



166 Lincolnway
Valparaiso, IN 46383
(219) 462-1161
Valpo.us

Minutes for Traffic & Safety Committee Meeting held
3/17/2025

Meeting Date and Time: 3/17/2025, 10:00am

Attendees:

Committee Members:

Max Rehlander, Engineering
Maggie Clifton, Community Engagement
Mike Cervik, Fire
Joe Hall, Police
Katie Travis, Public Works
Ellen Kapitan, City Council

City Staff:

Bob Thompson, Planning
Ashley Miller, Engineering
Daniela Martins, Engineering
Will Rose, Engineering

Members of the Public:

Carol McCreery
Frances Saar
James Ferguson

1. Discussion Items

- a. Request for 10- minute parking sign along Jefferson St. – Max states that Engineering Dept is looking into putting a “10-minute parking” sign at the intersection of Jefferson St. & Washington St, near the Old Elements Wine Bar. Max continues by asking the committee if they recall during covid that signs were placed there then were removed after covid. Were there any policies in place to place them or remove the signs.
Maggie states that she is unsure whether there was a policy or not or who supported it or not. Katie follows with the purpose for them were for when people weren’t dining in, it would be



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direct parking for pick up orders. She also asked what the purpose of this request at this time? Max states that there is a new sub sandwich place that will be moving in and so they requested it, but the sign will serve more than just the sandwich location. It's a good area for all the surrounding restaurants. It would be nice to have a policy in place for any future requests, and to make sure it is consistent.

Ellen asks if Gil's Pharmacy has one? James answers, 'yes they do, and it is used quite often.'

Joe asks if it will need an ordinance or parking enforcement, also he believes that it is a 15-minute parking by Gil's so perhaps keep it 15-minute parking across the board.

Mike states that it also is based off days & time.

Max states that the Engineering department will put together a policy or dust off the one that was in placed before then update the group at the next meeting.

- b. Calumet Ave at McCord Pedestrian Island – Following up from a previous request by Committee member Kapitan the Engineering Dept. looked at the area of Calumet Ave. between Evans Ave. & Glendale Blvd specifically at the McCord intersection for a pedestrian island crossing. Max shared an exhibit showing a pedestrian island in the left NB lane of Calumet Ave near McCord Road. The left lane leading up to this location would be restriped to become a dedicated LT turn to Harrison, McKinley and Fair. This improvement will allow for a future curb bump out project along the west side of the road. This future project would provide additional space for pedestrians and better delineated the business entrances. Regarding sight distance, this location has adequate line of sight for a pedestrian to look north to the Glendale signal and south to the Evans signal. Exhibit is attached to these meeting minutes.



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Ellen asked if there was an opportunity to have a pedestrian flashing light to signal that there is a pedestrian in the crosswalk.

Max answered yes there is, and this project is included in our 2025 pavement projects, and we hope to have this accomplished this summer.

- c. RR Crossing Safety – Recently there was a RR fatality in Chesterton between a train and a bike and there are several RR crossings throughout the city. Max asks if Joe can speak on safety and what has been done recently. Joe informs the group that VPD has partnered with CN to do information patrol enforcements. Ellen asks how many people were involved. Joe responds with there were 35 people involved. Ellen asks if we can expand advertising within the city through post on social media, Joe shares that he knows the CN post and shares information. Frances asks if accidents happen more daytime or evening. Joe answers with its not specific to daytime or evening, every situation is different.

2. Updates on Projects/Initiatives

- a. SS4A Grant – FHWA update – Bob updates us with now the Federal highway is not responding at all unfortunately, agreement has been sent down but still haven't heard anything. Ellen states that it is unfortunate because there were many great ideas, when can we shift to doing the ideas in house. Bob states that part of the plan was to call out certain areas and go out with federal funding, but a few have gone dark, which is unfortunate, we would hate to see them go away.
- b. Urban SDK Software – Joe shares what they found with using Urban SDK for Chicago St., per Frances request at the last meeting, their findings were as followed: When looking on



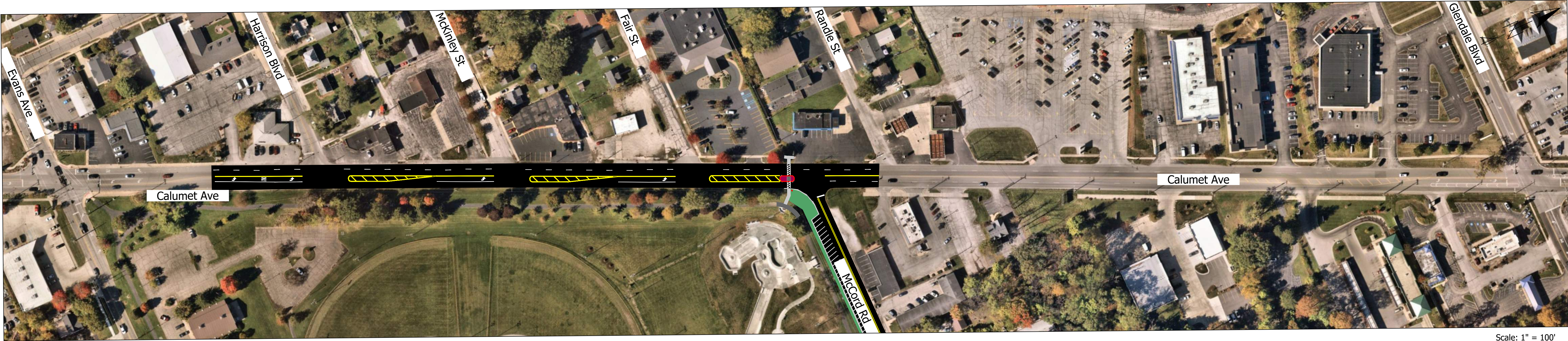
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Urban SDK they broke Chicago St. into segments, the average speed was 20 mph, in the 95% it was 26 mph & in the 85% it ranged from 24-26 mph. Soon we will be able to determine a min. speed & max. speed which will help with enforcement during those specific times. Urban SDK has been a helpful tool. Will states that with the updates that are coming we are hopeful that it will continue to be a better tool for when people call in and submit a voice a concern.

