Forest Park Safety and Traffic Commission

Year to Date Report 11/13/23



General Activity

- Board is currently fully seated
 - Added new members Drew DePriest, Burhan Syed, and Bridget Lane
- Commissioner Melin-Rogovin is now the council liaison for the commission and has been attending meetings and meeting with the Chair monthly
- Working with Commissioner Melin-Rogovin to integrate Complete Streets material in our deliberations.
- Upcoming community engagement meeting led by Commissioner Melin-Rogovin, date TBD.

General Activity

- Chief Gross provided village-wide traffic incident data and Drew DePriest built an interactive visualization to help identify hot spots and provide context to requests. There is potential to coordinate with FPPD to update it regularly and host it for public access.
- With inspiration from neighboring communities,
 Rich Leib has created a form to host on the website to collect citizen requests/issues.
- Commissioner Melin-Rogovin is working to secure radar signs, fixed and/or mobile, and the commission will work to prioritize placement.

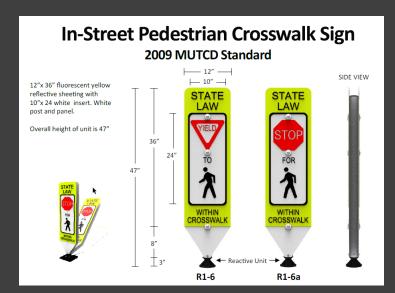
Reviewed Issues – Completed

- Crosswalk at Des Plaines/CTA
 - Light burned out so the sign was only showing initial white to cross, but dark when it would normally be flashing. Confusing to pedestrians. Referred to Sal at Public Works during the construction for correction.



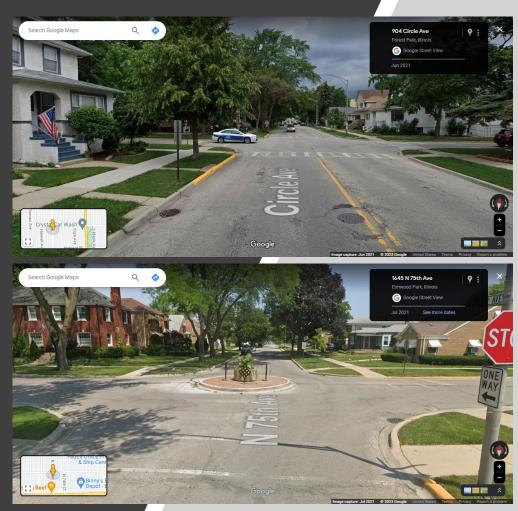
Madison Crosswalks

 Recommend installing yield to pedestrian signs at all crosswalks with available medians, just as recommended in the Madison/Elgin report





- Circle/Lexington
 - Traffic incident at intersection created a lot of discussion in the community.
 - Commissioner Melin-Rogovin met with residents in the area who expressed it is a common problem area and they avoid the intersection if possible.
 - Crosswalk signs do exist and are visible.
 - Recommend to add yellow curbs on all sides of intersection and refresh paint of existing lines.



Lathrop/Fillmore/Roosevelt

- Residents of 1000 block Lathrop presented signed petition to the commission requesting traffic calming on the street
- Cited multiple accidents and near misses
- Private Montessori School is a block away with many pedestrians
- Traffic from the Forest Park mall exit enters Lathrop rather than turning to Roosevelt
- Potentially considering at a later date other measures including: signage for local traffic, narrowing entrance to Lathrop at Roosevelt, and a traffic circle at Fillmore
- Recommend painting parking lanes along Lathrop to narrow road



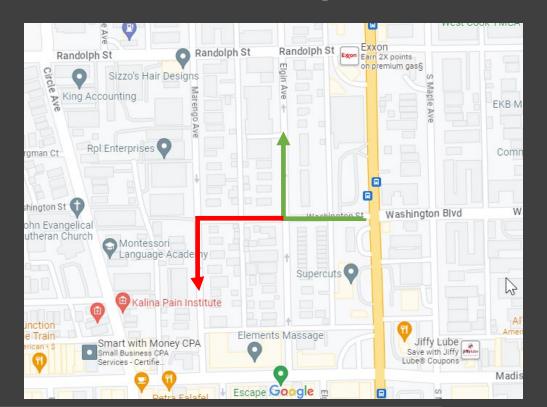


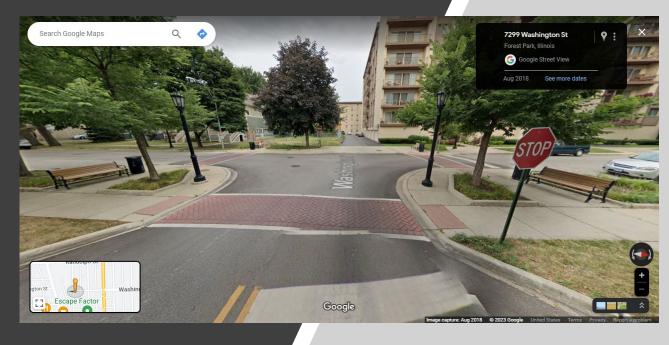




- Troost/Roosevelt Dollar Store Exit
 - Considering marking the street beyond the alley "local traffic only".
 - Recommend to make street two way from Roosevelt to alley.

