



# **VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING**

Wednesday, May 15, 2019 – 7:30 PM

Village Hall – Community Room, 400 Park Ave., River Forest, IL

## **AGENDA**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Adoption of minutes from 11/14/18 and 1/16/19 Traffic and Safety Commission Meetings
3. Public Comment
4. Request by Susan Kelty of 625 William Street to install a 2-hr time limit parking zone on the east and west sides of the 600 block of William Street.
5. Request by Commissioner Gillis to install dedicated motorcycle/scooter parking in proximity to the CTA/Metra stations at Harlem Avenue and Central Avenue.
6. Request by Commissioner Buis to discuss the Metra expansion project as it relates to fatalities, foot traffic, noise abatement and vagrant activity during the summer months.
7. Adjournment



## VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, November 14, 2018 – 7:30 PM

A regular meeting of the River Forest Traffic and Safety Commission was held on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 7:30 P.M. The meeting was conducted in the Community Room at the River Forest Village Hall, 400 Park Ave. River Forest.

### **Roll Call and Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM. Present at this meeting were Chairman Rees, Commissioner Cleary, Commissioner Osga, and Commissioner Wade.

### **Old Business**

Chairman Rees asked for a motion to approve the minutes from May 16, 2018 and September 19, 2018 Traffic and Safety Meetings. Commissioner Wade made the motion, second by Commissioner Cleary. All commissioners present voted to approve the minutes.

### **New Business – Parking on the east side of Thatcher Avenue at Greenfield Street.**

Jim Levy lives at 1349 Thatcher Avenue; he states when Thatcher Avenue was repaved parking spots were striped everywhere. After the striping he no longer has a line of sight. There are often up to seven cars parked along Thatcher Avenue, he can't see cars coming around. There have been several near car accidents. He requests the striping be reviewed and it returns to how it was before.

Chairman Rees advises Mr. Levy that the Village staff recommend action on his request. They are recommending to designate the area of 175 feet of Greenfield Street on the east side of Thatcher Avenue as No Parking.

Commissioner Cleary made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Osga to install a No Parking zone 175 feet of Greenfield Street on the east side of Thatcher. Install the associated striping and adopt an ordinance to make that area No Parking.

The vote was 4 to 0 in favor of approving the request. **The motion to approve the request passed.**

### **New Business – Request by various residents on the 1500-block of Ashland Avenue to install parking restrictions between North Avenue and LeMoyne Street.**

Sean Toohey lives at 1526 Ashland Avenue on the west side of the street. Since the placement of the No Parking sign from North Avenue to the apron of the Immediate Care on Ashland Avenue, the employees are parking further down the block. On days when landscapers are out, there is

only room for one car to come down LeMoyne Street. Mr. Toohey and his neighbors are now leaning towards setting a Resident Parking Only restriction on both sides of the street.

Karin Danganan from 1523 Ashland is mostly in agreement with Mr. Toohey. She has one of the few driveways in the block which is not too wide. She questions if they would have temporary passes if their block becomes Resident Parking Only.

Jeff Loster, Village Engineer replies, Resident Only Permit zones get two placards issued to each residence with the option of purchasing a third. Those placards are tied to those vehicle, which are tied to the address. Resident Only zones have no placards, a resident that lives across town with a River Forest Village sticker could park there.

Commissioner Osga adds one unintended consequence is if there is a caregiver or a worker which can't park in the driveway they might have an issue. The residents with narrow driveways can park on the street and have the worker or visitors use the driveway.

Ms. Danganan wishes to have the restrictions Monday through Friday. She would hate to keep shuffling the cars out of the driveways.

Commissioner Osga made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Wade to implement Resident Parking Only 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays on the 1500 block of Ashland Avenue.

