



TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

6:00 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center
Room 2404, Evanston, IL 60201

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ald. Wynne, Ald. Revelle, A. Añón, L. Young, & T. Dubin

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ald. Fleming & B. J. Miller

STAFF PRESENT: Parking Manager Jill Velan, Transportation and Mobility Coordinator Jessica Hyink,

PRESIDING MEMBER: Ald. Wynne

1. Call to Order / Declaration of Quorum

Chairman Ald. Wynne declared a quorum at 6:03 P.M.

2. Citizen Comments

A resident of Girard Ave asked the committee to consider leaving her parking zone as zone 3 and not 1 due to the difficulty residents have parking on their street. Hospital and golf course visitors often parked on their block which limited parking for the residents. Another resident on Garrison Ave agreed and added that Evanston Hospital recently doubled their parking garage rates which has pushed visitors to venture onto residential streets. Rich Katz also of Garrison Ave said that in recent months parking has become more limited due to being in the same zone as the hospital and golf course. They all mentioned that the parking signage is confusing. Dan Joseph asked that a future meeting address the connectivity of the Greenbay bike trail to the Northshore Channel trail. He believes that the signage needs to be improved to guide and protect the cyclists. He asked the committee and staff to reach out to PACE to improve the bus notations for ETHS students. He also feels the bus stops on Dodge need more signage. He brought up his repeat request to push the CTA to expand their Sunday service hours for the Purple line for those that work on the weekends.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes of May 23, 2018

Ald. Revelle asked that the minutes be corrected to read "TIF" (all capital abbreviation) when referring to Tax Increment Financing funds.

Item 1

Motion to approve with corrections made by Ald. Revelle and seconded by L. Young

A vote was called and taken. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Sherman Ave Bus Stop Relocation

Transportation and Mobility Coordinator J. Hyink presented the next item to the committee in which staff recommends the committee approve the removal of three parking spaces on the Southeast corner of Sherman Ave at Foster Street in order to relocate the Northwestern University

shuttle bus stop. This relocation is due to safety and traffic concerns. The bus currently stops in front of the Sherman Terrance Condo driveway and blocks the residents from entering and exiting their parking area. It is also not an ideal amount of space for bus to pull over and creates partial blockage of traffic patterns (a bus requires 80 to 140ft). It is being proposed that the bus stop be moved from the North to the South side of the street where the removal of three parking spaces will give the bus room to pull over completely without blocking driveways. This ward's alderman, Ald. Fiske, agrees with the proposed change. A representative from NU in attendance added that this will improve safety for student riders, pedestrians and motorist. Staff asked the committee to consider this so they can bring the removal of the parking spaces to the City Council for approval. L. Young voiced her concern that if traffic is held up by the bus stopping before the light that there will be more congestion or that cars will attempt to go around the bus causing safety issues. The representative from NU said that with enough space to fully pull over and a load time of less than one minute, they do not believe this will cause traffic delays. A. Añón asked if they considered moving the bus stop further north up the street. J. Hyink presented the committee a map showing that due to fire hydrants and driveways, the proposed location was the best option.

Item 2

Motion to approve recommendation to remove three parking spaces on Sherman Ave made by Ald. Revelle and seconded by T. Dubin

A vote was called and taken. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Dodge Ave Bus Stop Pilot

Transportation and Mobility Coordinator J. Hyink explained to the committee that the City received a letter in 2016 from the Federal Highway Administration regarding findings of inaccessibility to the bus shelter at Dodge Ave and Main Street which was remedied. The CTA also received a letter concerning ADA noncompliance of bus stops on Dodge Ave from Main St to Oakton St. This prompted staff and the CTA to work on a plan to transition the current flag stops to permanent bus stops to improve safety and accessibility. CTA submitted site plans for staff and affected Aldermen to review in March of 2018. J. Hyink presented maps of the proposed bus stops for the committee to view. Staff will hold a public hearing on July 17, 2018 to gain feedback from residents and then present results at the next Transportation and Parking meeting for committee recommendations. Ald. Revelle asked if a sidewalk pad is needed to make the stop ADA compliant. J. Hyink explained that yes it is needed and that is one reason why flag stops are considered non accessible.

