

Minutes of Committee
Monday, October 25, 2010
8:55 p.m.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

- 1) Oak Street Parking Status Update
- 2) Salt Creek Greenway Bike Trail
- 3) York High School Football Parking
- 4) Central Business District Parking System
- 5) Other Business

Members Present: Wagner, Nybo, Pezza

Elected Officials Present: Spencer, Healy (part), Kennedy (part)

City Staff Present: Kopp (part), Panico, Bacidore, Buenz, Borchert (part) Trosien (part),
B. Coulter (engineering consultant)

Guests: John Barrett, Barb Barrett, William C Ore, Agatha R. Ore, Dennis White, Mike Pusateri, Roxanne Pusateri, Mike Kroll, Ralph Cerrer, Jan Kuzniar, Jim Allen, Lt, Dan Focht, Kyle Salek, John Quigley, Barbara Hourehan, Tom Falkenberg, Patrick O'Malley, Michele DiCanio, Bob Hoel, Tom Paravola

DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS:

- Item #1 Kopp opened the discussion by addressing the Committee and the numerous residents from Oak Street who were present. He provided a historical overview of the Oak Street no parking sign request and the surveys conducted. Upon Staff review it was determined that the request was not a public safety or engineering issue, but a neighborhood issue. The floor was then opened to allow comments from the Oak street residents. The discussion then focused on the surveys results. Also, it was noted due to some confusion a number of residents changed their vote in favor of the “No Park Parking” signs. Several of those residents were present. There was then discussion on conducting an entirely new survey. Subsequent to further discussion the revised survey results were accepted by the Committee which reached the necessary threshold. The Committee directed Staff to draft a report for “No Park Parking ” signs for both sides of Oak street, north of Armitage per the original request.
- Item #2 Coulter addressed the Committee providing an overview of his report and recommendations (bike warning signs & stop signs, sidewalk connections and safety improvements to guardrails). During further discussion Coulter touched on a number of points of his analysis criteria; street characteristics, vehicular traffic volume & speed, crash history, on-street bicycle level of service and bicycle compatibility index. Based upon his analysis he found that there were no significant safety concerns identified regarding bike traffic on those streets connecting the Greenway trail. Healy expressed some concern that the data may not actually reflect traffic counts due to construction activity in the area. Coulter advised that a review of the suitability criteria be done in the future to identify any increase in use. Healy further advised the Committee that he will refer stop sign requests for the intersections of Rex & Montrose, and Rex & Vallette in the future. Subsequent to further discussion the Committee directed Staff to collaborate with the Elmhurst Park District to implement the recommendations contained in Coulter’s report.
- Item # 4 Note: Chairman Wagner moved up agenda item #4 to accommodate residents who were present.
- Wagner advised that this item was on the agenda for discussion, and was not an action item. He then opened the discussion providing residents the opportunity to respond to the proposed reduction of commuter parking spaces in the Adelaide deck. During this discussion Nybo advised that he was introducing a Committee report recommending the total number of commuter parking spaces at the Adelaide deck shall not be reduced. Trosien then addressed the Committee presenting the comprehensive review of the Elmhurst Central Business District (CBD) Public Parking analysis and proposed changes to the parking system. These include but are not limited to a redistribution of spaces throughout the CBD which allows for an increase number of commuter spots available south of the tracks, and a two permit system allowing for greater flexibility in parking in the CBD. Borchert advised that this was the first comprehensive analysis of CBD parking with a purpose of equity

considering the needs of all users of parking in the CBD. That it was a collaborative effort with the City's parking control personnel and City Centre representative T. Paravola.

During further discussion it was noted the proposed plan allowed for a number of employee designated parking spaces in the Adelaide deck, which has none now, as well as consumer (shopper) parking spaces. Paravola said the proposed plan allows for geographic diversity of parking for consumers, commuters and employees throughout the CBD.

The discussion then focused on the Adelaide deck and the proposed reduction in commuter spaces to allow for consumer and employee spaces. Pezza said she agrees with most of the proposed changes in the plan with the exception of those changes to the Adelaide deck. She believes that the reduction of 74 commuter spaces is excessive but understands the need for consumers and employee spaces south of the tracks, a compromise somewhere between 0 and 75 spaces. Pezza suggested that Staff review the possibility to relocate some of the proposed employee spaces from the Adelaide deck to the surface lot located at Park and Cottage Hill.

Subsequent to further discussion regarding the Adelaide deck, Nybo amended his report to reflect that a combination of commuter and daily fee parking spaces total to 251. Nybo and Pezza signed the amended report, Wagner declined to sign. The Committee directed Staff to prepare a draft report regarding the comprehensive CBD parking proposal for the next PA&S meeting which would allow for timely implementation and public notification of changes effective January 1, 2011.

Item #3 Subsequent to a brief discussion the Committee agreed to "No Parking During Football Games" signs posted on Berkley as was originally proposed and a review of these signs August 2011.

Item #5 Kopp addressed the Committee on behalf of Firefighters Focht and Salelc, who were present to request the posting of a tent in the City Centre for a cancer fundraising event sponsored by the Elmhurst Firefighters and hosted by Buffalo Wild Wings. Kopp further explained that this event was initially intended to be held inside Buffalo Wild Wings; however it has become so successful there is a need for more room. Kopp further advised that all the necessary conditions will be met as with other similar events regarding proper insurance waivers etc. Subsequent to further discussion the Committee supported the event.

The Committee was adjourned at 11:00 p.m.
Submitted by Dominic Panico, Deputy Chief