The vote was 4 to 0 in favor of approving the request. **The motion to approve the request passed.**

**Old Business – Continued discussion on the Safe Walking Routes to School report and exhibits.**

Eric Russell from KLOA Inc. initiates by addressing some of the observations from the last meeting. They put together maps depicting existing and proposed traffic controls Village wide. They considered the Village as a whole to minimize streets with more than two consecutive blocks with stop control. Revised the existing two-way stop on Franklin Avenue at Linden Street. A Safe Walking Route to School map was developed for the River Forest Community Center. As well as revised the two-way stop control on Vine Street at Gale Avenue.

KLOA focused on blocks that have more than two consecutive intersections in which a driver would come into a complete stop. With their proposed changes on Thomas Street it resulted with five consecutive stops. They made a couple changes, one being at Thomas Street and Ashland Avenue. They reversed the recommended traffic control, placing the stop on Ashland Avenue instead of Thomas Street. The same on Iowa Street with the previous proposed changes that resulted in four consecutive stops. The changes they made at Thomas Street and Iowa Street created additional stops at Ashland Avenue resulting in six stop controls.

KLOA put together a map for the Community Center, they focused on the boundaries to the tracks to the north over to Park Avenue on the east side. On the map they are recommending to reverse the stop control at Franklin Avenue and Linden Street. Their reasoning behind this is shown on the River Forest Community Center SWRTS Map, a lot of the routes are heading directly north.

Commissioner Osga informs speed was the reason the stop sign was placed on Linden Street instead of Franklin Avenue. Reasons that perhaps this intersection needs to be a 4-way.

Maureen Huston is still concerned about the lack of a crosswalk on Madison Street. Many students of the River Forest Community Center cross Madison Street to access the PACE bus stop on the south side of the street.

Jeff Loster, Village Engineer informs Madison Street is an IDOT route. He will reach out to them to see what they will and will not permit in that area.

David Crosby from 547 Franklin, has observed many of the crosswalks by the schools have signs which read "Stop for Pedestrians it's the Law". He questions if that signage is part of this plan?

Jeff Loster, Village Engineer responds there is one on Bonnie Brae Place and Augusta Street. The schools are in charge of taking them out and removing them at the end of the day.

Mr. Crosby asks because there was one on Franklin and Lake Street in front of St. Luke's. He believes they are extremely helpful after hours once the crossing guard is gone. He suggests placing that sign back out at that location. Since it has been gone it's made it difficult to cross the street. Questions the Committee if it's possible to take action with this plan? He will also bring it up to St. Luke's.

Chairman Rees expresses they are inclined to make a recommendation to making the Safe Route to School Program roll out in the spring of next year. They can move more quickly on some particular intersections for example, Vine Street and Gale Avenue.

**New Business – Request to install stop sign on Jackson Avenue at its intersection with Iowa Street.**

Julianne Nery from 847 Jackson moved to River Forest last summer with her three boys. There is a lot of bike and foot traffic around the intersection of Jackson Avenue and Iowa Street. She personally does not let her six-year-old cross this intersection at all. After witnessing what happens at that corner for the last year she never understood why there was never a stop sign or any type of traffic control. Ms. Nery recalls an accident that occurred back in October where the vehicles t-boned and propelled to the sidewalk in front of her home.

Chairman Rees advises that this intersection is part of the SWRTS program and stop controls will be implemented at that intersection. It was also the committee's intention to put this intersection in the agenda to move it more quickly.

Elizabeth Stoker from 806 Jackson Avenue appreciates all the work that is being put into this. She would greatly appreciate it if the change at the intersection of Jackson Avenue and Iowa Street could possibly be expedited.

Chairman Rees made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Osga to install stop signs as proposed at Jackson Avenue and Iowa Street.

The vote was 4 to 0 in favor of approving the request. **The motion to approve the request passed.**

Commissioner Cleary made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Wade to install a 4-way stop intersection at Gale Avenue and Vine Street.

The vote was 4 to 0 in favor of approving the request. **The motion to approve the request passed.**

Chairman Rees states they can perhaps adopt the Safe Route to School Route proposal, with the changes they had previously discussed.

