



## CITY OF WAUWATOSA

7725 WEST NORTH AVENUE

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### **TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Tuesday, July 25, 2006**

PRESENT: Alds. Donegan, Grimm, Herzog, Sullivan, Treis -5

ALSO

PRESENT: W. Kappel, Director of Public Works; Chief B. Weber, Police Dept.; Ald. Didier

Ald. Sullivan as Chair called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

#### **Report on 90-Day Trial of Two-Hour Parking on N. 118th Street South of W. North Avenue**

Mr. Kappel reported on completion of a 90-day trial of two-hour parking restrictions in front of 2243 N. 118th Street. The resident at this address has informed him that the change has not solved all of the problems with parked cars, but it has helped and they would like to retain the restrictions.

Moved by Ald. Herzog, seconded by Ald. Donegan to recommend to Council introduction of an ordinance implementing a two-hour parking zone from the north end of the property at 2243 N. 118th Street to the south end of the driveway at 2229 N. 118th Street. Ayes: 5

#### **Parking Restrictions on W. North Avenue between N. 84th and N. 86th Street**

The committee reviewed a memo from the Director of Public Works regarding complaints from residents about all day parking on W. Meinecke Avenue between N. 85th and N. 88th Streets by employees of the Sendik's store on North Avenue. In an effort to provide some relief to Meinecke Avenue residents and still provide some parking for employees, Mr. Kappel recommended a 90-day trial of removal of some of the restrictions along the south side of North Avenue between N. 84th and N. 86th Streets and the north side of North Avenue between N. 84th and N. 85th Streets, with the exception of any bus stop areas. This would accommodate 8-10 cars and would probably also facilitate some traffic calming. Intersections would be left open to provide space for traffic to move around left-turning vehicles.

People who would be affected by this change have been contacted. Mr. Kappel reported that he received a phone call in opposition from the owner of 8413-17 W. North Avenue and a call from the owner at 8431 stating that he had absolutely no objection to the plan. The areas of dwelling units most affected are multi-family properties where there is generally little daytime parking. If this 90-day trial is approved and is successful, no changes are anticipated on Meinecke Avenue.

The following residents/business owners commented on the proposed changes:

Mike Savic, 8421 W. North Ave.  
Gerg Eisold, 8413 W. North Ave.  
Elizabeth Schick, 8407 W. North Ave.  
Chris Markakis, owner of hair salon at  
8415 W. North Ave.

Tom Gerlach, Wisconsin Garden & Pet,  
8520 W. North Ave.

Pam Wu, 2377 N. 86th St.

Helen Tsatis, 8735 W. Meinecke Ave.

\*Lorraine Mierow, 8608 W. Meinecke Ave.

\*Geri Seidenstricker, 2405 Pasadena Blvd.

Lynn Klein, 2333 Pasadena Blvd.

\*provided photos of parking conditions on  
Meinecke Avenue

Comments included the following:

- Issues over a shared driveway will arise again with these changes.
- There will be no opportunity for guests or customers of businesses to park.
- Eliminate two-hour parking in front of Sendik's and make those customers walk farther rather than customers of other businesses.
- Older hair salon clients will be lost if they have to park far away, and it would also eliminate walk-in clients.
- Would deter eastbound customers who park across the street from patronizing Wisconsin Garden & Pet
- It is not fair to place the problems of a new business in front of businesses that have been there for years.
- There should be some restrictions on Meinecke—perhaps one side with switching on even and odd dates.
- Opening space on North Avenue for 10 cars is not sufficient.
- Workers in downtown Milwaukee have to walk many blocks from their parking place to their workplace.
- The problem involves employees of other businesses as well, including the bank and dental offices. Those businesses should find a property where employees can park.
- Some drivers park in front of doorways or at the edge of driveways and are not courteous to residents.
- On an average weekend there are 24 cars parked on Meinecke starting west of 86th Street and up to Pasadena. Another resident counted 25-30 parked cars in the area at one time.
- Besides being a nuisance and detracting from homes on Meinecke, there are also problems with fire truck passage, deliveries, litter, and noise.
- Opening up parking on North Avenue is not the only solution. In another part of the country, a similar problem was resolved by purchasing a parking lot and shuttling employees.
- A creative solution is needed—perhaps Colony Camera would like to sell their property or the city could try to come up with something.
- School children are endangered by parking on Meinecke and drivers that don't obey stop signs. Many school people park between 88th and 89th Streets.
- Parking on Meinecke inhibits street cleanup and plowing.
- Perhaps Sendik's employees could be shuttled from the city hall parking lot.
- Delivery trucks will have to double park on North Avenue.

Kevin Oberdorf, manager of Sendik's, 8616 W. North Avenue, said that they have tried to work things out and do care and want to find a solution. He is disappointed to hear of employees acting in the ways reported by residents.

The Chair commented that the long-term solution seems to be cooperatively finding some location where employees of North Avenue businesses could park and establishing some kind of shuttle system. Two-hour restrictions on Meinecke Avenue may be merited.

Moved by Ald. Treis, seconded by Ald. Grimm to leave any restrictions  
on North Avenue as they now exist and review the Meinecke Avenue

situation at the next regular meeting –

Ald. Herzog said that he has been trying to find a solution since he first heard of this problem in October of 2004. He noted that parking on Meinecke Avenue cannot be pursued at this meeting because it is not on the agenda. Some neighbors may want that change and others may not, but it would just move the problem somewhere else.

Ald. Herzog asked if there is any portion of North Avenue where there would be no objection to lifting restrictions. Mr. Kappel said he has not heard anything from the north side of the street between 84th and 85th Streets, which could accommodate 4-6 cars. Also, there would be no objection from the owner at 8431. Mr. Oberdorf indicated that those areas would not affect Wisconsin Garden & Pet.

With consent of the second, the motion was amended by Ald. Herzog to move that restrictions be lifted from the north side of W. North Avenue between N. 84th and N. 85th Streets, with the exception of the bus stop area, under a 90-day trial, and to review the Meinecke Avenue situation at the next regular meeting –

The Chair said that in the East Town area of North Avenue, efforts were specifically made to keep employees from parking in front of businesses so that those spaces would be available to customers. He will not support the amended motion, which seems to be doing the opposite. This is an opportunity to try something that would just affect Sendik's, he felt.

Ald. Herzog noted that there is a good-sized parking lot behind the apartment building at this location.

Vote on the motion, Ayes: 4; Noes: 1 (Sullivan)

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk  
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

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