CITY OF PEORIA – TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

AGENDA

TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2017

3:00 P.M.

COMMISSION MEETING – TO BE HELD AT CITY OF PEORIA DRIES LANE FACILITY CONFERENCE ROOM #113, 3505 N. DRIES LANE, PEORIA, ILLINOIS 61604. (309) 494-8800.

CITY OF PEORIA – TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

AGENDAS AND MINUTES

ISSUED BY:

JOE HUDSON, CHAIRMAN

VIA TRAFFIC ENGINEER NICK STOFFER

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

3505 N. DRIES LANE, PEORIA IL 61604

(309) 494-8800

INTERNET ADDRESS: www.peoriagov.org

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* CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS AN ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA SHOULD CONTACT A COMMISSION MEMBER PRIOR TO THE MEETING. ALL OTHER PUBLIC INPUT WILL BE HEARD UNDER PUBLIC COMMENT NEAR THE END OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING.

NOTE: THE ORDER IN WHICH AGENDA ITEMS ARE CONSIDERED MAY BE MOVED FORWARD OR DELAYED BY AT LEAST 2/3 VOTE OF THE COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT.

THE CITY OF PEORIA – TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETS IN REGULAR BUSINESS SESSIONS THE THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 3:00 PM AT 3505 N DRIES LANE CONFERENCE ROOM #113, PEORIA, ILLINOIS. (309) 494-8800.

NOTICES OF ANY SPECIAL MEETING ARE POSTED AT LEAST 48 HOURS PRIOR.
City of Peoria – Transportation Commission
Dries Lane, Conference Room
3:00 PM

Roll Call

Announcements, Etc.

- Public Works Open House – Thursday, May 25th from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM at 3505 N. Dries Lane.
- Peoria Bike Share Pilot

Minutes
Regular Meeting of April 18, 2017

Agenda Items

Item No. 1: Consideration of the Following Request(s) Amending the Traffic Code of the City of Peoria, As Needed:

Item No. 2: Update and Discussion Concerning the Design of Western Avenue Improvement from Lincoln Avenue to Adam Street

Item No. 3: Update and Discussion Concerning the Design of Northmoor Road Improvement from University Street to Allen Street.

Item No. 4: Discussion of Transportation Commission Work Items:

A. Discussion and Development of a Traffic Calming Policy, Including Content and Schedule for Completion:

Unfinished Business

New Business

Public Comment

Next Meeting
Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Adjournment
A Regular Meeting of the City of Peoria’s Transportation Commission convened at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 18, 2017, at the Lester D. Bergsten Operations & Maintenance Facility located at 3505 N. Dries Lane, Peoria, Illinois.

CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order showed the following Transportation Commission Members in attendance:

**Commissioners Present:** Chairman Joe Hudson, Commissioner Bernie Goitein, Commissioner Brandon Lott, Commissioner Lon Lyons, Commissioner Patrick McNamara, and Commissioner David Smesrud - 6.

**Commissioners Absent:** Commissioner Dan Adler, Commissioner George Ghareeb, Commissioner Nathaniel Herz, Commissioner Joe Messmore, and Commissioner Art Remsik - 5.

Others in attendance included Mr. Joe Alexander, Mr. Bradley Dunham, Ms. Meliss Klabel, Mr. Roger Sparks, Mr. Jon Walker, Mrs. Angie Walker, Mr. Michael Freilinger, Mr. Travis Mohlenbrink, Mr. Nick Vlamos, and Public Works Administrative Specialist Darcy Sloter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, ETC.

- Reminder of the National Public Works Week open house.

MINUTES

Commissioner Lyons moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Transportation Commission held on February 21, 2017, as printed; seconded by Commissioner Lott.

Approved by unanimous viva voce vote.

DISCUSSION NOTES

Discussion notes from the Complete Streets Seminar held on March 21, 2017 were received and filed.

