



**NAPERVILLE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES OF JULY 7, 2012**

Call to Order

8:00 a.m.

A. Roll Call

Present: Benson, Collins, Floegel, McIntosh, Polites, Preissig, Chairman Wencel
Student Representative: Coen

Absent: Amberg, Perillo
Student Representative: O'Shaughnessy

Staff Present: Project Manager Rory Fancler, Project Engineer Sean Marquez, Sergeant Lee Martin

B. Minutes Approve the minutes from the June 2, 2012 Transportation Advisory Board meeting.

Motion to approve.
Motion by: Collins
Second by: Polites

Approved, 7-0

C. Public Forum N/A

D. Old Business N/A

E. Public Hearings N/A

F. Reports and Recommendations

F1. City Council Report

Polites provided an overview of the June 5, 2012 City Council meeting. Chairman Wencel provided an overview of the June 19, 2012 City Council meeting.

F2. Police Department Report

Sergeant Martin highlighted the Police Department's grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to continue traffic enforcement during the State's fiscal year from October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013 for seatbelt enforcement and DUI enforcement, primarily during major holidays.

F3. Traffic Request Resident Survey Process

Project Manager Rory Fancler provided an overview of the recommendation to maintain the current resident survey procedures and provided an overview of the existing procedures.

Public Testimony: N/A

Transportation Advisory Board Questions/Discussion:

Benson

- Expressed support for recognizing a “non-response” as neutral.
- Fancier requested clarification regarding the TAB interpretation of “non-responses” relative to the 60% support required for City staff to move forward with a traffic request. Benson confirmed the non-responses should not be factored into the 60% support, and cited concern with staff time spent to address a traffic-related concern raised by a small group of people. Benson referenced the Mill Street parking restriction considered by TAB in November 2011 as an example.

Polites

- Questioned the ability for the City to email surveys and information for a specific geographic area. Fancier noted the City could mail a letter to a specific geographic area requesting residents register for an email listserv; however, suggested this tactic may be more appropriate for a more involved project similar to the 5th Avenue Study, rather than a small survey.
- Asked if the City could use the existing e-newsletter listservs to send targeted emails for the resident surveys in attempt to increase the response rate. Fancier stated that the e-newsletter registration does not require a mailing address so at this time the City does not have access to a geographic email listserv. Fancier further clarified that as needed public notice is often mailed to a specific geographic area, and cited the 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program as an example.

Floegel

- Concurred with Benson and noted that it is important to recognize “non-responses” as neutral.

Approve the recommendation to modify the resident survey procedures to include a “yes”, “no” and “non-response”.

Motion by: Benson

Not Approved, 3-4

Seconded by: Floegel

*Nays: Collins, McIntosh, Polites
Chairman Wencel*

Approve the recommendation to maintain the current resident survey procedures.

Motion by: McIntosh

Approved, 4-3

Seconded by: Polites

Nays: Benson, Floegel, Preissig

F4. Downtown Cabstand Plan

Project Manager Rory Fancier provided an overview of the recommendation to establish a new downtown cabstand plan.

Public Testimony: N/A

Transportation Advisory Board Questions/Discussion:

Benson

- Acknowledged the need for the cabstand plan and commented that the additional signage and associated confusion for the public is distressing.

Approve the recommendation to establish a new downtown cabstand plan.

Motion by: McIntosh

Approved, 7-0

Seconded by: Preissig

F5. Van Buren Parking Facility Parking Modifications

Project Manager Rory Fancler provided an overview of the proposed amendments to the parking restrictions for the Van Buren Parking Facility, referring to the draft ordinance provided as Attachment 1 to the agenda item.

Public Testimony: N/A

Transportation Advisory Board Questions/Discussion:

Chairman Wencel

- Highlighted the need to balance the parking for downtown visitors and customers and limit commuter parking in the Van Buren Parking Facility. Fancler confirmed that all day parking is limited to after 9 a.m. in order to preclude commuters from parking in the Van Buren Parking Facility.

Approve the recommendation to amend the parking restrictions for the Van Buren Parking Facility as outlined in Attachment 1 to the agenda item.