Commissioner Osga thinks the suggestion to flip the stop controls on the intersections on Franklin Avenue and Linden Street is incorrect. He proposes to leave it as is or to convert it to a 4-way stop.

Chairman Rees made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Wade to adopt the Safe Walking Routes to School proposal as is with the exception being to make Franklin Avenue and Linden Street a 4-way, add the two stop sign to the existing stop signs. Along with the changes discussed to Thomas, Park and Ashland.

The vote was 4 to 0 in favor of approving the request. **The motion to approve the request passed.**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 P.M. All commissioners voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted:

*Signature Line*

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Jeff Loster, Secretary

*Signature Line*

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Doug Rees, Chairman  
Traffic & Safety Commission

Date: -----



## VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 16, 2019 – 7:30 PM

A regular meeting of the River Forest Traffic and Safety Commission was held on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 7:30 P.M. The meeting was conducted in the Community Room at the River Forest Village Hall, 400 Park Ave. River Forest.

### **Roll Call and Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM. Present at this meeting were Chairman Rees, Commissioner Gillis, Commissioner Buis, Commissioner Cleary, Commissioner Jayaraman and Commissioner Wade.

### **New Business – Request by Village staff to make recommended improvements on Park Avenue and Franklin Avenue, just north of Lake Street for the purposes of clearing congestion during drop-off and pick-up times.**

Caitlin Hofert lives in the condominiums at 7726 Lake Street. During school hours she can't park in front of her own home. She believes getting rid of parking will force people to walk longer distances. Residents that didn't have issues parking in front of their homes are going to find themselves now with the issue. They are just pushing the problem farther away. Ms. Hofert considers this proposal would negatively impact the surrounding residents and business owners.

Jeff Loster, Village Engineer clarifies that the original request included a parking restriction that lasted from 8:00am to 4:00pm. Subsequent to that being posted some conversations were had internally among staff and District 90. The current recommendation is to have those parking restrictions only between the hours of 7:30-9:00am and 2:00-4:00pm. They are trying to address mostly congestion during drop-off and pick-up. They realized the parking restriction does not need to be in place from 9:00am-2:00pm.

Ms. Hofert still stands by her testimony. She plans running errands around pick-up and drop-off time to avoid being home. The entire block in front of their group of town houses is wall to wall cars.

Chairman Rees asks Ms. Hofert where she parks?

Ms. Hofert replies she has three vehicles, two in her garage and she has a 24hr parking pass for the third. She parks on the street on Lake street when she is running errands. If they remove the parking from Franklin Avenue these vehicles will start to park in front of her home. Ms. Hofert assumes the people parking now on Franklin Avenue and on Park Avenue are the parents dropping off the kids at school during rush hour times, residents and overflow from the businesses on Lake Street.

Jeff Loster, Village Engineer shares from his conversation with District 90 there was some concern from the district's behalf of some faculty parking in this area as well. They have not done a study to verify any of this, it can very well be businesses and parents.

Commissioner Gillis notes the number of parking spaces being lost is twelve. Only six on Franklin Avenue and six on Park Avenue due to the driveways.

Jeff Loster, Village Engineer confirms that in addition adds there are no parking restrictions extended northward up on either of those blocks. Lake Street is all two-hour time limit, then west of the track it becomes three-hour time limit.

Margaret Horstman also lives at 7726 Lake Street. She points out the church is right behind them. They have staff parking in front of the church during the work week. That church has no parking lot other than the street for parking. Ms. Horseman questions the committee if they have a mechanism on how the parents are going to pick their kids up from school? Vehicles usually stand on both sides of the street to wait for their kids to come out.