**ITEM NO. 1:** CONSIDERATION of the Following Request(s) AMENDING the TRAFFIC CODE of the City of Peoria, As Needed:

A. UPDATE: Information as requested for NORTH ORANGE PRAIRIE RD (War Memorial Drive to Fieldstone Drive) from 40 MPH to 30 MPH [District 5];

Mr. Stoffer outlined the request and handed out to the Commission the Police Enforcement Report from February 2017 and a report detailing the crash reports filed on Orange Prairie between War Memorial Drive and Charter Oak Road from the last 3 years, as requested at the March meeting. This information was discussed with the Commission.
Mr. Brad Dunham, 5401 W Stonebridge Court, Peoria, thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity again address the matter. He reiterated that he felt that vehicles were speeding on Orange Prairie and requested some type of signage and that traffic calming would be more effective.

Mr. Stoffer agreed that the road was overdesigned for the amount of traffic and that it would function with a reduction to two (2) travel lanes.

Commissioner McNamara questioned if there was turn lane at this location and if additional signage encouraging residents to slow down would be the first step.

Mr. Dunham stated that most of the traffic in this area were the residents that lived in the area.

Commissioner McNamara felt that the data supported the request.

Commissioner Lyons questioned if people were speeding up the hill as well.

Commissioner McNamara said that feedback signs would be appropriate for this location.

Mr. Stoffer said that he would check into this issue further to see if feedback signs could be placed in the budget.

Mr. Roger Sparks questioned the ability to close off each lane with concrete barriers to reduce the speed.

Mr. Stoffer said that it would not make him feel comfortable doing that and he would work with the street division to see what could be done. He said that the goal would be to road diet this roadway with bike lanes, which would be in accordance to the Bike Plan, but that work to the surface would be needed first.

Commissioner McNamara moved to install some advanced signs and feedback signs as an initial effort to address the petitioners concerns; seconded by Commissioner Lott. Noted that the speed limit remain at 40 mph, as currently posted.

Approved by roll call vote.
   Yeas: Hudson, Goitein, Lott, McNamara, Smesrud – 5
   Nays: Lyons – 1
   Approved by viva voce vote

Mr. Dunham then left the meeting.

B. Petition and Letter to City Manager Urich from DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF PEORIA to Establish TWO-HOUR PARKING from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Weekdays in the WAREHOUSE DISTRICT, on SW ADAMS STREET (Between Spencer and Walnut) and on SPENCER, PERSIMMON, MAPLE, MAY, OAK, STATE & WALNUT STREETS (Between SW Washington Street and SW Jefferson Avenue), with attached Location Maps (Amends Schedule E). [District 1]

Mr. Stoffer explained that this item had been deferred from the last meeting to allow Mr. Michael Freilinger from the Downtown Development Corporation to attend and answer questions from the Commission.
Commissioner Lott asked what options individuals would have if they want to spend 3 hours in a business.

Mr. Freilinger stated that they have the option of on-street parking on Jefferson Ave. and Washington St. The City does have a parcel next to State St. and Adams St., which was vacant. Alternatives would be parking on Washington St. or Jefferson Ave. He noted that some businesses had parking and others did not. He said the purpose of the petition was to have more turn-over for customers parking on the street. He indicated that he would continue to work with the City to provide additional parking for customers and employees.

Commissioner McNamara said that additional input was needed from individuals that were struggling with the two-hour time limit.

Ms. Meliss Klabel, owner of Waxology by Meliss, expressed concern with the two-hour limit for her clients. She emphasized that this would be excessive for her clients to park in the lots that were not close to the stairs.

Mr. Travis Mohlenbrink, owner of Sugar, stated that he had some customers that had all day meetings. He noted that it was part of doing business, if there were no designated parking spots. He stated that parking was a huge problem in this area and that some neighboring businesses park their vehicles at the meters all day, which could be used for potential customers. He was in favor of the proposed two-hour parking limit.

John & Angie Walker, Zion & Rambler in the 800 block, noted that many of the employees park at the meters during the day; therefore, they felt the two-hour parking limit would be beneficial and create some turnover during the weekday.

In discussion with Commissioner Lott regarding week-day parking for baseball games, Mr. Walker explained that Jefferson Ave. was not included the proposal; therefore, parking would be available.

Mr. Sparks encouraged people to take the bus to free up parking spaces and stated that businesses should offer some type of incentives. He stated that the handicap spaces were very limited and noted that spaces could be metered.