Motion by: Polites

Seconded by: Collins

Approved, 7-0

F6. Recommendation for FY 2012-2013, Second Quarter Commuter Permit Issuance and Space Utilization Report

Project Manager Rory Fancler provided an overview of the commuter permit issuance and space utilization report.

Public Testimony: N/A

Transportation Advisory Board Questions/Discussion:

Chairman Wencel

- Confirmed there is no waitlist for a permit at the Route 59 Metra Station.
- Asked if permit cancellations are factored into the equation for the quarterly permit issuance, and specifically referenced the cancellations associated with the Temporary Transit Package. Fancler confirmed permit cancellations is one factor considered, as well as lot occupancy, new permit acceptance rates and seasonal variations.

McIntosh

- Questioned the possibility to have the waitlist data included with the quarterly report. Fancler noted that the actual number of people on the waitlist provides limited context; the waitlist number fluctuates and is misleading as the acceptance rate and response rate are not 100%. Fancler confirmed staff will evaluate the quarterly report and suggested potentially including a reference to the estimated wait time for each lot.

For information only; no action required.

F7. 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program

Project Manager Rory Fancler provided an overview of the proposed 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program, including the priority system used to determine the sidewalk gap locations proposed as Safe Routes to School Program Locations and Contingency Locations.

Public Testimony:

Lynn Morgan, 1035 N. Main Street (Naperville Heights)

- Concerned the Comprehensive Sidewalk Policy and proposed 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Policy does not take into consideration unique circumstances in Naperville Heights; existing non-continuous sidewalk results in children crossing the street at multiple points throughout the neighborhood.
- Cited the lack of street lights, significant on-street parking and cut-through traffic as factors contributing to safety concerns for the significant number of pedestrians accessing Naperville Metra Station and local schools.
- Noted that the goal of the Annual New Sidewalk Program should be to obtain the highest degree of safety available in Naperville Heights or to mitigate existing conditions that negatively impact pedestrian safety.
- Noted that \$250,000 is grant funding and \$50,000 is City funding; requested reallocation of the \$50,000 to Naperville Heights. Fancler noted that with the SRTS Program funding, all sidewalk gap locations included in the 2013 Annual New Program will be subject to IDOT review.
- Asked about the potential for sidewalk on both sides of the street in Naperville Heights as the streets are along School Walk Routes. Fancler noted that the City would need to review any changes with IDOT as the intent of the grant funding is to provide for sidewalk along School Walk Routes, in gap locations where sidewalk is not currently available on either side of the street.

George Flannery, 4 E. Gartner Rd.

- See attached correspondence dated July 6, 2012.

Jason Gull, 836 Wilson Avenue (Laird Woods)

- Emphasized that Wilson Avenue is a small cut-through street between Laird and Douglas; approximately six houses on this street and no need for sidewalk.
- Highlighted existing “sidewalk to nowhere” on the northwest corner of Laird Street/Wilson Avenue; and “sidewalk to nowhere” planned for the new construction at the southwest corner.
- Noted the impact of sidewalk on Wilson Avenue relative to the mature trees on both sides of the street.
- Expressed concern about the sidewalk installation negatively impacting front yard and decreasing usable play area for children.

Jim Ruhl, 122 N. Laird Street (Laird Woods)

- Stated teardown activity in Laird Woods will result in sidewalk installation.
- Expressed concern for the mature trees along Laird Street.
- Noted that there are few children in the area; therefore, sidewalk is not necessary. Indicated that school children in the area use existing routes to access Naper Elementary School.
- Suggested sidewalk on Laird Street should be installed on the west side of the street to provide connectivity to the proposed sidewalk on Wilson Street.
- Acknowledged a need for sidewalk in Naperville Heights.

Lisa Donovan, 1026 N. Webster Street (Naperville Heights)

- Expressed concern about small sidewalk segments that do not provide connectivity throughout Naperville Heights, citing the existing “sidewalk to nowhere” in front of 1026 N. Webster Street as an example. Noted that children are limited to play outside peak commute periods due to lack of continuous sidewalks and potential conflicts with cut-through vehicles.