Jeff Loster, Village Engineer clarifies that if there is No Parking on that block parents will not be allowed to stand around with their vehicle. It would stack everyone to one side of the street leaving a through lane. The goal of all of this is to maintain a through lane either through traffic or emergency vehicles. It's really about four or five vehicles that would get pushed further north, the quantity of what's being displaced should not be that much of an issue. The idea that they can maintain a through lane at all times during the day is something that is worthwhile.

Dan Hollenbach lives at 610 Park Avenue. He states that by adding these restrictions it will allow vehicles to speed even more through this area. Believes the drop off system the school has going on works relatively well. The issue is after the parents drop off the child they are racing out of there. Trusts the residents are more concerned about the high speeds at the end of Park Avenue, not so much about the congestion at the drop off by the school.

Commissioner Cleary notices the objections all have to do with convenience or lack of convenience for people who live there. He shares that he lives in a street with no parking from 9:00am to 5pm Monday through Friday. It's a little inconvenient, but you adapt to it. He thinks safety should be the number one concern. For that reason, he moves to adopt the proposal that looks like a well thought out solution to the problem which has been identified.

Commissioner Cleary made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Gillis to make improvements on Park Avenue and Franklin Avenue, just north of Lake Street for the purpose of clearing congestion during drop-off and pick-up times.

The vote was 6 to 0 in favor of approving the request. **The motion to approve the request passed.**

### **New Business – Presentation of the Comprehensive Plan by Houseal Associates for public discussion.**

Lisa Scheiner, Assistant Village Administrator for the Village of River Forest apologizes for the consultant who was scheduled tonight which was unable to attend. She will take comments or

questions they might have regarding traffic. The comprehensive plan is nearing its final stages; they are one of the last commissions to take a look at the draft. The next step is to presented to the plan commission meeting in February. There will then be a public hearing held for the entire community to come out and comment and review before it goes to the Board for final consideration and adoption.

Chairman Rees responds the commission does not have any comments or questions at this time on the Comprehensive Plan.

Lisa Scheiner, Assistant Village Administrator states that the Comprehensive Plan has not been published online. Once it goes to the Plan Commission she believes then it will be posted, but well in advanced of the public hearing for the entire community to be able to take a look at it. They will get the word out once it is out for public review using the website, social media and email.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 P.M. All commissioners voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted:

*Signature Line*

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Jeff Loster, Secretary

*Signature Line*

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Doug Rees, Chairman  
Traffic & Safety Commission

Date: -----



**Jeff Loster**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 20, 2019 6:25 PM  
**To:** Jeff Loster  
**Cc:** Kathryn  
**Subject:** Parking restriction request for 600 block of William St

Dear Jeff,

Thanks so much for the information regarding the parking situation on the 600 block of William Street.

We are having issues with individuals (resident/non-resident) parking on our block and walking to the train, making it extremely difficult to get out of our driveways and making it dangerous for kids because you can't see around the parked cars at the intersection of Quick and William.

It used to be a few cars parking at the south end of the street, however, now we are getting rows of cars back to back on both sides of the street from one end to the other, thus making it a one-way in both directions that requires good foresight or someone forced to back up.

We would like to get 2-hour parking restrictions instated for the 600 block of William on both sides between Quick and Oak Street.

The signed petition presently has 10 homes' signatures and Katie Iammartino is attempting to acquire signatures from people who we were not able to contact. Katie will deliver the petition to the Village office before the end of April.

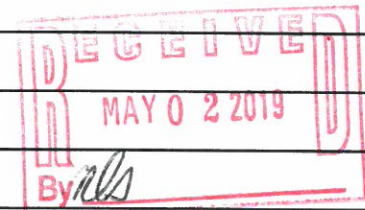
Thank you again for your help and please let me know about next steps.

