

MINUTES
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
August 17, 2016
City Council Chambers

A Regular Meeting of the Transportation Commission was called to order by Commission Chairman, Andrew Celentano at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 17, 2016 in the Council Chambers at Woodstock City Hall.

A roll call was taken.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Caron Wenzel, Mark Indyke, Susan Hudson, Jason Osborne and Chairman Andrew Celentano.

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Public Works Director Jeff Van Landuyt and Chief Deputy City Clerk Jane Howie

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Wenzel.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by M. Indyke, second by C. Wenzel to accept the June 15, 2016 Meeting Minutes as presented. Ayes: C. Wenzel, M. Indyke, S. Hudson, J. Osborne and Chairman A. Celentano. Nays: None. Absentees: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

FLOOR DISCUSSION:

1. Public Comments: None.

2. Commission Comments:

Commissioner Indyke brought up the Letter to the Editor that was recently in the Northwest Herald regarding the speed limit reduction on Route 14 from 50/55 MPH to 45 MPH. J. Osborne believes the speed reduction is due to the addition of curbing along the road. He mentioned that the same thing happened on Rakow Road in Crystal Lake a few years ago. S. Hudson wondered why they added curb. J. Osborne said it's often to help with the right-of-way. A. Celentano said, due to the expansion of the road, the curb helps to maintain the life of the road. J. Van Landuyt said it could also have something to do with stormwater collection, although he's not certain why the curbs were added. The Commission also discussed water recharge areas, the Kishwaukee River, and maintaining open areas along Route 14.

A. Celentano brought up etiquette of bicycle riders, or lack thereof, which he witnessed on several occasions while he was in New York this summer. Bikes are taking up lanes of traffic. In many areas they are installing concrete road barriers to segregate the bike lanes from the vehicle lanes. He also noticed parked cars acting as a barrier between bicyclists and vehicle traffic. Signage is posted for vehicle traffic as well as bicycle

traffic. It didn't appear that bicycle lights were required after dusk. There were numerous bicycle racks, and it seems like millennials are using bikes more than vehicles for travel. The bicycle is a lot more viable as they have a place to park, where having a vehicle may be used less because there's not as much parking available.

Fifteen students from Woodstock High School will be meeting with A. Celentano and J. Van Landuyt to discuss possible projects that the students can work on / assist with. The Commission will discuss possible projects and decide the best way to proceed. C. Wenzel asked if there are interested kids from Woodstock North High School, and if so, if it's possible to bus the kids to Woodstock High School to be included in the program: Project Lead the Way. A. Celentano said two years ago one student from WNHS was involved in the program. C. Wenzel said scheduling may be an issue to get the kids transported back and forth. A. Celentano would like to pursue the inclusion of Woodstock North High School students.

TRANSMITTALS: (no discussion or action requested)

1. Pavement Management Taskforce Report – the Report was shared with Commissioners.

2. Spreadsheet showing Pace ridership comparisons by month

PACE Route 807 & Route 808 – J. Osborne believes the average ridership is from people that use this program every day and it would be good to find out what days have the highest ridership.

The Commission asked if there's any coordination between MCRide and PACE. J. Osborne said perhaps someone could do a survey to find out cost per trip on MCRide and compare the results. A. Celentano said the lowest cost on Route 808, between Crystal Lake & Harvard, is \$12.00 on PACE. He believes the cost is \$16.00 per person per ride on MCRide. It depends on the number of riders. M. Indyke said it would be good to have a count on daily ridership vs. monthly ridership. Perhaps survey the riders to find out if riders prefer fixed rides vs requested routes.

3. MCRide Ridership Report 2016 – thru June

The Report, January through June 2016, includes Passenger Trip by Origin City and Distinct Riders; mostly between Crystal Lake and Woodstock.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Update of Master Bicycle Plan – Chapter 1

C. Wenzel said she thinks the City should have Ordinances so people have to follow traffic patterns. Safety comes first. Allow the police to ticket people if they don't wear helmets and adhere to the rules of the road. Education has to be a large part of the plan to maintain a safe community. J. Osborne said the community needs to strongly consider and encourage the development of a safe bicycle culture. S. Hudson said people would have to be ticketed if they do something wrong; then they'll start to pay attention. M. Indyke said perhaps this could be included in the school system during driver's license

education and testing. S. Hudson told about an experience with a bicyclist that wasn't paying attention and road across her path without looking. She said it was very frightening. J. Osborne said bicycle and pedestrian accidents are sometimes caused by the driver of a vehicle; however, some are caused by the cyclist or walker. What is the best way to encourage safe cycling? Drivers need to be clued in to cyclists. Always be aware of who and what's around you at all times. C. Wenzel said perhaps the City could add a bicycle safety class at the Recreation Center or at the library. The course could reinforce the need for cyclist to wear light or bright colored clothing, to use bicycle lights and reflectors, as well as teaching the rules of road. Going forward the Commission members can discuss ideas to include in a Bicycle Safety Ordinance.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Continued discussion about crossing IL Rt. 47 (bicycle/ pedestrians) September 2016
2. Update of Master Bicycle Plan – Chapter 2, September 2016
3. The Commission discussed Chapter One

Introduction of The Master Bicycle Plan and decided on some changes that want made. They wish to review other community's plans as they believe Woodstock's plan should be more specific. This plan consists of four chapters and a number of appendices which address the five "Es": Engineering, Education, Encouragement, Enforcement and Evaluation and Planning. The Commission wants to find out what is needed to meet the criteria for being designated as a "Bicycling Friendly Community" by the League of American Bicyclists. What are the goals of the League of American Bicyclists? The Commission will do some research to find out what's necessary.

The Commission believes it is in the City of Woodstock's best interest to be a bicycling friendly community. Perhaps a local bicycle group could give a presentation on how best to proceed. It would be necessary to have maps of designated bike routes as well as pavement markings signage along the route. The Commission asked J. Van Landuyt to find out if the Safe Routes to School program includes this type of information.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by M. Indyke, second by S. Hudson to adjourn this Regular Meeting of the Transportation Commission. Ayes: C. Wenzel, M. Indyke, S. Hudson, J. Osborne and Chairman A. Celentano. Nays: None. Absentees: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM until the next regular meeting of the Transportation Commission on Wednesday, September 21, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Howie
Chief Deputy City Clerk