



## **TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, October 24, 2018

6:00 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.

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

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ald. Revelle

**STAFF PRESENT:** Parking Manager Jill Velan, Alderman Suffredin

**PRESIDING MEMBER:** Ald. Wynne

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

Chairman Ald. Wynne declared a quorum at 6:00 P.M.

### **2. Citizen Comments**

There were numerous comments about the current status of District S. The main issues raised included the street being too narrow, reversing the previous due process for the area. There were also comments from a resident who lives in an adjacent area who says that he thinks that the current restrictions are unfair for the other residents in the area. This resident also gave the committee a letter that he wanted added to the official record.

The second item that was raised by citizen comments were a reaction to an item from the September meeting. Some area employees are worried that changing Lot 5 to a pay lot would have an adverse impact on the businesses in the area. The comments suggested that they felt that the proper due diligence wasn't done prior to any changes.

### **3. Approval of Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2018**

#### **Item 1**

**Motion to approve made by Alderman Fleming and seconded by B. J. Miller**

**A vote was called and taken. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.**

### **4. 2019 Meeting Dates**

The March 2019 meeting date was in question due to spring break in District 65. The committee chose March 20, 2019 as the meeting date

#### **Item 2**

**Motion to adopt 2019 meeting dates by Alderman Fleming and seconded by B. J. Miller**

**A vote was called and taken. Motion passed 6-0.**

## **5. 2018 Holiday Parking**

Parking Manager Jill Velan went over how holiday parking was done in the past. In the past free parking was offered mainly in the garages in the evening and on Saturdays. The approximate cost to the city is about \$50,000 per year. As an alternative this year the suggestion is use the Park Evanston app to offer validated parking that can be handed out to businesses. These one-time validation codes would be worth up to 2 hours of parking in any metered spot on the current or a subsequent visit. This could also help to promote use of the app going forward. Codes could also be generated for use in the parking garages. Some questions were raised about potential costs and how people who don't use smart phones would take advantage of the program. Potential costs would be difficult to project but the city does anticipate a large savings. Also the city would provide validation cards for use at the downtown garages for up to 2 hours of free parking. Alderman Fleming and Alderman Wynne bring up Surface lots outside of downtown that were added to the previous holiday parking program and through the discussion they would like staff to bring alternatives to the APW committee meeting along with this revised holiday parking plan.

### **Item 3**

**Motion to approve revamped Holiday Parking for 2018 with recommendation to suggest alternatives for the three previously included surface lots made by Alderman Fleming and seconded by T. Dubin**

**A vote was called and taken. Motion passed 6-0.**

## **6. 10-11-17 Schedule XVII; (D.1) Parked in violation of street cleaning regulations**

Parking Manager Jill Velan goes over the current street cleaning policy, including the current cost of a street cleaning ticket (\$40) and the process of towing vehicles in violation on streets where there is one sided parking on Mondays. With the current towing operations all on duty Parking Enforcement Officers (PEO's) are assigned to perform street cleaning tows every applicable Monday and on average 8 to 10 vehicles are towed. This amounts to approximately 140 vehicles towed per month.

This adds extra strain to residents as on top of the ticket amount (\$40) the violator also needs to pay for the actual tow (\$150) plus any applicable storage fees to have the vehicle released. The current street cleaning violation of \$40.00 does not even cover the labor costs for this intensive process. To compare on all other regular street cleaning days PEO's only issue parking citations to violators and are able to enforce other regulations.

The recommendation is to increase the cost of the violation for all street cleaning violators to \$100 for the initial fine with an escalation of \$50 if the violation is not paid within 21 days, also staff would recommend ending the automatic street cleaning tows from one sided streets on Mondays. Any areas that are still showing noncompliance could have special posting set up for towing to ensure that streets are cleaned in a timely manner.

Various committee members agree with no longer towing on Mondays, however, Alex A. Añón asked how the \$100 price point was reached. Jill stated that we wanted to set the fine amount at a point that would help ensure compliance. The fine increased from \$35 to \$40 this year and the average number of tickets actually went up (from 2356 in 2017 to 2399 in 2018). Alderman Fleming

also expresses that the \$100 amount is too high and suggests more incremental increases. Linda Young also suggests that the city looks at the way signage is done to make sure that when tows are happening it is more evident to everyone parking in a given area. Finally Alderman Wynne suggests that the amount be amended to \$75 for the initial fine for 2019 and to re-evaluate based on compliance next year. She also asks for a round of warning and flyers to get the word out at the beginning of the street cleaning season in 2019.

**Item 4**

**Motion to approve update street cleaning policy to remove automatic street cleaning tows and to increase the street cleaning fine to a \$75 initial fine (with an escalation of \$50 if not paid within 21 days) made by Alderman Fleming and seconded by T. Dubin**

**A vote was called and taken. Motion passed 6-0.**

**7. 10-11-18 Schedule XVIII; Residents Parking Only District S - For Action**

Parking Manager Jill Velan the city started a survey in the area after the issue was originally brought to the committee back in April 2018. The survey was completed in June 2018 and was included with the packet along with some previous surveys that were completed in previous years (2011). In the most recent survey we didn't find any streets that would meet the minimum requirements to qualify for a district. The 2600 block of Hurd was used as a direct comparison from 2011 to 2018 parking usage has decreased. This is also evident based on the occupancy levels of the surrounding streets.

Alderman Suffredin starts by talking about how he was open to all options in the area and that the residents of 2500 Hurd would prefer to keep things the way they are. He believes that opening up the area to Evanston residents who have paid a wheel tax would be the way to move forward in this area for 6 months and then the issue could be revisited.

Linda Young asks if people who work in the area would be able to park there.

Alderman Suffredin stated if they are Evanston residents and they have paid a wheel tax then yes. He feels that all streets that have a restriction should be reevaluated and looked at as parking trends and needs evolve and change.

Alderman Fleming spoke about how a comprehensive study is needed as the current piecemeal approach isn't enough. She stated we should revisit past choices to see if restrictions should stay.

Alderman Wynne stated that based on the results provided that opening the parking on the 2500 block of Hurd should not be affected and that a 6 month pilot sounds good and it should go to the council for further discussion.

**Item 5**

**Motion to accept changing the S district on Hurd to an EVS district made by Alderman Fleming and seconded by Alderman Wynne**

**A vote was called and taken. Motion passed 6-0.**

**8. 10-4-5-2 Parking in Predominately Residential Areas and 10-4-5-3 Parking of Commercial Vehicles and Buses – For Action**

J. Velan started by going over the current restriction that vehicles that do not have passenger plates are restricted from parking on some streets based on their classification. This has become a problem due the increased saturation of pickup trucks in the market. In Illinois a pickup truck is classified as a commercial vehicle based on the type of plate that is issued and that makes these types of vehicles ineligible to park on passenger vehicle parking only (PVPO) streets anytime and unable to park on residential streets overnight. The recommendation would be to allow vehicle that are being used as a passenger vehicle to be allowed to park in residential areas (as long as there is no advertisement on the vehicle). Vehicles with an extended covered cab would also be allowed. The question was brought up about RV's and it was determined that they would not be exempt and would still need to follow the current procedures (obtaining an RV permit).

**Item 6**

**Motion to approve allowing parking of pickup trucks and vehicles with extended covered cabs on residential streets made by Alderman Fleming and seconded by Alderman Wynne  
A vote was called and taken. Motion passed 6-0.**

**9. Adjournment**

**A Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Wynne at 7:29 P.M. A vote was called and then taken. Motion passed unanimously.**

The next Committee Meeting is November 28, 2018.