

Transportation and Mobility Committee Meeting Minutes

City of Cleveland Heights

Date: February 26, 2025

Location: Cleveland Heights City Hall (hybrid with Zoom)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM.
- **Quorum** confirmed.
- **Present (Voting Members):**
 - Gayle Lewin (Member)
 - Aaron Hughes-Ware (Co-Chair)
 - Howard Maier (Member)
 - Fern Haught (Member, via Zoom)
 - Chris Brace (Member)
 - Sam Bell (Member)
- **Non-Voting Members:**
 - **City Administrator:** Dan Horrigan (Co-Chair)
 - **City Council Liaison:** Gail Larson
- **Guests:** None

2. Approval of Agenda

- **Chris Brace** proposed adding an open discussion for items on the backlog at the end of the meeting. **Howard Maier** proposed adding time before that to discuss how the City Council budget process will impact the resurfacing and complete streets program.
- The amended agenda was adopted unanimously.

3. Committee Vacancy Update

- Dan Horrigan mentioned a sidewalk request from John Barber had been submitted to Planning / Public Works; no response yet, but he will update when he receives one.
- A friend of John Barber has also submitted an application to join the committee.
- **Gail Larson** noted the vacancy process involves review by the Administrative Services Committee; a new member is likely to be appointed in April.
- John McGovern, a returning resident and longtime cycling advocate, may also be interested in committee work in the future.

4. Committee Purpose Review

- **Aaron Hughes-Ware** provided background, reading from the committee's founding legislation, which emphasizes the advisory role on Complete and Green Streets (C&GS).

- **Gail Larson** gave a brief history:
 - **2018:** Complete and Green Streets Policy established, specifying an implementation process involving Police, Public Works, and Planning.
 - **2020:** Committee scope changed to include transportation and sustainability.
 - **2022:** Department heads stopped attending committee meetings, leading to reduced engagement and member departures.
 - **2024:** The committee was reconstituted.
- **Gayle Lewin** underscored that the 2024 establishing ordinance specifically says the committee shall advise on C&GS implementation. She reiterated that while the committee can only make recommendations, we are required to make recommendations on the C&GS process and implementation.
- **Aaron Ware** countered that these must be recommendations in collaboration with the administration.
- **Chris Brace** stressed that without being involved in design or informed about current projects, the committee can't effectively recommend anything.
- **Sam Bell** added he only joined after personal assurances from both Council and the Mayor that the Committee's recommendations would be taken seriously and get responses from the City. He called for clear commitment from the administration.
- **Howard Maier** expressed frustration, noting he has been patient for years and is running out of it. He recounted past hopes for Green Streets, and that simple requests (like resurfacing the Severance ring road) had gone unanswered in the past.
- **All Members** agreed on the need for renewed relationships with relevant department heads so the committee can do its job.

5. Discussion: Resurfacing, Budget, and Complete & Green Streets Policy

- **Chris Brace** inquired about a commitment from City leadership to include a C&GS analysis for 2025 resurfacing projects.
- **Gail Larson** mentioned \$800K in federal funding for SS4A (Safe Streets and Roads for All) plus a current \$200K city match. There is a possibility of adding \$1M more for related projects per Jim Posch, if funds are available in the budget.
- **Dan Horrigan** stated he could not commit on behalf of the Mayor or department directors at this time.
- **Members** emphasized that time is of the essence—resurfacing processes for 2026 need to be established soon, and any meaningful C&GS integration for 2025 requires discussion now.

6. Overnight Parking Ban

- **Chris Brace** asked about Public Works possibly revisiting the overnight parking ban.
- **Dan Horrigan** and Chris agreed to discuss this via follow-up email, and the committee expressed interest in being part of any review process.

7. Action Items & Requests

- **Chris Brace** will revise and upload meeting notes, as well as the follow-up email.
- **Gail Larson** will continue to provide updates on budget discussions from her Finance Committee work.
- **Dan Horrigan** will follow up with directors of Planning, Public Works, and Sustainability, inviting them to the March 26 meeting (7:00 PM).
- **Committee Request (to Mayor & Administration):**
 1. Clarify whether Complete and Green Streets analysis will be part of the 2025 resurfacing program, assuming Council funding.
 2. Outline how the committee can assist in that process.
 3. Provide an update on the overnight parking ban reevaluation (via Director Clinkscale, Public Works), and how we may contribute to that process.

8. Next Meeting

- **Date:** March 26, 2025
- **Time:** 7:00 PM
- **Location:** Cleveland Heights City Hall (Zoom available)

9. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15 PM.