



## **TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, August 29, 2018

6:00 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** A. Añón, L. Young, & T. Dubin, Ald. Fleming & B. J. Miller

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ald. Wynne, Ald. Revelle,

**STAFF PRESENT:** Parking Manager Jill Velan, Transportation and Mobility Coordinator Jessica Hyink, Economic Development Manager Paul Zalmezek, Community Development Director Johanna Nyden Leonard

**PRESIDING MEMBER:** Ald. Fleming

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### **1. Call to Order / Declaration of Quorum**

Chairman Ald. Fleming declared a quorum at 6:07 P.M.

### **2. Citizen Comments**

Ms. Jacobson – Wanted to express her support of expanding the current Divvy program in Evanston.

Alderman Rue Simmons – Wanted to offer her endorsement of expanding the Loading zone in front of the First Church of God located at 1524 Simpson. She mentioned with the size of the congregation and the associated large aging community that expanding the loading zone would help with members being able to access the church.

### **3. Approval of Meeting Minutes of August 29, 2018**

#### **Item 1**

**Motion to approve made by T. Dubin and seconded by B. J. Miller**

**A vote was called and taken. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.**

### **4. Loading Zone – 1524 Simpson**

Parking Manager Jill Velan echoes what Alderman Rue Simmons said about extending the loading zone in front of the First Church of God. The loading zone would be on the south side of Simpson from Ashland Avenue to the first alley east from 7:00 am – 6:00 pm seven days a week. The included area would be in front of property owned by the church the impact on residential homes in the area should be minimal.

#### **Item 2**

**A vote was called and taken. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.**

### **5. Divvy Station and Funding Proposal**

Transportation and Mobility Coordinator Jessica Hyink started the discussion talking about the current status of the program. She notes that the program is currently well under budget for 2018 (currently at 102,000 of 304,000 budgeted) and that this is due to a steady growth in ridership (about a 10% increase this year so far). She brings up Evanston's desire to make the cost of the project cost neutral to Evanston. Helping on this front is the City of Chicago which has committed to facilitate Evanston obtaining more advertising revenue (Evanston has received a draft memorandum of understanding for ad revenue to be included in their next sponsorship contract). This additional revenue could not only help make the program cost neutral but it would make the overall program a revenue generator. This would even be the case if the program is expanded further.

Looking at this potential expansion, Jessica talked about the importance of getting the Divvy station locations right and that we need to look at getting more residential corridors represented. She also mentioned the potential impact of Lyft integration (Lyft recently purchased Motivate the company behind Divvy) on helping ridership grow by including Evanston's Divvy bikes through the Lyft app. Jessica also brings up the potential to purchase up to three used stations that are no longer used in Oak Park. The combined cost of the three used stations would be less than the cost of one new station but the stations are only available until 10/1/18 at the current price.

The question of why Divvy was not viable in Oak Park was brought up to which Jessica explained that they had issues with sponsorship and the ridership growth became stagnant. The discussion then went to station locations with the Lakefront, the Civic Center, and various residential areas being discussed. Community Development Director Johanna Nyden Leonard spoke about the difficulties in using the Lakefront as a location at least with this round of adding stations but that the city is always looking for areas where ridership would be benefitted.

The discussion then went to how the funding works. The charts in the packet were discussed and Alderman Fleming asked for clarification on how the sponsorship contract would work, what would be length of the contract and what the amount received. Jessica stated that we were expecting to get \$1000 per bicycle as part of the new funding deal, and Johanna stated that we'd look to set up at least a 3 year contract.

The low approval rating for the Divvy program during the budget based pricing survey is brought up. Staff talks about the low survey turnout. Jessica also brings up that the survey only represented the budgeted amount and the actual amount spent (which is only at 1/3 of the budgeted amount). Also the program is relatively new so a fair amount of Evanston residents don't know what benefits the program has. Johanna also brought up that at the time the survey was help, the new funding opportunities were not known so the survey didn't properly represent the correct numbers for the program. Johanna also mentions how that on paper when compared to other human services that it can be easy to discount the actual benefits of a ride share program. A. Añón talked about the dangers of only using one company and worries about only using a private company for the bike share program.