- Requested reallocation of funds for sidewalk installation from Laird Woods to Naperville Heights per the public testimony from residents in Laird Woods. Todd White, 849 S. Loomis Street (East Highlands)
- Expressed concern about the sidewalk impact to existing plant material and mature trees; requested information regarding potential relocation or reimbursement from the City. Marquez noted that the City will work with the property owner to minimize the impact to existing plant material and mature trees. Marquez clarified that the vegetation is located within the public right-of-way, and was installed by the property owner at their own risk. Marquez confirmed the City will notify the resident in advance of installation and will coordinate vegetation removal/relocation with the resident.

Transportation Advisory Board Questions/Discussion:

Benson

- Asked Lynn Morgan where she would prioritize installation of sidewalk in Naperville Heights. Lynn Morgan highlighted the sidewalk gap segments on Main Street and noted that sidewalk should be installed to connect gaps between sidewalks installed with new home construction.
- Questioned the location of the sidewalk proposed for Washington Street (Gartner Road to Pioneer Park) relative to the street; and requested information regarding snow removal. Marquez responded that the sidewalk would be approximately 5' to 10' from the roadway; snowplows may place snow on the sidewalk.
- Noted that sidewalk should be provided on both sides of the street throughout the City, and stated that there are areas of the City that are more dangerous for pedestrians than others.
- Questioned whether Naperville Heights is more dangerous than Wilson Avenue. Fancler noted that the City's goal is to provide an off-street pedestrian route throughout each neighborhood. Benson asked if the sidewalk gaps in Naperville Heights are as safe as a sidewalk gap on Wilson Avenue. Fancler noted that there is more vehicle traffic in Naperville Heights than Wilson Avenue. Benson suggested Naperville Heights should be prioritized for the Annual New Sidewalk Program.
- Confirmed the 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program-SRTS Locations includes only locations on School Walk Routes where no sidewalk currently exists.
- Questioned the potential opportunity to separate gap segments totaling \$50,000 from the SRTS Program process, and suggested reallocation of this money for installation of sidewalks in an area with higher vehicle traffic, Naperville Heights. Marquez clarified that all locations included in the 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program will be subject to the SRTS Program review process.
- Suggested staff investigate the latitude associated with the SRTS Program, and asked if TAB could continue consideration of the 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program. Fancler confirmed TAB could continue the agenda item to the August 4 meeting, which would allow staff an opportunity to investigate the City's options under the SRTS Program.

Collins

- Asked if there is traffic count data available for Naperville Heights and Laird Woods. Marquez noted that recent traffic counts conducted in Naperville Heights demonstrate there is more traffic in Naperville Heights than along Wilson Avenue.
- Questioned the potential to modify the 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program to provide additional sidewalk in Naperville Heights relative to the SRTS Program.

Marquez noted that the sidewalk gap locations recommended for the 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program are the remaining gap locations where no sidewalk currently exists on either side of the street; installation of sidewalk on both sides of the street using grant funds would be subject to IDOT approval.

- Suggested a potential motion to amend the plan for Naperville Heights to include the sidewalk gap segment on the east side of Main Street, south of 11th Avenue, subject to SRTS Program review.

Floegel

- Questioned the potential to modify the staff recommendation to include additional sidewalk gap locations in Naperville Heights. Fancier noted that TAB has the discretion to make an alternate recommendation for the 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program and clarified that all of the sidewalk gap locations proposed for the 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program-SRTS Locations are along School Walk Routes.
- Clarified Wilson Avenue is on the School Walk Route, and questioned the City's ability to provide for sidewalk on both sides of Main Street through the SRTS Program. Fancier noted that staff would need to explore the City's latitude associated with the SRTS Program. Fancier confirmed reallocating funds to Main Street, a location where sidewalk currently exist on the east side of the street, would be subject to review with IDOT.

McIntosh

- Requested clarification as to whether all School Walk Routes are included in the 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program. Fancier noted that there are remaining sidewalk gap locations along School Walk Routes throughout the City.
- Asked if the City's application for the SRTS Program specifically identified the sidewalk gap segments proposed for the 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program. Fancier noted the City's application identified sidewalk gap locations where there is no sidewalk on either side of the street along a School Walk Route.
- Referenced the public correspondence regarding the sidewalk on Melody Lane and noted that based on site observations, the street does not appear heavily trafficked by vehicles or pedestrians.

