



Citizens Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2018

A regular meeting of the Royal Oak Citizens Traffic Committee was held on Tuesday, January 23, 2018, in the city hall, 211 Williams, Royal Oak. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dan Godek at 7:01 p.m.

Chairperson Dan Godek recited the Traffic Committee preamble:

"The Traffic Committee consists of property owners of Royal Oak appointed by the City Commission. We are volunteers and are not paid or elected. What we decide tonight is merely a recommendation to the City Commission. If you do not agree with the findings or decisions of this committee, you may go before the City Commission and petition and/or discuss your issue with them. At this meeting you will be given an opportunity to speak during your item on the agenda. However, at the City Commission meeting, you must be recognized during "public comment" on their agenda, not when the Traffic Committee resolutions are being voted upon. Otherwise you will not be able to voice your concerns.

It is important to understand that professionals make preliminary recommendations to the Traffic Committee. They consist of civil and traffic engineers, outside consultants and public safety officials. You may have been informed that these professionals have denied your request or petition. This denial does not mean that this committee will vote that way; however, we are committed to discussing the issues at hand in a pragmatic and sensible manner. Our ultimate recommendation to the City Commission will be one that benefits our citizens and community as a whole."

1. Roll Call:

Present

Dan Godek, Chairperson
Richard Karlowski
Amanda Morris-Smith
Randy White
Matthew McCuen
Thomas Allen
Belem Morales, alternate

Also Present

Matthew J. Callahan P.E., City Engineer
Holly Donoghue P.E., Engineering
Lieutenant Al Carter, Police

Absent

Rob Moore

2. Approval of Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes of November 28, 2017

Motioned by Richard Karlowski
Seconded by Matthew McCuen

Adopted Unanimously

3. Public Comment

- Gail McGuire of 4456 Arlington spoke about speeding on Greenfield
- Ilene Orlenski of 1851 Torquay spoke about cut-thru traffic near 14 Mile and Crooks intersection, people avoiding the traffic light
- Kim Gibbs of 3342 Harvard spoke about Greenfield Road traffic and accidents and approaching the road commission regarding this issue.

4. Rescheduled Items/Old Business

5. Business Items

5.A. Request to install “Permit Parking Only 9AM – 7PM, \$50 Fine” signs on Parker Drive between Coolidge Highway and the east property lines of 3123 & 3120 Parker Drive

A request was received from Stacey Southern of 3126 Parker Drive to install “Permit Parking Only 9AM – 7PM, \$50 Fine” signs on Parker Drive between Coolidge Highway and the east property lines of 3123 & 3120 Parker Drive. The reason for her request concerns the number of cars using the businesses on Woodward and parking on the street, sometimes longer than 48 hours. This causes excessive congestion and parking issues for residents.

The findings of the Staff Traffic Committee were presented by Matthew Callahan, P.E.

Mr. Godek opened the floor to those interested in speaking on this issue.

- Stacey Southern of 3126 Parker and Mike Ripinski of 3152 Parker spoke about the difficulty for residents to park on their street and that this has been an ongoing issue for several years due to the commercial businesses on Woodward. They urged the committee to approve the permit parking zone installation.

The Citizens Traffic Committee recommends the approval of the installation of “Permit Parking Only 9AM – 7PM, \$50 Fine” signage in front of the residential properties on Parker Drive between Coolidge and the alley west of Woodward, except for adjacent to Westwood Park. (Estimated City Cost: \$925)

Moved By: Richard Karlowski
Supported By: Randy White

Adopted Unanimously

5.B. Presentation of results and recommendations of the Former Irving Avenue Truck Route Traffic Study performed by the city's consultant, Fleis & Vandenbrink

The city's consultant, Fleis & Vandenbrink Engineering (F&V), studied the area bounded by Lincoln Avenue, Mohawk Avenue, I-696 and Knowles Street. The study included: analysis of current traffic conditions, modeling anticipated changes in traffic conditions if road barriers (road closures also referred to as berms) were to be removed, performing resident outreach via an online survey to learn about resident traffic patterns and resident opinions, and creating a [report](#) with recommendations regarding the existing road closures.

The findings of the Staff Traffic Committee were presented by Matthew Callahan, P.E.

Fleis & Vandenbrink gave a brief presentation on their study and the results.

The following residents spoke in favor of keeping the road closures:

- Mike Thompson of 1210 Irving – representing the Lawson Park Homeowners Association
- Martha Buchanan of 1037 Longfellow
- Mary Ann Brown of 821 Mohawk
- Peggy Goodwin of 1015 Mohawk
- Susan Gilbert of 1219 Irving
- Alex Schnader of 1011 Knowles
- Scott Langdorf of 1202 Irving
- Laura Holden of 1201 Mohawk
- John Bennett of 1327 Mohawk
- Justin & Johnna Mills of 526 E Hudson
- Nancy Poprasky of 1119 Batavia
- Victoria Madurski of 1014 Longfellow
- Richard Doerer of 1502 Longfellow
- Stephen Silski of 917 Irving
- Andrew Kalinowski of 1008 Batavia
- Ron Arnold of 1102 Irving
- Dave Palac of 604 E Hudson

Their main concerns regarding the current closures were as follows:

- Keeps cut thru traffic out of the neighborhood
- Downtown patrons and workers cut through the neighborhood to avoid Main St./Woodward exit
- Keeps trucks out of the neighborhood
- Opening closures increases the potential for traffic
- Evens out the traffic in the neighborhood
- Separates high density from low density housing
- Promotes safety for residents from traffic
- Keeps undesirables out, deterring crime
- Makes the neighborhood more desirable
- Avoids spending city dollars unnecessarily
- The area is unique as a major freeway exit goes to a local street
- Landscaping of the closures could be a neighborhood effort

**The Citizens Traffic Committee recommends keeping all current closures in place.
Estimated City Cost: \$0 (local road fund)**

Moved By: Richard Karlowski
Supported By: Thomas Allen

Amendment to motion to also include a speed study on Longfellow & Mohawk.

Moved by: Matthew McCuen
Supported by: Richard Karlowski, Thomas Allen

Adopted Unanimously

6. Information Only Items

Adjourn

Upon the motion of Richard Karlowski, seconded by Matthew McCuen, and adopted unanimously, the regular meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

cc: Traffic Committee Members, Inc. Ex-Officio Members:
Dan Godek, Chairperson
Richard Karlowski
Rob Moore
Amanda Morris Smith
Belem Morales, alternate
Matthew McCuen
Thomas Allen
Randy White
Shelly Kemp, Chamber of Comm.
Mary Beth Fitzpatrick, Royal Oak Schools
Candi Drouillard, PTA Council President
Corrigan O'Donohue, Police Chief
Mike Frazier, Deputy Chief
Dave Cummins, Fire Chief
Tim Thwing, Community Development Director
Greg Rassel, Director of Recreation and Public Services

5.A. Stacey and Dean Southern, 3126 Parker – deanandstacey37@gmail.com
Adjacent **property owners** on Parker Drive:

2922 Coolidge	3140 Parker	3167 Parker
3120 Parker	3146 Parker	3168 Parker
3123 Parker	3152 Parker	3172 Parker
3126 Parker	3153 Parker	3175 Parker
3127 Parker	3156 Parker	3178 Parker
3132 Parker	3157 Parker	3180 Parker

3133 Parker
3136 Parker

3162 Parker
3163 Parker

30507 Woodward
30489 Woodward

5.B. 490 **property owners** in survey area (47 letters returned – vacant)