed the diversity of opinions identified in the public input process and value in receiving a 3rd party evaluation. She thinks other surrounding neighborhoods could benefit if a different stop control system is implemented.

Ms. Benson stated that some of the internal operations at Naperville North High School has created issues on the surrounding roadway network.

Mary Derwinski – 420 Spring Avenue

Ms. Derwinski stated that she has had children that have gone to all three schools in the area and has been the crossing guard at Mill Street and Douglas for the past 10 years.

Ms. Derwinski discussed the pavement marking changes on Mill Street to provide a left turn lane for the south end of Naperville North High School. This made congestion worse on Mill Street on days without late arrival

(Wednesdays). Internal drop off procedures could be modified to improve traffic movement on Mill Street (provide a load and go zone). In addition, southbound left turn lanes at Fifth Avenue and Douglas Avenue block through traffic and create backups. She recommends additional Community Service Officers to coordinate the load and go zone to help Mill Street traffic.

Spring Street has a large volume of construction and bus traffic. Construction should stop in the future, but bus traffic will continue.

Naper Elementary School previously had parent volunteers to help children cross the street. Ms. Derwinski recommends restarting that program.

Naper Elementary school did not have flexible space to accommodate all day kindergarten. The 5th graders were moved to Washington Junior High School for this reason.

Ms. Derwinski also recommends that more children walk to school to help improve traffic conditions.

The 5th Avenue redevelopment will have impact on the neighborhood as well. Ms. Derwinski would like the traffic implications from that development to be considered as it moves forward.

TAB Discussion

Howenstine asked if any of the recommendations from the Zone 11 study were reversed. Loudon first clarified that the crosswalk at Eagle Street and Van Buren Avenue was removed at the request of the Naper Elementary School principal. With respect to the Zone 11 study, there was one crosswalk that was re-evaluated shortly after the completion of the study.

Howenstine and Gustin would like to see crash information around Naperville Schools. Howenstine would also like an evaluation of stop controls at the intersection of Jefferson and West as well as flashing lights at Naper Elementary.

Gustin asked for clarification regarding the principal's reasoning for the request to remove the crosswalk on Eagle Street. Loudon responded that the crosswalk was not on the school walk route.

Gustin asked about why additional traffic studies were not conducted after completion of the Zone 11 study. Loudon explained that the study was very effective, but it does not address the concerns of new residents.

Gustin asked for clarification about warrants for stop controls. Loudon explained that staff follows the established methods in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Typically, traffic volumes are primary basis for

establishing stop controls. However, there are situations where other warrants apply.

Melaniphy asked if there may be other traffic studies in the future. Louden stated that it is possible that other neighborhoods may be evaluated in the future.

Dave Priessig stated that the upcoming street maintenance in the neighborhood is one of the considerations in prioritizing this location.

Louden stated that a formal recommendation from TAB was not requested from City Council. TAB's input on the process and the neighborhood under consideration is appreciated and will be incorporated into the study.

3. 18-981 Approve the 2019 Transportation Advisory Board meeting schedule

A motion was made by Howenstine, seconded by Melaniphy, to approve the 2019 Transportation Advisory Board schedule.

Ayes: Gustin, Howenstine, Melaniphy, Overholt, Preissig

Nays: None

Motion approved (5-0).

E. OLD BUSINESS:

Greg Gustin commented on the improved condition of the Route 59 station.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Preissig reminded residents to keep cars off the street to assist snow plows and shovel their sidewalks within 48 hours of a snow event.

G. ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:28 p.m. a motion was made by Gustin, seconded by Melaniphy, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion approved (5-0).