



## TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

6:00 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.

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

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Parking Manager Jill Velan, Transportation and Mobility Coordinator Jessica Hyink, Public Services Bureau Chief Edgar Cano

**PRESIDING MEMBER:** Ald. Revelle

---

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

Chairman Ald. Revelle declared a quorum at 6:05 P.M.

### 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2019

Typo on the vote for Item # 5 was addressed and will be changed in the final version.

#### Item 1

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

**A vote was called and taken. Motion passed unanimously (7-0).**

### 3. Citizen Comments

Dan Joseph talked about some new signage that was added by the CTA on the 206 route. He also talked about how he thinks the City could benefit if there was a Pace garage within the city limits as this would benefit the bus drivers and improve response times.

David Reynolds submitted an email that was read at the meeting about item # 6. An excerpt of email is as follows: *"Some loading zones in the city are proximate to pre-schools. It is difficult for a parent to drop off or pick up a child in three minutes. I'm sure the same is true for dropping off or picking up someone who is less mobile. To accommodate those situations it would help to extend the time limit to ten minutes.*

*Some blocks, such as the 1700 block of Maple, have mid-block loading zones. It seems to serve both sides of that block well. Please give thought to locating loading zones where they will be most effective rather than a set location policy"*

#### **4. Central Business District Parking Permit**

Parking Manager Jill Velan started with talking about how this item has been discussed in the past and staff was directed to come back with a cost for the permit. Staff has decided to recommend charging the same rate as the residential permit rate which scales based on whether you are required to pay a wheel tax or not (the total cost remains the same there is a difference in the breakdown of the cost).

Questions from the committee were if creating an ordinance requires an ordinance and where the permit would be valid.

Jill stated that the permit would work like other residential permits currently do. She also stated that past practice was for an ordinance be drafted for this type of permit, but that she could check with legal to determine if an ordinance is needed.

##### **Item 2**

**Motion to institute a parking permit pilot around the Central St business district be accepted with staff to determine the need for the next steps made by Alderman Wynne and seconded by B. J. Miller**

**A vote was called and taken. Motion passed 7-0**

#### **5. Overnight Restrictions in Downtown**

Parking Manager Jill Velan talked about the history of this request. This request stemmed from a company downtown that was looking to have the overnight parking restriction times changed to accommodate their business (1100 Davis). The business was asking for the times to be changed from a 3 am – 6 am ban to a 2 am – 5 am ban. Staff has been reviewing the request and some of the poor weather this winter afforded an opportunity for staff to survey if changes were feasible. After reviewing the request staff has decided to not recommend the changes and Public Services Bureau Chief Edgar Cano came to go over how staff came to this recommendation.

Edgar talked about for this particular case there is already a viable alternative less than a ½ block away. There are no overnight parking restrictions on Davis west of Oak or on Oak north of Davis. He also talked about the issues that arise from having these pockets of areas that the restrictions are different. He stated that these other areas make it difficult to come up with a viable route for staff to service the downtown area. He also talked about how the city already gets numerous noise complaints for any overnight work and that by having different times in different areas could lead to more issues.

The main question was if the entire overnight street operations could be changed to a 2 am – 5 am instead of the current 3 am – 6 pm.

Jill stated that staff looked at it but it wouldn't make sense at this time. She references that there are some businesses that are open till 2 am so then requests would be coming the other way and the City would be back at square one, Edgar also talked about the noise complaints for the earlier times.

No motion made as the committee decided to not make any changes to the existing ordinance.

## **6. Commercial Loading Zone Policy**

Parking Manager Jill Velan talked about how this issue has been talked about at previous meetings and that the main issue for the committee to decide is whether the process to determine if a loading zone should be established should be an administrative policy or if all loading zones requests should keep the same process and go to this committee then to city council and require an ordinance change.

Alderman Wynne asked why there has been an increase in loading zone requests.

Jill stated that a number of small businesses that do not have off street parking access are looking for relief for when they are doing their own deliveries. Jill also talked about how with the increase in ride share (Uber, Lyft, etc) and delivery companies (Grubhub, Amazon, etc) that these vehicles don't have somewhere to quickly legally park and they resort to double parking and how by designating loading zones may alleviate the situation.

Alderman Fleming asked about how this wouldn't just create free parking and be abused by people looking to get out of parking properly in a metered area.

Jill stated that the City could look at charging in the loading zone areas as if it were a metered space and enforce it that way.

Alderman Fleming asked about how many loading zones were currently downtown and where they are. Alderman Wynne talked about the need of a parking density analysis downtown.

Jill talked about how the parking was changed when Fountain Square was remodeled. A specific area was designated for a loading zone for use for the entire block and individual requests would no longer be taken for that area.

Alex talked about how maybe the City should designate where people are dropped off / picked up by ride shares. Terri talked about how new drivers to the area may not know the city well enough to know where the drop off points are. Alderman Wynne suggests that with these companies using geo-fencing that maybe this will become a possibility as the technology gets better.