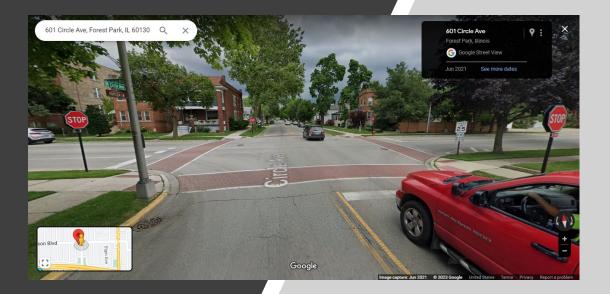
- Trucks West of Elgin on Washington
 - Trucks getting stuck turning south on Marengo
 - Recommend a sign "Trucks must turn right at Elgin"





Circle/Jackson

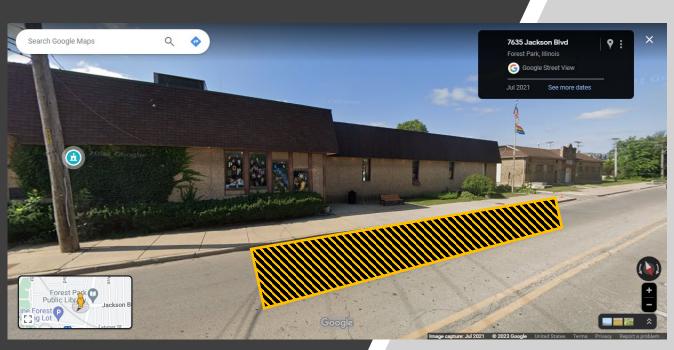
- Frequent source of complaints and accident reports
- Recommend to direct Burke Engineering to conduct a formal traffic study of intersection.



- 7200 Randolph/Marengo Pedestrian Access
 - A resident presented a complaint to the commission regarding her daughter having difficulty crossing the intersection in a wheelchair due to obstructed sight lines and speeding traffic.
 - There are lights at Harlem and Circle, but no stop signs in between at Marengo or Elgin.
 - Recommend repainting existing crosswalks and adding pedestrian crossing signs.



- Jackson West Curve Community Center
 - Parents daily use north side of community center for childcare pick-up/drop-off.
 - There is no designated area for this.
 - Complaints of excess speed throughout the area.
 - Recommend painting a designated pick-up/dropoff area and adding signage.



- Jackson Funeral Processions Drones/Cameras
 - Do not recommend drones for this issue.
 - Recommend installation of cameras on Jackson Blvd. similar to other areas in town.

- Deer crossing on Des Plaines
 - Pictures provided by resident of deer struck by cars on Des Plaines.
 - Recommend to add a deer crossing sign on Des Plaines south of Walmart.

Reviewed Issues – No Action

- 7200 Franklin Dog Den
 - Second complaint from same person
 - Appears they want a crosswalk added mid-block rather than using the ones currently present.

Pending Issues

- Jackson West Curve
 - Refer to plan commission for potential bike path and integration into village-wide plan
- Bicycle infrastructure throughout village
 - Integration with neighboring communities
 - Potential grant opportunities
 - Possible collaboration with Plan commission
 - New member Bridget Lane is championing this in our discussions
- 1000 Beloit/Fillmore stop sign request

Traffic Calming Measures – Under Review

• Traffic Circles

- Under discussion by the commission currently
- Would need to recommend to work with Burke Engineering to evaluate suitability for traffic circles in specific intersections throughout the village as a traffic calming measure.
- Elmwood Park uses them in many locations.
- Chief Gross has no issue regarding police vehicles.
- Chief Chiappetta provided feedback:
 - Our ladder truck is longer than what they have in Elmwood Park and has a larger turning radius.
 - Confirm minimum clearances around the circle and intersection curbs/bump-outs to accommodate the ladder truck(s).
 - In smaller intersections a traffic circle that is not built up significantly in the center could still be driven over by the ladder truck without harm.



Summary - Issues for Potential Council Action

- Madison crosswalks: pedestrian signs in medians
- Circle/Lexington: add yellow curbs, repaint lines
- Lathrop/Filmore: paint parking lines along both sides of Lathrop
- Troost/Roosevelt: Allow two-way traffic from Dollar Store exit
- Elgin/Washington: add sign "Trucks must turn right at Elgin"
- Circle/Jackson: refer to Burke Engineering
- Randolph/Marengo: repaint crosswalks, add pedestrian crossing signs
- Jackson west curve: designate pick-up/drop-off zone for Community Center
- Jackson funeral processions: add cameras to Jackson
- Des Plaines: add deer crossing signs south of Walmart