

COLUMBUS TRANSPORTATION AND PEDESTRIAN COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
109 NORTH FRONT STREET, GROUND FLOOR, ROOM 100
TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2012
5:00 P.M

Present were:

Voting Members: Carr, Croasmun, Duguid, Simmons, Simonds, Stitt, Wood

Executive Secretary: Austin

Division of Mobility Options Staff: Bowman, Keeran, Lewis, Moorhead, Popa, Springer

Division of Planning and Operations Staff: Kendrick

Guests: Tony Borres, John Bennett

CALL TO ORDER: 5:05 p.m.

Introduction of New Member

Chairman Steve Simmons introduced and welcomed new Commissioner Lori J. Duguid.

MINUTES

Motion for approval of the July 10, 2012, minutes: Croasmun; 2nd, Carr. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

Residential Permit Parking Request – Leland Avenue

This issue was first brought to the Commission last month. At that time, the Commission asked staff to conduct another parking study and report back.

Keith Keeran gave a PowerPoint presentation. Copies of slides are available upon request. Based on the information gathered in the second parking study, staff's recommendation was to not approve residential permit parking as the parking criteria were not met.

Tony Borres, President of the Delawanda Residence Association, and John Bennett spoke in support of request.

Discussion.

Motion to approve staff's recommendation to deny the residential permit parking request: Stitt; 2nd, Croasmun. Motion carried.

Designate Bicycle Subcommittee Chair

Chairman Simmons requested a volunteer to serve as Chairperson of the Commission's Bicycle Subcommittee. Commissioner Duguid volunteered.

Motion to appoint Commissioner Lori Duguid as Chairperson of the Bicycle Subcommittee: Simmons; 2nd, Croasmun. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Informational Items

Bicycle Subcommittee Update

Daniel Moorhead gave update as follows on issues discussed at the July 25th Bicycle Subcommittee meeting:

2012 Columbus Recreation and Parks Projects Recreation and Parks Bike Share Briefing

Brad Westall, from the Department of Recreation and Parks, briefed the Subcommittee regarding projects for bike facilities that the Department of Recreation and Parks will be implementing both this year and beyond.

Mr. Westall also briefed the Subcommittee on the Bike Share Program for which there is a Request for Proposal outstanding that will be evaluated.

Hudson-Mock Connector Overview Olentangy-Alum Creek Connector Phase Two Overview

The consultant gave an overview to the Subcommittee about the Hudson-Mock Connector, a project to provide a bikeway corridor along Hudson Street and Mock Road between the Olentangy Trail and the Alum Creek Trail. Construction is expected to begin in 2014.

The consultant also gave an overview to the Subcommittee on the Olentangy-Alum Creek Connector Phase Two. It is a second phase to a bike route that was built last year that connected the Olentangy Trail and the Alum Creek Trail further north than the Hudson-Mock Connector. This Phase Two is to provide an alignment that is more east/west than what was accomplished with Phase One. It will include a shared-use path construction, where Phase One was only on-street. Construction for Phase Two is expected to begin in 2015.

The overviews communicated the preferred alignment as a result of the preliminary engineering process.

Downtown Action Plan

Staff invited the Subcommittee to take part in the public meeting about High Street parking. That meeting took place earlier this month.

Henderson Road Shared-Use Path Update

Staff gave an update to the Subcommittee on the Henderson Road Shared-Use Path Project. There are two segments to this project. One segment is out for construction and will be built soon. The segment is between Reed Road and Kenny Road. The other segment is between Kenny Road and Olentangy River Road. Construction for this segment is expected to begin in 2013.

Parking Code Amendment Update

Randy Bowman indicated that at last month's meeting, the Commission supported staff's recommendation to update the City's Parking Code. That update would create a new parking fine for parking up over a curb illegally on the tree lawn. Also, that parking code update would create fines for parking in a bike lane and parking in a shared-use path. Mr. Bowman reported City Council passed the Ordinance July 16th. The law will go into effect August 16th. The City will not issue tickets until September 16th. In the meantime, staff will send a final flier to Hague Avenue residents, and the Columbus Police Department and Parking Violations Bureau have been encouraged to give verbal warnings.

Downtown Action Plan (DAP) Update

Jessica Kendrick gave the update on this issue.

On-street Parking

Mrs. Kendrick indicated the public meeting regarding on-street parking on High Street was held August 2nd. Staff has received positive feedback from the business community. One concern, based on comments from the bicycling community, is the sharrow locations. Staff will meet August 29th with the Bicycle Subcommittee to discuss how to better address the sharrows on High Street.

Mrs. Kendrick indicated the nature of other comments was confusion or doubts. People do not understand how cars can park and busses can operate together. The comment period closed August 10. Work Orders are being prepared for City crews to install the parking meters. Meters should be installed by the end of 2012 or beginning of 2013. After installation, staff will monitor and tweak, if necessary, to ensure bus operation is not interrupted.

Downtown Action Plan (DAP) Update (continued)

Front/Marconi Conversion to Two-way Operation

Mrs. Kendrick indicated staff is wrapping up the preliminary layout and will begin design soon.

Broad Street

Mrs. Kendrick indicated this part of the DAP is currently in the analysis stage. Staff and consultants are determining how many travel lanes are needed for vehicles. Once that is determined, they will begin to determine what complete-street treatments should be implemented.

Discussion.

Near East and South Area Traffic Control Modification Update

Jessica Kendrick reported staff has met with the leadership from the Near East Area Commission. The next step is to attend, next month, the Livingston Avenue, Columbus Southside, and the Near East area commission meetings. There will be an open house later in September. Staff will seek this Commission's approval in October.

Parking Policy Update

Randy Bowman gave the update on this issue.

Loading Zone Policy

Mr. Bowman indicated staff met with representatives of the Short North Alliance and Capital Crossroads and reviewed the existing Loading Zone Policy and characteristics of loading zones. Staff will bring the proposed updated policy to this Commission in September or October.

On-street Handicap Parking Policy

The Ohio Legal Rights Services (OLRS) contacted staff and asked to review the policy. Staff is currently working through the comments from that group. Mr. Bowman will soon vet the draft policy with the Public Service Director, and may be able to bring the draft policy to this Commission in September.

Commissioner Simonds requested a staff member familiar with the On-street Handicap Parking Policy attend the Columbus Advisory Committee on Disability Issues meeting scheduled for August 23. He will email specifics of the meeting to Mr. Bowman and Mr. Keeran.

Parking Policy Update (continued)

Residential Permit Parking Policy

Randy Bowman indicated staff will brief the Italian Village Society on August 14th about the prospective changes to the Residential Permit Parking Policy. He indicated staff has received a petition from people in the neighborhood requesting the City stop issuing permits to employees of Short North businesses, as they believe it is adding congestion to the Italian Village side of High Street. This will also be discussed at the August 14 meeting. Mr. Bowman indicated he will suggest forming a focus group with representatives of the Short North Alliance, Italian Village Society, and the Italian Village Commission. He requested a volunteer to represent this Commission. Staff will brief the University Area Commission on the prospective changes on August 15th.

Commissioner Wood volunteered to represent the Commission on this issue.

Discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia R. Grove
Recording Secretary

Steve Simmons
Chairperson

Patricia A. Austin
Executive Secretary

THIS MEETING WAS RECORDED; RECORDING IS ON FILE
AT 109 NORTH FRONT STREET