

**MINUTES
WINNETKA VILLAGE COUNCIL
STUDY SESSION
March 11, 2025**

(Approved: April 3, 2025)

A record of a legally convened meeting of the Council of the Village of Winnetka, which was held at the Council Chambers on Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

- 1) Call to Order. President Rintz called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Village Manager Bahan called the roll of the Village Council. Present: Trustees Kirk Albinson, Rob Apatoff, Tina Dalman, Bob Dearborn, Kim Handler and Bridget Orsic. Absent: None. Also present: Village Manager Robert Bahan, Assistant Village Manager Kristin Kazenas, Village Attorney Courtney Willits, Deputy Village Clerk Berina Gradjan, Community Development Director David Schoon, Assistant Community Development Director Ann Klaassen, Engineering Director Jim Bernahl, Assistant Engineering Director Obaid Khalid and approximately 13 persons in the audience.

- 2) Public Comment

- a) Ted Wynnychenko addresses matters related to the Village's transparency with the public.

- 3) Discussion.

- a) Hubbard Woods Streetscape Concept Plan and Traffic & Parking Study

Representatives from Teska Associates, Gewalt Associates, and Village staff present two streetscape design concepts for the Hubbard Woods Business District and community input regarding these two concepts. Council reviews a summary of findings of potential impacts on vehicular traffic, pedestrian movement, and parking due to the proposed improvements.

Jodi Mariano, Principal Urban Designer with Teska Associates, provides a project study area within the Hubbard Woods Business District and project scope regarding enhancement, similar to improvements made in Elm Street Business District, and improvements related to pedestrian safety, parking, lighting, landscape, furnishing, and signage.

Jodi Mariano provides key takeaways from community input and feedback, IDOT improvements in comparison to Village improvements, matters related to a jurisdictional transfer, pedestrian crosswalks, and enhancements related to streetlighting, paving treatments, and streetscape amenities. Additionally, Council is provided three different options regarding traffic flow at the horseshoe, Merrill Street intersection improvements.

Council will be presented a final report, including the preferred plan, and cost estimates at the end of June of 2025.

Assistant Village Engineer Obaid Khalid provides information regarding the scope of the study; Traffic Feasibility Study and Phase I Engineering Report (IDOT).

Dan Brinkman, Senior Transportation Engineer at Gewalt Hamilton Associates, Inc., advises Council regarding the Green Bay Road traffic feasibility study consisting of traffic and parking counts, topographic and right-of-way survey, Merrill Street traffic control, parking study, horseshoe study, review of the signalized operations, and pavement analysis. Dan Brinkman provides data regarding crash history, parking, and vehicular traffic, and the timeline of schedule and federal funding.

Council discusses increasing pedestrian crosswalk safety, parking concerns, implementation of structures to slow vehicle traffic, implementation of four way stop sign, IDOT restrictions, matters related to a jurisdictional transfer, and option regarding traffic flow at the horseshoe.

Assistant Village Engineer Obaid Khalid advises Council of the overall conceptual schedule consisting of the planning phase, engineering phase, and construction phase.

Council addresses roadway construction, enhancements, improvements, and collaborations with IDOT.

Public Comment

Dylan Nichols addresses concerns regarding enhancements at the intersection of Tower Road and Green Bay Road and a jurisdictional transfer.

Glenn Deutsch, owner of Mino's, addresses concerns regarding parking garage enhancements and signage.

Eric Caplin addresses Council regarding timing of the parking study, parking garage signage, horseshoe traffic flow, and intersection safety at Tower Road and Green Bay Road.

Jeffery Liss addresses concerns regarding Metra commuter traffic changes and traffic signage.

Peter Eck addresses Council regarding pedestrian safety, road traffic simulation, and traffic flow.

Owner of 950 Green Bay Road urges Council to consider the impacts on businesses within the Hubbard Woods Business District.

Terry Dason expresses concern regarding impacts on businesses within the Hubbard Woods Business District.

Council directed staff to move forward with the Phase 1 Engineering Report still considering the Option B streetscape design, which would require a jurisdictional transfer, and leaving the horseshoe circulation around Hubbard Woods Park in a counterclockwise direction. Staff will continue to work with Teska Associates to refine the concept plan based upon Council direction to date and prepare a preliminary cost estimates for the project. Council plans to revisit the jurisdictional transfer discussion at a future point as it relates to the final cost sharing and how to control the various intersections in the project area, particularly at Merrill and Green Bay Road as well as Tower and Green Bay Road.

- 4) Adjournment. Trustee Handler, seconded by Trustee Dalman moved to adjourn the meeting. By voice vote, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.

/s/ Berina Gradjan, Deputy Village Clerk

Recording Secretary