The city would also be able to move stations once a year if we find that the new locations do not fit our needs.

### **Item 3**

**Motion to approve purchasing additional bike stations from Oak Park made by B. J. Miller and seconded by L. Young**

**A vote was called and taken. Motion passed unanimously 6-1 (A. Añón voted nay).**

**6. Dockless Bike Share Ordinance Update**

Jessica talked about this item at the last P&T meeting with the intention to bring it back for discussion/action at this meeting, however, at this time staff recommends waiting as Evanston is waiting to see how both Chicago and Northwestern plan to deal with dockless vehicles. The City of Chicago is currently conducting a pilot program that ends November 1<sup>st</sup> and staff recommends waiting to see what the data shows also Northwestern seems to have concerns about dockless scooters/bicycles. Jessica also brought up the impact of Lyft purchasing Motivate and how the Lyft app integration could help with regulating and identifying and dockless vehicles. Alderman Fleming asks if the city needs an ordinance to stop a company from going dockless without permission. Jessica points out that no the city already has strong ordinances in place to limit the ability to leave items in the right of way without permission but that the city would like to craft an ordinance specifically for dockless vehicles.

**No Motion needed at this time.**

**7. Lot 24 RFP**

Economic Development Manager Paul Zalmezek started his presentation with a recap of the Lot 1 discussion from the previous meeting, he goes on to state that the appraisal should be done in the next couple of weeks.

Along those same lines a development company approached the City of Evanston and submitted a zoning analysis for two proposed developments along Main Street. The developers are looking to combine the two developments and are looking to create 16 affordable housing units in their 80 unit planned development.

Johanna brings up how like the proposed Lot 1 development, that this was an unsolicited offer by a developer.

L. Young brings up the parking impact that 80 units could make and that we could ask the developer to provide parking.

Paul also brings up that the city received Letters of Intent to develop both 825 Hinman (Lot 32) and 1614 Maple (Lot 25).

Staff has received an unsolicited letter of intent from Orange Properties Investment Corporation for Lot 32 located at 825 Hinman, just south of Main/Hinman intersection and The letter of intent indicates the purchase price will be determined by a certified appraisal of the properties. The broker representing Orange Properties indicated they would like to redevelop the property as

residential and are open to partnering with the City of Evanston to incorporate additional public parking.

In Lot 25 Staff has also received an unsolicited letter of intent from Orange Properties Investment Corporation for Lot 25 at 1614 Maple just north of Davis Street. This parcel is a parking lot that was leased by the post office in a long term lease for over a decade. The most recent renegotiation of that lease moved all of the post office overflow parking into the underutilized Maple Ave. Parking Garage, leaving this lot vacant as a potential redevelopment parcel. The lot currently is open to hourly visitors who pay at the paybox and also has a small number of permitted spots.

This was just informational and more information would be brought back to the committee as is needed

**No Motion needed at this time.**

### **8. Parking System Pilot Programs**

Parking Manager Jill Velan talks about the future of parking and is looking to get parking studies paid for by developers as developments come up. Jill talked about the increased demands and how downtown Evanston has 3 parking garages but outside of downtown areas may have a small parking lot if anything to ease parking burdens.

Jill is also looking at doing a pilot program where area employees can purchase a daytime permit for on street parking. She is also looking at shared parking solutions using both permits and hourly rates in our lots.

Parking is also looking at the possibility of adding a paystation in Lot 8.

Alderman Fleming expressed concern over the piecemeal approach being taken with parking and wants to open the discussion about bringing back the comprehensive parking analysis at the next meeting

### **9. Updates**

Transportation – In regards to the Divvy for every Evanstonian local business in the Main/Dempster mile donated a total of 25 donated bicycle helmets along with 20 that the city has for a total for 45 helmets available for residents of the program. Jessica also introduced Jim Hurley to the committee as he will cover for Jessica while she is out on maternity leave.

Parking – Looking to codify residential parking district in anticipation of 2019 renewal season at the next meeting

### **10. Adjournment**

**A Motion to adjourn was made by B. J. Miller seconded by T. Dubin at 7:43 P.M. A vote was called and then taken. Motion passed unanimously.**

The next Committee Meeting is October 24, 2018.