Sincerely,  
Susan Kelty

# Traffic and Safety Commission - Petition of Support

Requested Action(s): Two hour parking time limit for east & west sides of the 600 block of William St  
between Quick & Oak Avenues

Name	Address	Date	Signature
Susan Kelly	625 William St.	4/20/19	Susan Kelly
John Kelly	625 William St.	4/20/19	John Kelly
Martina Kane	619 William St	4/20/19	Martina Kane
John R. Haw	613 William St.	4/20/19	John R. Haw
Blair Kelly	625 William St.	4/20/19	Blair Kelly
Jonas Talandis	618 William St.	4/20/19	Jonas Talandis
Michele Healy	632 William St	4/20/19	Michele Healy
Tina Lamkey	633 William St	4/20/19	Tina Lamkey
Helen Curtis	629 William St.	4/20/19	Helen Curtis
Brian Curtis	629 William St.	4/20/19	Brian Curtis
Katie Tammartino	622 William St.	4/20/19	Katie Tammartino
Stephanie Franke	621 William St.	4/20/19	Stephanie Franke
Vincent Pucelli	609 William St	4/20/19	Vincent Pucelli
Theresa Lindner	601 William	4/20/19	Theresa Lindner



\*Please note that by adding your information to the above petition, you are indicating your support of the requested action(s)

