

VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK

14700 Ravinia Avenue
Orland Park, IL 60462
www.orland-park.il.us



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 17, 2012

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

**OPEN HOUSE
FOR THE WHEELER AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS**

**Kruse School
7617 Hemlock Drive
Orland Park, Illinois**

*Village President Daniel J. McLaughlin
Village Clerk David P. Maher
Trustees, Kathleen M. Fenton, Brad S. O'Halloran,
James V. Dodge, Jr., Edward G. Schussler, Patricia Gira and Carole Griffin Ruzich*

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The workshop meeting was opened at 6:06 PM. Jane Turley, Senior Planner was the Temporary Recording Secretary for this meeting. The following Trustees were present:

Present: 3 - Trustee Fenton, Trustee Schussler and President McLaughlin

Absent: 4 - Trustee O'Halloran, Trustee Dodge, Trustee Gira and Trustee Griffin Ruzich

OPEN HOUSE WORKSHOP

2012-0333 Wheeler Drive Open House

The Members of the Board of Trustees and Plan Commission of the Village of Orland Park, IL, were invited and may attend the Open House for the Wheeler Avenue Improvements. This Open House is scheduled for Thursday, May 17, 2012 from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM at Kruse School located at 7617 Hemlock Avenue, Orland Park.

President Daniel J. McLaughlin welcomed the audience, with approximately 75-100 people in attendance, including the Village Manager, Department Directors, and Village Board members. The Mayor welcomed everyone, spoke a few words about Wheeler Drive, and introduced Trustee Fenton, Trustee Schussler. Kimberly Flom, Assistant Development Services Director, and introduced the project. The study was initiated after the Village Police Department approached Development Services seeking a comprehensive solution to Wheeler Drive problems and complaints. The Village worked as a team, with Development Services, Public Works, and the Police Department working together to formulate some options for dealing with the issues.

Primary Issue

Wheeler Drive needs to function as a neighborhood street, but has many problems and is not meeting the expectations of the residents. The purpose of the Open House is to define the issue, present research done on the problem, suggest alternative solutions, and get feedback from the residents on alternative solutions offered and listen to resident concerns, issues and other ideas.

Presentation

Development Services representatives Melissa King and Kimberly Flom gave a PowerPoint presentation that addressed the following items: (Please refer to presentation attachment)

-Project Background

-Wheeler Drive Existing Conditions

- Research on Complete Streets and Traffic Calming
- Improvement Opportunities
- Conclusion and Next Steps
- Questions / Comments / Survey completion requested

Public comment

Approximately twenty residents spoke in regards to Wheeler Drive issues. Issues included:

General Comments:

- Safety concerns, particularly for children and pets
- Traffic law enforcement issues: speeding, disregard for stop signs, need for speed cameras
- Increased traffic volumes
- High speed of traffic
- Heavy truck and commercial traffic
- Difficulty backing out of driveway
- Inadequate parking near Park
- Catalina Flooding

Alternative solutions concerns:

- Loss of parking on one side of street
- Conflict between painted center line and cars passing parked cars.
- Lack of demand for dedicated bike lanes
- Safety of on-street bike lanes
- Bike-pedestrian conflicts on multi-purpose paths
- Maintenance of landscape improvements
- Tree impacts of changes
- Costs for improvements
- Impact of improvements on property values

Staff Comments:

- Comprehensive approach to problem is needed for solution to be fully effective, but can be phased in.
- Problem is complex but Village is trying to address the issue.
- Effectiveness of traffic calming measures has been researched and proven
- No new taxes will be sought to finance improvements which will occur as money is available.
- Catalina flooding: Village has hired an engineering firm to retrofit the Catalina area so that the streets do not retain flood water. Money has already been budgeted for this project.

Closing

Residents were encouraged to complete and submit surveys. Village will study results, with action or no action yet to be determined. Village Contact information is on the survey, please contact with questions, comments, or if more information is needed.
This was a workshop, NO ACTION was required.

THE WORKSHOP WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:30 PM

The workshop was adjourned.

JT/nm

APPROVED:

Respectfully Submitted,

David P. Maher, Village Clerk

Respectfully Submitted,

**Jane Turley, Senior Planner
Temporary Recording Secretary**