



CITY OF WAUWATOSA

7725 WEST NORTH AVENUE

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TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday, November 14, 2006

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

ALSO

PRESENT: W. Kappel, Dir. of Public works

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

Status Report on Parking in the Area of W. North and W. Meinecke Avenues, N. 84th to N. 88th Streets

Mr. Kappel referred to a color-coded map showing existing parking restrictions in the area of W. North and W. Meinecke Avenues from N. 84th to N. 88th Streets. He reported that he has asked Sendik's to reconsider their policy of not allowing their employees to park in their lot. Based on his observations, he believes they could easily accommodate the cars of six employees who start between 5 and 6 a.m. and leave between 1 and 2 p.m. He has not yet received a response to that request.

Although some all-day parking has been made available on both sides of North Avenue and on 88th Street, Mr. Kappel reported that there is still a problem with 6-12 cars on any given day. About three cars park east of the restrictions on Meinecke Avenue, three park on 86th Street north of Meinecke, and 6-7 park in the 2400 block of Pasadena Boulevard on a daily basis. There have still been some complaints from residents about this situation. It is not only Sendik's employees who park on these streets, Mr. Kappel noted.

Carmen Terlizzi, 2420 Pasadena Boulevard; Dick Profio, 2421 Pasadena Boulevard, and Ellen Mary Raster, 2415 Pasadena Boulevard, related problems with cars parked in front of their homes every day. They spoke of safety concerns in connection with leaf piles and the number of small children in the area and commented that it would be helpful if all-day parking could be spread out more. Ms. Raster suggested using a decal system assigning employees where to park as a temporary means of spreading out parking. Greg Eisold of Ace Drapery, 8413 W. North Avenue, said that all-day parking is taking up all of his customers' spots, which he feels is unfair. He would like to see two-hour parking returned in that area.

Mr. Kappel said that allowing some employees to park in the Sendik's would help reduce the size of the problem. Removing the remainder of the two-hour restriction in front of the store could also be done and would actually restore parking to what was in place when the store first opened. Sendik's could also be encouraged to look into working out an agreement on private off-street parking in the area.

Ald. Herzog commented on efforts to address this problem since Sendik's first opened about two years ago. It was hoped that opening spaces along North Avenue would help with the problem of parking on other city streets. Instituting two-hour parking on Pasadena would stop all-day parking there but would also impact

residents, he noted. The complaints he has received have not necessarily been that someone is parking in front of a house but that it is all day every day. It involves not just Sendik's employees but also employees of North Shore Bank and other businesses. The success of City Market may also be an element. A piecemeal approach is probably what is needed—finding a little parking here and there. If asking Sendik's to allow some employees to park in the lot doesn't work, the next step could be going directly to the employees and spelling out other places to park that they may not be aware of, perhaps by means of a map similar to that prepared by Mr. Kappel for this meeting. Ald. Herzog expressed appreciation for the neighbors' patience as a solution is being worked out.

Moved by Ald. Herzog, seconded by Ald. Treis to encourage Sendik's to allow employees to park in their lot, at least for the morning shift, and to work with the employees to inform them of neighborhood availability of all-day parking and encourage them to move around from day to day –

Ald. Herzog said that removing the remaining two-hour parking in front of Sendik's would be a next step, if needed.

Vote on the motion, Ayes: 5

90-Day Trial – Parking Changes on W. North Avenue from N. 84th Street West to Bus Stop

Mr. Kappel reported that, under a 90-day trial that is now expiring, a two-hour restriction was removed from the north side of W. North Avenue from N. 84th Street to about 80 feet east of 85th Street. This is directly across from Ace Drapery at 8413 W. North Avenue, whose owner states that he is losing business due to the loss of two or three parking spaces there. Mr. Kappel said that the use of those parking spaces seems to vary from day to day. On Saturday and Sunday, he has observed that they are not utilized at all. He has been checking the spaces at varying times on weekdays—generally 10 a.m., noon, and 2 p.m.—and has yet to see that area parked up entirely, but it is possible that the spaces are sometimes all filled. He recommends making the trial changes permanent, allowing for all-day parking in that section.

Greg Eisold of Ace Drapery, 8413 W. North Avenue, said he doesn't object to leaving spaces open on the eastern portion of this area, but the part from the driveway to the bus stop is filled almost every day from 6 a.m. to late evening. The area from 84th Street to the first driveway is fairly open most of the time. He would like to see two-hour restrictions restored from the driveway to the bus stop to provide three open spaces and eliminate all-day parking by employees of Sendik's or other area businesses. He noted that there are never any cars parked all day on 84th Street. There is only room for one car on the south side of the street immediately in front of his business.

Ald. Donegan said that he had no problem finding a parking space when he visited Mr. Eisold's business on three occasions. There have been open spaces at most of the times when he has observed the area.

Mr. Kappel said that the committee could recommend extension of the 90-day trial if they do not wish to take permanent action at this time while resolution of the entire problem is still under discussion. Such an extension would require Council action.

Moved by Ald. Donegan, seconded by Ald. Herzog to recommend to Council extension of the 90-day trial for an additional 90-day period. Ayes: 5

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

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