

La Porte City Traffic Commission

The September meeting of the La Porte City Traffic Commission was held on September 1, 2020 in the conference room of the La Porte City Police Department. The following members were present:

Karyl Feikes – Chairperson	Andy Snyder – Secretary
Paul Brettin	Paul Vincent
Rip Ludlow	Mike Frazee

The following items summarize the meeting:

1. The minutes of the August 4, 2020 meeting were approved. Motion by Rip Ludlow and seconded by Paul Vincent.
2. Under public comment, Chuck McGrath of 2026 Indiana Ave. attended the meeting to express concerns of speeding on Indiana Ave. Chief Brettin indicated he was attempting to place the digital speed monitoring device in this area in the near future. He also indicated speed patrols had recently increased in this area and had intended for this to have a positive impact to reduce speeding.
3. Brian Thornton of 1606 Ohio St. attended the meeting to express concerns of motorists speeding on Ohio St. between Roberts St. and Boyd Blvd. The Commission discussed this and decided to review it and discuss it further at their October meeting.
4. The Commission decided to take no action on the request for stop signs on Cherry St. at its intersection with Cable St. Since most of the other intersections on this stretch of roadway have stop signs they did not feel this was necessary and there are minimal record of motor vehicle accidents.
5. Joshua Wright's request for a deer crossing sign to be installed on the north side of the street to compliment the one on the south side of the street was on order and will be installed upon receipt.
6. Julie & Brian Jesse attended the Commission meeting to further discuss speeding in the Ohio & Lawrence St. area and the request for a stop sign. The Commission had reviewed the area and obtained more information. Rip Ludlow made a motion to recommend to the City Council that a stop sign be placed on Ohio St. at its intersection with Lawrence St, Paul Vincent seconded it and it passed unanimously.
7. The Commission decided to take no action on Councilman Tim Franke's request to consider more permit parking in the downtown area. The Commission felt there is still available spots in the Monroe St. parking lot and various other spaces in the area.
8. In regard to Lisa Pierzakowski's concern with the narrow width of the traffic lanes on the reconstructed section of State St. the Commission felt, while narrower than the previous traffic pattern, the new lane widths will be able to support 2 way traffic safely
9. The Commission directed Mike Frazee to have his department repaint the curbing and add reflective posts near the chicanes on I St. This action is in response to Jack Busfield Jr.'s concern regarding the speed of vehicles in this area.

10. It was reported the recommendation for a No Parking/Loading Zone on Niesen St. in front of Sacred Heart Church had been read for its first reading to the City Council.
11. A request from the YMCA to move the current Handicap Parking space on Maple St. from the southwest corner to 4 spaces toward the center of the block was considered. They feel this will better serve their patrons since the handicap ramp is located close to this spot. Currently persons have access the sidewalk by moving into the Monroe St. right of way which is not safe due to the heavy traffic patterns, Paul Vincent made a motion to have the Street Department accommodate the move and repaint the spaces. Mike Frazee seconded it and it passed unanimously.
12. Karyl Feikes indicated there are two yield signs on Abbey Lane and Allison Lane where they intersect with Whispering Blvd. She suggested these should be changed to stop signs as the Commission has recommended with others in the City. She made a motion to recommend this change to the City Council and it was seconded by Paul Brettin. It passed unanimously.

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

The next Traffic Commission will be held at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 in the conference room of the City Police Station.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Snyder, Secretary