Polites

- Questioned the application of grant funding in a location where sidewalk is currently provided on one side of the street. Fancier clarified this approach would be subject to City staff review of the SRTS Program with IDOT.

Preissig

- Questioned the opportunity to install sidewalk in additional gap locations this construction season or as part of the 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program. Fancier noted that the annual budget of \$300,000 is subject to City Council.
- Suggested using the City's future funding allocation for the Annual New Sidewalk Program for the 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program. Wencel clarified the suggestion is to increase the budget for the 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program to include the sidewalk gap segment on Main Street. Fancier noted that a budget increase for the Annual New Sidewalk Program would be subject to City Council approval.

Chairman Wencel

- Clarified that with the approved 2012 Annual New Sidewalk Program and the proposed 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program, sidewalk will be provided on at least one side of the streets throughout Naperville Heights.

- Asked for clarification on the recommendation for Washington Street. Fancler noted the sidewalk gap location on Washington Street provides connectivity between DuPage River Trail at Pioneer Park and Washington Street, and provides access to a signalized crossing at the intersection of Gartner Road/Washington Street. Fancler further noted that sidewalk in this location would provide connectivity between the multi-family residential uses on the east side of Washington Street and the commercial uses at Gartner Road. Chairman Wencel noted that this is a pretty clear gap between Pioneer Park and Gartner Road.
- Requested clarification on the recommendation for Wilson Avenue. Fancler noted that Wilson Avenue is along the School Walk Route and provides connectivity with existing sidewalk on Douglas Avenue and Benton Avenue. Fancler further noted that sidewalk on Wilson Avenue meets the Comprehensive Sidewalk Policy; and clarified that the south side of the street was selected based on the mature landscaping on the north, and an opportunity to provide connectivity with the sidewalk planned for installation at the southwest corner of Laird Street/Wilson Avenue.
- Noted the \$300,000 budget limits the sidewalk gap segments included with the 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program. Fancler noted that the \$300,000 budget is not arbitrary, but based on the staffing required for installation of sidewalk during each construction season. Fancler noted that the City could certainly explore future changes to the budget for the Annual New Sidewalk Program.
- Suggested an opportunity to reallocate some of the grant funding to address the sidewalk gaps on Main Street between 11th Avenue and Ogden Avenue in Naperville Heights.
- Questioned the sidewalk gap segment on the west side of Webster Street between Ogden Avenue and 10th Avenue. Marquez noted that based on the existing slopes on the southwest corner, the east side of the street is recommended for inclusion in the 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program-SRTS Locations. Marquez explained that sidewalk on the west side of the street would require a higher level of review through the SRTS Program because property easements would be required to address slope concerns. Chairman Wencel confirmed that in order to maximize the City's use of the grant funding, installation of sidewalk on the east side of the street is more appropriate.
- Highlighted the need for continuous sidewalk on Main Street in Naperville Heights; Floegel concurred.
- Questioned whether there are additional locations in Naperville Heights that meet the City's intent for the SRTS Program funds. Fancler noted that all School Walk Routes in Naperville Heights will have sidewalk on at least one side of the street with the approved 2012 and proposed 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program.

Continue the 2013 Annual New Sidewalk Program to the August 4, 2012
Transportation Advisory Board meeting.

Motion by: Benson

Seconded by: Collins

Approved, 7-0

G. Correspondence

G1. Parking Management Application

- Fancler provided an overview of the correspondence item; no TAB discussion.

G2. BPAC Update

- Fancler provided an overview of the correspondence item; no TAB discussion.

G3. Naperville Parking Lot Maintenance Program-Fourth Avenue Construction

- Fancler provided an overview of the correspondence item; no TAB discussion.

G4. Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan Status Update

- Fancler provided an overview of the correspondence item; no TAB discussion.

G5. Electric Vehicle Charging Station Follow-Up

- Fancler provided an overview of the correspondence item; no TAB discussion.