Mr. Stoffer clarified that the yellow & black placards would be exempt from feeding the meter and stated that this item could be reviewed further at a later date. However, he said the City was not considering metering this location at this time.

Commissioner Lott clarified that this was two-hour free parking and wondered if it would ever be metered.

Mr. Stoffer said that The City would allow the businesses to dictate the need.

Mr. Freilinger hoped that parking would be free on the street. He stated that parking was a commodity and as long as it was free people would not pay for it. He pointed out that the total cost to lease the space at 726 SW Adams was $1000 per month. He anticipated that these revenues would provide some additional parking in the future. He said he felt that individuals should be able shop and spend a few hours in the downtown area.
Mr. Stoffer stated that some streets were too narrow and parking would not be provided. He also stated that some of the streets had time limits posted.

Commissioner Lyons moved to approve the two-hour parking limit from 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.; seconded by Commissioner McNamara.

Motion was approved by viva voce vote.

Commissioner Goitein added that the discussion was focused on the parking and turnover issues, which he said he felt that would not cause congestion problems for the great majority of traffic and he’s glad of that.

C. Request from Staff with concurrence from Peoria Public Schools staff to remove obsolete school Flashers at intersections of PERRY & HANCOCK and MONROE & HANCOCK and replace with crosswalk signage. [District 1]

Mr. Stoffer gave a brief overview of the issues. Flashers were installed when there was a school at this location. The school had been removed and there was no school route at these locations, he said. Additionally, he stated that the City had a monthly electricity bill for these facilities.

Mr. Stoffer explained that the School District had been contacted and they were not against removing the flashers and replacing them with crosswalk signs.

Commissioner McNamara asked if there was any direction from the State or another organization to suggest removal of these in general and replacing them.

Mr. Stoffer was not aware of State or Federal guidance on the old style beacon flashers, but the City had recently been using pedestrian activated rapid flashing LEDs like the ones in front of Landmark.

Commissioner McNamara moved to remove the flashers at Perry & Hancock and Monroe & Hancock; seconded by Commissioner Smesrud.

Approved by viva voce vote.

D. Request from Peoria Public Schools to change the stop configuration at the intersection of FOLKERS and FREMONT (Amends Schedule J – All Way Stop). [District 1]

Mr. Stoffer introduced Mr. Stephen Letsky Civil Engineer II, who is the project engineer on the Folkers Improvement Project.

Mr. Letsky gave a brief overview of the project and the purpose for the request to remove the signage. Terra, the City’s consultant engineer, had been working on the reconstruction design. He explained that the proposed design would clean up the offset intersection of Folkers and Fremont and make it safer by focusing the effort on one of the offsets.

Commissioner McNamara questioned if the school was in favor of the request and expressed concerned regarding safety for the students.
In discussion with Commissioner Lyons, Mr. Letsky explained what was being done differently. Currently the only cross walk at this intersection was in the middle of the offset intersection and the stop signs were on the outsides. In the proposed all traffic would have to stop at the crosswalk location.

In discussion with Commissioner Lott regarding funding to realign the streets, Mr. Letsky said that it had been discussed, but School's advisors did not think that it was as important at this point.

Mr. Letsky noted that the City and Terra has had conversations with multiple people in Peoria Public Schools and they are in agreement with this proposal. Currently the only cross walk was in the middle of the two intersections, and the new design would cause cars to stop for pedestrians.

Commissioner McNamara moved to change the stop sign configuration at the intersection of Folkers and Humboldt; seconded Commissioner Lott.

Approved by viva voce vote

E. Request from Peoria Public Schools to change the stop configuration to all-way stop at the intersection of FOLKERS and HUMBOLDT (Amends Schedule J – All Way Stop).

Mr. Letsky gave a brief overview of the proposed changes to this intersection, which was at the same school as 'D'. ADA style inlay of brick to outline the crossing pads, bump in, table top. Similar to the enhancements that were done at the Glen Oak, table top the top intersection on Wisconsin Avenue. He stated that this would create more of a courtyard and would include benches, trash receptacles and walls. He noted that this would also help speed related issues in this area.

Mr. Sparks questioned if this location was a bus route.

Mr. Joe Alexander with Citylink noted that the bus route was located on Laramie.

