

## La Porte City Traffic Commission

The November meeting of the La Porte City Traffic Commission was held at the La Porte City Police Station Conference Room on November 14, 2023. The following members were present:

Karyl Feikes – Chairperson  
Laura Konieczny

Andy Snyder – Secretary  
Mike Frazee

Bill Degnegaard  
Rip Ludlow

The following items summarize the meeting:

1. The minutes of the October 3, 2023 meeting were approved. Motion by Laura Konieczny and seconded by Mike Frazee.
2. **Public Comment** – Attorney Barry McDonnell attended the meeting. He indicated he is representing Mr. & Mrs. Xavier Botana of 713 Lakeside St. who were also in attendance. The Botana's are seeking approval to vacate City owned property to the south of their property line. The property currently separates 711 & 713 Lakeside St. Mr. McDonnell stated that at some point in the past prior to his client owning the residence a driveway was constructed on the City owned property. The current and previous owners have been using the driveway under the assumption that it was part of their property. However, due patrons of a AirBNB now using the city right of way as an access route to Lakeside St. and Pine Lake it was realized this is actually city owned property. The Commission decided to take the request into consideration, visit the area and discuss it further at the December meeting.

Mr. Dave Ambers of 404 Lakeshore Dr. attended the meeting to request approval to vacate a section of City owned property to the north of his residence and bordered by residences from Kentucky Ave. He presented a petition from all of the affected property owners requesting the same. Since the commission members had already visited the area and it was determined that it was very unlikely that the city would have a future use for the property a motion was made by Laura Konieczny to support the vacating of the property. The motion was seconded by Mike Frazee and passed unanimously.

Samantha Banaski of 419 Kenwood St. attended the meeting to express her concerns with parking on Kenwood St. She indicated many times with vehicles parked on both sides of the street it impassable for vehicles, especially for large vehicles like fire trucks and school buses. She also requested if there was the possibility of a "Special Needs Child in the Area" sign or something similar being installed close to her home due to her child having a disability. The commission decided to visit the area and discuss it further at the December meeting.

3. Mike Frazee reported that he is continuing to work with David Heinold for the signage placement to facilitate the Slicer Pathway Project. There are some adjustments that need to be made.
4. The Commission will continue to monitor the parking situation and the dangers of pedestrians crossing the roadway in the area of the Dunes Event Center on Clear Lake Blvd. The Clear Lake Loop project should accommodate pedestrian traffic better. This project is expected to begin soon.

5. Mike Frazee reported that the large “Parking in Designated Areas Only” signs for Tuesdell Ave. at the entrance to Fox Park still had not been received. He will get them installed once they arrive.
6. The Commission discussed in more detail Sheri Shelton’s concern of parking on Niesen St. in the area of Warsaw St. Since the commission members had not witnessed these issues when visiting the area, Mike Frazee made a motion to take no action on the issue. Rip Ludlow seconded it and it passed unanimously.
7. In regard to Carol Atwood’s request, of 204 Grandview, for the installation of a “No Jake Brake” area to be implemented on Boyd Blvd between Silverbrook and Oakdale Avenues, it was reported that Paul Brettin’s email had confirmed state statute prevents the city from taking this action.
8. It was reported that Devin, the owner of the building and property at the northwest corner of 18<sup>th</sup> & A Streets was experiencing issues again with parents picking up and dropping off students for Kesling Intermediate School in her parking lot. It was decided that since the traffic congestion is solely due to the increased number of vehicles created by the student drop-off and pick-up this is outside the scope of the Traffic Commission and would be better addressed by the School Board. Mike Frazee indicated he will forward this recommended course of action to Devin.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Rip Ludlow and seconded by Mike Frazee.

The next Traffic Commission will be held one week later on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, at 5:00 PM in the conference room of the City Police Station.

Respectfully submitted,  
Andy Snyder, Secretary