H. New Business

- McIntosh acknowledged the City's new Project Engineer in the audience, Mr. Jonathan Stelle.

H1. Forthcoming City Council Meeting Summaries

- July 17 – Amberg
- August 21 – Benson
- September 4 – Collins
- September 18 – Floegel

I. Adjournment

Motion by: McIntosh
Seconded by: Benson

9:40 a.m.

Fancler, Rory

Subject: FW: Comment on Sidewalk Program

From: Colleen Flannery [cflannery@ipta.org]
Sent: Friday, July 06, 2012 10:25 AM
To: Marquez, Sean
Cc: Pradel, George; Hinterlong, Paul; Krieger, Doug
Subject: Comment on Sidewalk Program

Tomorrow the city will be discussing the addition of sidewalks on the east side of Washington from Gartner to Pioneer Park, adjacent to our home at 4 East Gartner Road. This is not the first time since we have lived at this address, as it was also discussed several years ago as part of the hospital expansion and widening of Washington. At that time, the detailed plans that the city provided showed that there were several utility obstacles installed in this section of parkway that would require the sidewalk to be only inches away from the street.

We are writing to you to express our concerns:

1. According to the letter sent by the project engineer, this sidewalk gap is part of the contingency sidewalk plans and not part of the Illinois Safe Routes to School initiative. There is no sidewalk on the east side of Washington from Gartner to Osler Road or from Gartner Road to Pioneer Park so this will have minimal impact on pedestrians. They will still need to cross to the west side of Washington at Gartner in order to stay on a sidewalk on Washington.
2. The proposed sidewalk's close proximity to the highly trafficked Washington Street presents safety issues for pedestrians and cyclists. There is an established sidewalk on this section of Washington (west side) that is set significantly farther away from traffic that is a safer option for pedestrians.
3. As the property owner of a home on Gartner where there is no "green space" between the sidewalk and street, we continually engage in a losing battle with the city's snow plows to maintain a clear sidewalk. There is no place for the city to push the snow, except for onto the sidewalk. Despite our best efforts, pedestrians (including children walking to the bus stop at Gartner and Edgewater) are forced to walk in the street, alongside of the piles of snow that the city dumps on the sidewalk. We anticipate the same problem will occur on Washington, where the hazard of walking in the street will be even greater.
4. With the recently approved addition to the hospital as well as the addition of a bank with a drive thru in the Naperville Plaza, traffic on Washington can only increase, creating more stop and go traffic, more frustrated drivers, and more accidents. We have personally witnessed several pedestrian and cyclist versus car accidents already at the corner of Washington and Gartner, where drivers turning right on red or left on yellow are more concerned with beating the oncoming traffic than watching sidewalk traffic.
5. This is also a section of roadway that is highly trafficked by emergency vehicles traveling to Edward Hospital. Cars pulling to the side of the road to allow emergency vehicles to pass have often times ended up over the road curb, particularly when roads are wet/icy. The proposed sidewalk could put pedestrians/cyclists at additional risk during these situations.

As we are discussing this "sidewalk gap" area, we would also like to take this time to express, again, our disappointment that the four homes in this area were denied the 6' privacy wall/sound barrier that the city installed on the west side of

Gartner during the hospital's last expansion and the widening of Washington Street. This small section of housing (four homes on the east side) is still subject to the dirt, pollution, and noise that vehicles on Washington create.

It is important to note that emergency vehicles traveling north on Washington are required to turn off sirens after crossing Gartner and these four homes are the only single family residential properties that have been denied relief from the noise that disrupts our sleep and life, more times than we care to count, every day of our lives. As the city has now approved another expansion of Edward Hospital that can only increase regular traffic and ambulance traffic (and again construction traffic), we ask that installation of the same 6' privacy wall for the section of four homes on the East side of Washington be included in the scope of work.

We understood when we purchased our home that we were living adjacent to a busy street and the conditions that would create. The city has again made decisions for expansions that have a direct, negative impact on our quality of life and there should be a plan in place to remedy this situation.

Thank you for your time.

Kind regards,
George & Colleen Flannery
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