



Department of Planning & Community & Economic Development

Planning Division

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To: Plan Commission

From: Planning Division Staff

RE: Comments received on the draft Elderberry, Pioneer and Junction Neighborhood Development Plans update

The draft Elderberry, Pioneer and Junction Neighborhood Development Plans update was introduced to Council on May 15, 2018. Council referred the drafts to Long Range Transportation Planning Committee, Board of Park Commissioners and Plan Commission (lead).

Long Range Transportation Planning Committee – May 31, 2018

Nearly all discussion of the draft plan at LRTPC focused on connectivity, specifically the connection of local streets to Mineral Point Road and Old Sauk Road in the Elderberry Neighborhood.

Excerpt from draft minutes:

Grant Foster/Mark Shahan then submitted a motion to recommend adoption of Resolution ID 51567.

Chair Ken Golden asked Committee members if they would like to offer any amendments to the main motion.

Ald. Larry Palm/Grant Foster submitted a motion to amend the main motion, “to create buffered bicycle lanes on north/south and east/west streets where it is anticipated that traffic volumes will be in excess of 3,000 average daily traffic (ADT)”. That motion passed unanimously.

Ken Golden/Mark Shahan submitted a motion to add an amendment, stating “recommend that the Plan Commission consider reducing street widths on local streets where there is anticipated to be little or no on-street parking usage (pavement width reduced from 32 feet to 28 feet), or to consider further narrowing the pavement width where parking is allowed only on one side of the street.” That motion passed unanimously.

Ken Golden/Ald. Larry Palm submitted a motion to add an amendment, stating “Traffic Engineering should consider proactively installing appropriate neighborhood traffic management/calming treatments, in order to reduce traffic speeds and discourage cut-through traffic from using those streets.” That motion passed unanimously.

Margaret Bergamini/Grant Foster submitted a motion to add an amendment, stating “Traffic Engineering or other implementing agency should consider, on roadways where bus service of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service is expected in the future, to proactively build in features (e.g., bus lanes, transit signal priority, station facilities) that will accommodate those transit services.” That motion passed unanimously.

On the main motion, originally submitted by Grant Foster/Mark Shahan to recommend adoption of Resolution ID 51567 (as amended), that motion passed 5-1 (Susan DeVos voted “no”).

Staff response:

The NDP plans provide multiple parallel low volume local streets for bicycling. Staff feels that creating buffered bike lanes on streets that have traffic volumes in excess of 3000 average daily traffic (ADT) is not necessary.

Staff is supportive of reducing street widths where appropriate, but feels this should be accomplished through an ordinance update and not through individual plans.

Staff recommends taking a wait and see approach for installation of traffic calming devices vs attempting to predict where problems may occur. A well-designed street network will not need traffic calming.

Staff supports Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and the implementation of BRT, but this request is outside the scope of the neighborhood development plans.

Board of Park Commissioners – June 13, 2018

Staff gave a brief overview of the draft plan to the Board of Park Commissioners. Discussion focused on the amount and location of future park facilities.

Board of Park Commissioners offered the following motion:

*RETURN TO LEAD WITH THE RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL TO THE PLAN COMMISSION with the following comment:
Identify locations for future dog parks within the NDP's.*

Staff response:

Staff supports the inclusion of dog parks within future neighborhoods. However, staff feels the process of locating future dog parks should take place as part of a detailed park master planning process.