

Neighbors of Belknap Lookout Mobility Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday August 30, 2017

Committee Members Present: Elianna Bootzin Brian Bremer Angel Gonzalez
 Lisa Haynes (GVSU) Bill Hebert Rob Kennedy
 Pat Waring (GVSU)

Committee Members Absent: Colin Cronin (DTN) Tom Bulten Abby Clayton (Coit)
 Andy Guy Mark Kidd (RJM) Todd Leinberger
 Jason Vos (RJM)

1. Introductions – Those present introduced themselves.
2. Previous Meeting – Elianna quickly summarized the notes: we'd been talking about boundaries for the effort (probably highway, railroad tracks, and Belknap hill), threw a lot of "spaghetti" at the wall in terms of two sided parking, making streets one way, etc. with the overall goal of tackling problems by identifying viable solutions and making recommendations to the NOBL board for implementation. We will look at the grid in terms of parking, traffic, safety, etc.
3. Discussion – There is a benefit to parking on both sides of the street: slowing down traffic. The circle at Trowbridge and Fairview has had only moderate effect. Changes would affect the bike lane on Lafayette, probably, not on other streets. Clancy especially could be targeted for one way. The bus route on Hastings is tight. We will know if the Laker Line is funded at the end of September; it would be built in 2018 and open in 2019. Previous neighborhood efforts proposed traffic circles at Coit and Trowbridge and Coit and Newberry; the latter was not desired by neighbors. Coit and Hastings would be a great place to slow down traffic as well. Lisa found the following link about calming measures: <https://www.pps.org/reference/livememtraffic/>. We referred briefly to Angel's parking counts.
4. Permit Parking – Our request for the 700 block of Livingston was supposedly submitted last year. There are some neighbors on Fairbanks who would like to add it as well.
5. GVSU updates – GVSU is talking to the City about adding lights at Lafayette and Hastings and Prospect and Michigan. There is a possibility they could build a parking ramp on Michigan rather than in the neighborhood now; that ramp would happen in tandem with the connector.
6. Neighbor perspectives – Brian likes the idea of parking on both sides of Fairview and Coit but figures it will need to be odd-even in the winter. Rob would like to deal with traffic speed. Elianna shared that she received training from Disability Advocates on how to evaluate street crossings and sidewalks. Bill likes to see open space and is adjusting to increased density. It's a lot to give up to get less speed but he is open to it if neighbors need the parking. He also thinks one way could be safer if there is parking on both sides. We wondered about adjusting the pedestrian signal at Coit and Michigan and/or allowing 2 left turn lanes.
7. Next steps – Angel will send out documents to look at data, processes. Elianna will be working with Rachel Lee and Midtown on mobility on Michigan. Angel referred to North Street in Chicago as being similar to Michigan in terms of traffic volume; it successfully moves more cars with fewer lanes and added parking. Most likely targets are Coit, Clancy and maybe Lafayette. We could do a trial as a way of gathering support/feedback. It was suggested we meet the same time next month.