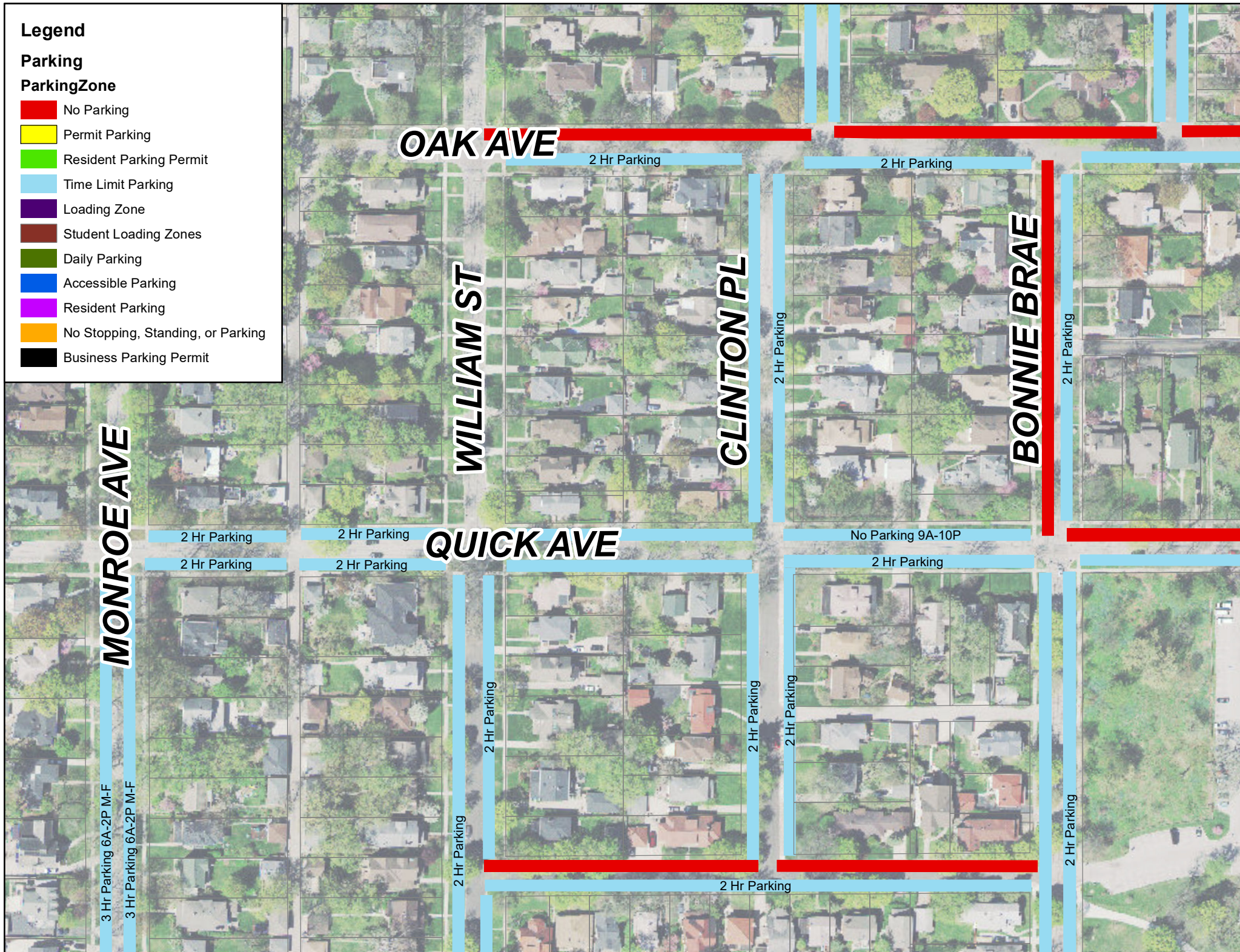


## Legend

### Parking

#### ParkingZone

-  No Parking
-  Permit Parking
-  Resident Parking Permit
-  Time Limit Parking
-  Loading Zone
-  Student Loading Zones
-  Daily Parking
-  Accessible Parking
-  Resident Parking
-  No Stopping, Standing, or Parking
-  Business Parking Permit





# POLICE DEPARTMENT PARKING SURVEY

Location: 600 BLK WILLIAM

Date	Time	Parked "Resident" Vehicles	Parked "Non-Resident" Vehicles	Total Number of Vehicles
2-Apr-19	8:30	3	5	8
2-Apr-19	13:45	5	5	10
3-Apr-19	12:20	4	10	14
3-Apr-19	14:30	4	7	11
4-Apr-19		4	5	9
29-Apr-19	10:35	2	5	7
29-Apr-19	15:00	4	5	9
30-Apr-19	8:15	3	3	6
30-Apr-19	13:40	3	3	6
1-May-19	14:50	4	2	6
2-May-19	9:30	5	4	9
2-May-19	14:05	7	4	11
6-May-19	8:50	2	4	6
6-May-19	13:05	5	2	7

## Jeff Loster

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**From:** Rick Gillis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 6, 2019 12:17 PM  
**To:** Jeff Loster  
**Subject:** Motorcycle/Scooter Parking

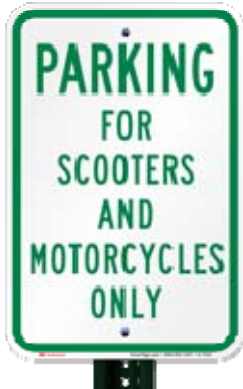
Hello Jeff,

I would like to put forth a request for motorcycle/scooter parking near the Green Line for those of us in the community the take the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) trains to downtown.

There appears to be two options within the Village of River Forest boundaries that may allow for this request with minimum disruption, no loss of automobile parking, and a low cost to implement. Both options are on Central Avenue, one at Bonnie Brae and the other at Clinton Place. Both "T" intersections do not have parking directly south of the respective street, each presenting a 37-foot gap between the current permit only parking along Central Avenue.

Unable to locate any federal or state parking guideline, I was able to source several municipality guidelines for motorcycle/scooter parking. Generally, while cars and trucks are required to park parallel to the curb, motorcycles and scooters must be parked perpendicular, or at a 90-degree angle, to the curb. Space requirements range from 3-4 feet wide, and 6-7 feet deep. Using the 37-foot length and a 4-foot-wide space, approximate 8 parking spots could be created, with a 2.5-foot buffer on each end for the respective automobile parking.