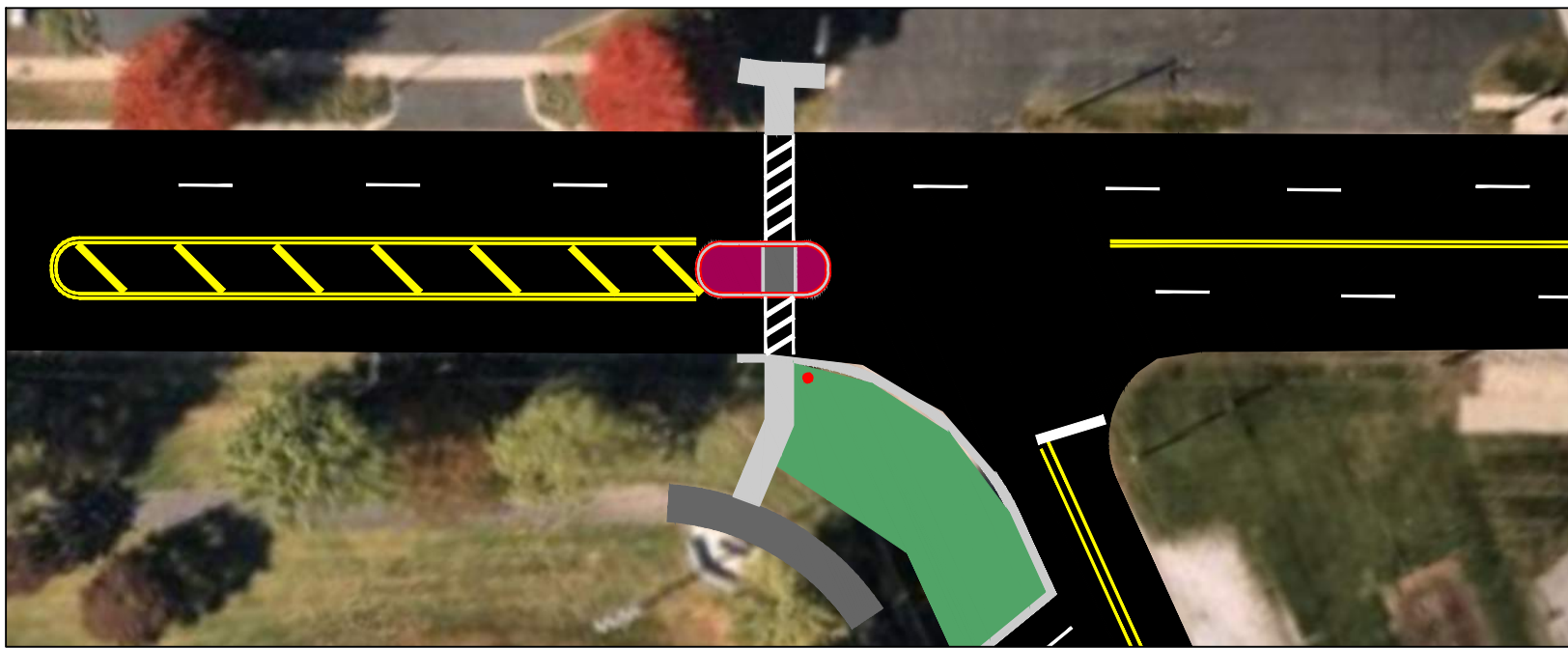
- c. Public Comment – James asked if with using Urban SDK if you are only able to view averages. Joe states that we will never be able to view individual speeds like for a specific vehicle. Are they using smart cars or phones. Joe answers that they use all technology. Frances asked if you think with motorcycle season coming do they check on motorcycles? Joe answered if they connect to Bluetooth then yes, I believe they would. Ellen states that she received a speeding complaint from a resident on Valparaiso St., from Harrison to Glendale. Joe says that it's a common area that we have received calls about, but he will pass along the information to Brian to run the data and bring the results to the next meeting.

Next meeting will be Monday April 21st, 2025, at 10am.

Meeting Minutes by: A. Miller 3/20/25



Calumet Ave - From Evans Ave to Glendale Blvd



Detail View - McCord Intersection

Scale: 1" = 40'

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL		DATE
DESIGNED: _____	DRAWN: DSM	03/12/25
CHECKED: _____	CHECKED: MRR	03/12/25

CONCEPT LAYOUT
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

CITY OF VALPARAISO
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

CALUMET AT McCORD
INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

REVISION NUMBER & DATE

CONCEPTUAL LAYOUT



HORIZONTAL SCALE
1" = 100'
VERTICAL SCALE
N/A
SHEET 1 OF 1