Jill stated that we can bring the already standing requests back to the committee while we work on the new administrative policy.

Alderman Ann Rainey talked about how the request for a loading zone at 400 Howard has been pending for 4 months and that the area where the cab stand was removed would not be sufficient for her.

Jill stated that the issue with this request and why the former cab stand location was suggested was due to the bike lane on Howard. Howard has a no parking zone east of Chicago to the first alley and the loading zone would go in the first spaces east of the alley.

Alderman Wynne asks about what staff was looking for Jill stated that staff was looking for a recommendation on if determining loading zones should be an administrative policy or if all loading

zones requests should keep the same process and go to this committee then to city council and require an ordinance change.

Jill also stated that she would like to come up with a comprehensive policy that staff would use to determine where loading zones would go, and not necessarily install all of them but if the need arose then the City would already know where to place it.

Linda suggested using the various Business Associations when looking to help facilitate conversations with businesses in the area.

Several committee members also talked about how they like the idea of moving loading zones to a more administrative policy but would want to see the policy before it goes into effect.

Alderman Revelle talked about how the guidelines listed in the memo seem like a good starting point (sans the 3 minutes for drop offs).

Alderman Rainey speaks up again about how she has waited for 4 months for the loading zone request on 400 Howard. She stated that this is a 223 unit building and that would prefer 2 loading zone spaces. She references the former cab stand location east of the alley would not be sufficient and that even if a loading zone were placed there that people would still unload in front of the building. She stated that the bike lane needs to be moved to accommodate a loading zone in front of the building. She rescinded the request for a loading zone and stated that people would just continue to park illegally to load/unload at 415 Howard. She stated to not put a loading zone east of the alley in front of Harold's Chicken.

Transportation and Mobility Coordinator Jessica Hyink stated that changes on Howard were done in conjunction with Chicago and that federal grant money was used to redo the area and as a result changing the design would not likely be able to be done.

### **Item 3**

**Motion to recommend making the commercial loading zone policy administrative following the guidelines of the memo included in the agenda (with a change to increase the passenger loading time from 3 minutes) made by Alderman Wynne and seconded by B. J. Miller**

**A vote was called and taken. Motion passed 6-1 (Nay – Alderman Fleming)**

### **7. No Parking Anytime on Pitner Alley**

Alderman Fleming talked about the area in questions. On the 600 block of Pitner Alley (south of Cleveland) there is an issue with vehicles not abiding by the parking regulations. The area currently has an overnight parking restriction however it does not deter the area business from parking derelict vehicles that are in disrepair on the block. As it is the area is very narrow and emergency vehicles have difficulty access the area. She talked about this being a safety issue.

### **Item 4**

**Motion to recommend changing the parking on the 600 block of Pitner Alley (south of Cleveland) a no parking anytime area made by Alderman Wynne and seconded by T. Dubin  
A vote was called and taken. Motion passed 7-0**

### **8. Parklet Policy**

Transportation and Mobility Coordinator Jessica Hyink talked about her first attempt at creating a policy and using the policy adopted by San Francisco as a template. Although the City and San Francisco vary in many aspects, City staff recommends using the San Francisco parklet policy as a guide, due to its comprehensive nature. She was hoping that the committee could look over the San Francisco policy and let her know about any suggestions they may have she also plans to bring this item back to the committee at a future meeting.

### **9. Complete & Green Streets Policy Report**

Transportation and Mobility Coordinator Jessica Hyink talked about how previously she submitted a report that covered what was required by the CGS policy but that she feels that it may not have enough actionable information. Her goal is to modify the way that the City is collecting data so that the information gathered is more pertinent and easier to understand. She talked about some metrics that do work and how that is important to keep up going forward.

Alderman Revelle asked how often the committee would be updated.

Jessica stated that annual still works best when dealing with this type of data and when looking at how construction work is completed.

Alderman Fleming stated that the current policy is not good enough and that there are a fair amount of issues with it. She stated that the City does not use the policy properly and that the City did not write the policy like other municipalities did.

Jessica stated that that is good feedback, as since she wasn't here when the CGS policy was crafted that this type of feedback could help craft how the policy evolves. She also talked about how the 50/50 program had its issues.

Several committee members talked about how sidewalks do not have a priority and are overlooked when compared to alleys and streets.

### **11. Transportation Updates**

Transportation and Mobility Coordinator Jessica Hyink talked about the Pace bus route 208 will be converted from a flagged stop to a signed stop in March 2019. Route 213 was held back and may be changed to a signed only route in April. No word yet on the 215 Route.

### **12. Adjournment**

**A Motion to adjourn was made by L. Young and 2<sup>nd</sup> by T. Dubin at 7:31 P.M. A vote was called and then taken. Motion passed unanimously (7-0).**

The next Committee Meeting is March 20, 2019.