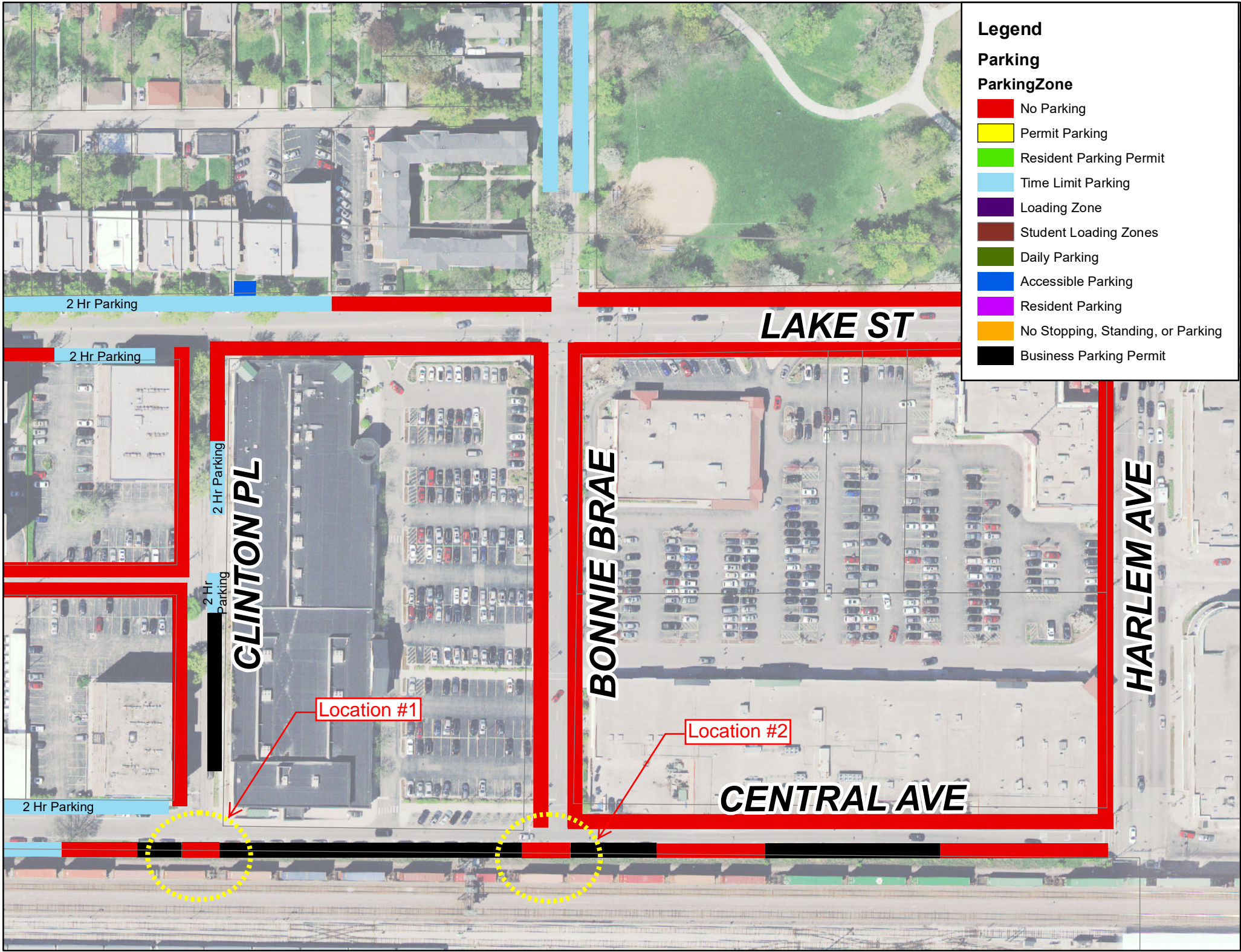
To prevent this from becoming a "free spot" for motorcycle/scooter parking for non-residents, I would recommend that this area be a "residential parking zone". This would require the "River Forest Motorcycle" tag residents are currently required to purchase for their motorcycle/scooter that are registered in the village.



Thank you in advance for your help in this matter.

Rick Gillis







Location #1





Location #2