Commissioner Goitein noted that this was a low traffic area.

Chairman Hudson questioned if sidewalks would be installed on the other side of the street.

Mr. Stoffer stated that sidewalks would be installed on the east and west sides of the street and enhancement on north side of school; also, curb would be placed on the north side of Latrobe to prevent parking on the sidewalks.

Commissioner Lyons moved to approve the request from Peoria Public Schools to change the stop configuration to all-way stop at the intersection of Folkers and Humboldt (Amends Schedule J – All Way Stop); seconded by Commissioner Goitein.

Approved by viva voce vote.
Commissioner McNamara asked to see a check list for complete streets and would like to review several projects at the next scheduled meeting. He stated that would give the Commission an opportunity to see the checklist in use and its effectiveness.

**ITEM NO. 2: REVIEW and DISCUSSION of BICYCLE WAYFINDING PLAN, with RECOMMENDATION to CITY COUNCIL for ADOPTION.**

A Bicycle Wayfinding Plan has been developed for the City by Alta Planning + Design. This plan will help guide staff for location and styles of wayfinding signage for bicycle routes and trails. Copies of the draft guidebook have been distributed to the Commission for discussion and recommendation to City Council.

Mr. Stoffer gave a brief update and noted that staff would be taking this item to City Council for approval at the next scheduled Council meeting. He gave background information concerning the funding for this project through PPUATS, the public process and the steering Committee. He discussed the deliverable of the plan, which was the Wayfinding Guidebook.

Commissioner McNamara questioned if the City had a grant writer on staff. The Commission discussed possible sources for additional money for the signs.

Mr. Stoffer stated that this was a guide and that implementation could be done as we add facilities or have available funding.

Commissioner Goitein asked about wayfinding principles and asked to add one more to integrate safety for the cyclist. He requested that non-arterial routes for the cyclist be considered to add to page 2 of Chapter 2 in the Guidebook.

Mr. Stoffer stated that he would discuss this option with the consultant and that adding something on the line of non-arterial routes would be preferred unless facilities were provided.

Commissioner Lott moved to recommend that Wayfinding proposal be amended to include the non-arterial routes for cyclist and submitted to the City Council for approval; seconded by Commissioner McNamara.

Approved by viva voce vote

**ITEM No. 3: DISCUSSION of Transportation Commission WORK ITEMS:**

DISCUSSION and DEVELOPMENT of a TRAFFIC CALMING POLICY, Including Content and Schedule for Completion:

Mr. Stoffer distributed a handout regarding the Traffic Calming Policy Preparation said that he has not been able to do anything with it as of yet. He also recommended that everyone read up on the material from last meeting for the next meeting.

There were comments that we need to get some feedback from the Commission that they will be planning to attend the meeting because only having six at a meeting is not worth holding a meeting.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Link to Vision Zero: http://visionzeronetwork.org/about/what-is-vision-zero/ was forwarded to the Commission for their use.

Complete Streets Seminar Update

Commissioner McNamara requested a brief update on the Complete Streets Seminar.

Mr. Stoffer gave a brief overview of the Complete Streets Seminar and the workshop. The first session was an overview and the next day was a workshop, which included a majority of consultant engineers and City Staff engineers and planners. After reviewing the City plan the group took a walking tour to look at places which have not had the methods done yet to gather ideas.

Commissioner McNamara asked about the streetscape plan.

Mr. Stoffer briefly discussed this as well. He stated that approximately 100 people attended.

Commissioner Goitein stated that there could be multiple solutions depending on the streets and the use of the streets.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Rogers Sparks stated he was very happy with the bike lane on East Forest Hill; however, at 205 E Forest Hill Apartments the driveway comes out to the curb and the sidewalk was in disrepair and has too much of a slope. He believed that the sidewalks needed to be repaired.

He also asked that Wisconsin from Glen Oak to War Memorial Drive have a bike lane as it is also a bike route.

NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2017

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner McNamara moved to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Lyons.

Approved by viva voce vote.

The Meeting Adjourned at 4:55 PM

_________________________________    ______________________________________
Chairman Joe Hudson                     Nick Stoffer, Traffic Engineer