6. Dockless Bike Share Ordinance

The City of Evanston currently uses Divvy as its city-owned ride share system. Ride share usage has been steadily increasing. While Divvy does require infrastructure, it can be easily regulated. There has been an emergence of dockless ride share programs, most of which are funded by venture capitalists. Chicago has a dockless bike share pilot program on the south side of the City currently. While there are no current plans, it could expand to the north side of the City in the future. It will be difficult to keep them outside of Evanston at that point. Staff recommends that the City prepare for this possibility by having the committee as well as NU staff review the "City of Chicago Permit Requirements for Dockless Bikeshare Vendors Only." This document with staff edits and comments was presented for the committee. Having an ordinance in place that is compatible with the Chicago program will ensure continuity. It will be easier to regulate the programs if this is in place

beforehand. Staff would like to bring a draft ordinance for consideration at the July 27, 2018 meeting. The representative from Northwestern University voiced his concerns about safety if high speed scooters and part of the share program and also where the vehicles will be placed for ADA compliance. Ald. Revelle asked if motorized scooters would use the bike lanes. J. Hyink explained they could be allowed if the speed was regulated. T. Dubin brought up that regulations are already difficult for regular cyclists and that adding motorized scooters will be more difficult, unsafe and costly. L. Young asked what happens when the bikes leave the designated program area. J. Hyink explained the program runs through smart phones so the scooters/bikes would not cease to operate but the rider would receive a notice. Ald. Wynne agreed that it is important that the City be prepared for these programs to appear in Evanston.

7. Divvy Update

Transportation and Parking Coordinator J. Hyink explained that the City's Priority Based Budgeting Survey showed that Divvy was voted to consider eliminating as a City service. However, ridership has steadily increased and Divvy presents an opportunity to become cost neutral or profitable. This can be done with sponsorship opportunities and advertising on the stations/docks. Operating costs stay consistent year round. The City needs more stations to service the demand. Oak Park has offered to sell the City used stations for less than half the usual cost (around 16K vs. 50k.) Currently the City is under its annual budget for Divvy costs and will know more about the future of the program after the budget review. L. Young asked what staff and the committee can do to promote the program. She believes that if more residents are educated about Divvy, more people will see its value. J. Hyink suggested looking at more sponsorship opportunities and informing residents about programs such as Divvy for Every Evanstonian, which offers discounted membership. Ald. Wynne suggested reaching out to local businesses to find advertising opportunities and working with the Economic Development staff. The committee does not want to see Divvy get eliminated.

8. Parking System Pilot Program

Parking Manager J. Velan explained that in February of 2018, the City planned to hire a parking consultant to assist with a Comprehensive Parking System Analysis to address a range of parking concerns and understand impact on residents, visitors, employees and businesses in Evanston. Due to the Priority Based Budget Process, the funds for such a consultant have been put on hold so the Parking Division is recommending an alternative approach that can be conducted by staff. This would include identifying a regulation or policy to discuss with the committee, gaining approval from the City Council for implementation, notifying residents/businesses and requesting feedback and evaluation with the Committee's input after a three to six month period. J. Velan presented a list of possible pilot program topics such as the potential combination of Districts 1 & 3 and H & 6 (maps presented.) Ald. Wynne agreed with this alternative approach and asked that the Committee and staff discuss further at the next meeting.

9. Updates: Transportation and Mobility/Parking

These updates were tabled for the July 25, 2018 meeting due to time constraints.

10. Adjournment

A Motion to adjourn was made by Ald. Revelle seconded by L. Young at 7:33 P.M. A vote was called and then taken. Motion passed unanimously.

The next Committee Meeting is July 25, 2018.