



**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September 4, 2025**

Present

Qianna Decker (via Zoom), Dana DeLuca, Steve Glista, Zachary Ehmann, Valerie Leith, Lanny Potts, Jim Ratliff, Craig Vaughan, Wilson Xu.

Absent Lynn Lupini, Craig Vaughan

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 pm by Wilson Xu, Board President.

Guest Speakers

Dennis Randolph, Public Works Manager at City of Kalamazoo and Larry Wymer, Traffic Engineer at City of Kalamazoo, presented at the meeting at the request of the Board. Nolan and Christina reference for future coordination. The purpose of the meeting was to establish communication, gather background on projects, and build relationships with city staff. A handout was provided to Board members entitled “South Westnedge Area – Metrics Chart” (generated 9-4-25). The document primarily addressed the following discussion points:

- Recent history of Westnedge Ave traffic pattern
- Challenges reducing traffic speed on S. Westnedge between Crosstown Parkway and Kilgore
- Neighborhood traffic patterns on main roads from survey
- How speed bumps get installed on Inkster, and the rationale behind these and not others

The key updates discussed by Dennis and Larry were as follows:

New data systems are in use

- Speed and volume data is now being used from StreetLight (a traffic monitoring system that helps view traffic trends over time to understand roadway conditions as they change and deliver real-time and historical data on conditions impacting congestion, safety and sustainability)

- Current crash database through August 2025 (using severity coding) showing total crashes trending down
- Piloting AI cameras to count pedestrians and bikes (i.e. downtown/Rose Street)

Traffic calming and operations

- Ongoing rollout of speed humps/tables
- Mini circles/diverters in Edison curbed “donuts” and cut-through behavior
- Stop signs being added at uncontrolled intersections citywide

Bronson Blvd

- Addressing concerns on Bronson Blvd in the City’s CIP (the Capital Improvement Program - a five-year forecast of capital expenses and available funding resources).
See attached for more information on the CIP.

Event Center Operations

- Signal system upgrades, cameras, and pedestrian-priority timing for event egress areas

Speed Limits

- Planning a city-wide speed limit study and will adjust citywide in one action to avoid “targeting” perceptions. Aiming to remove remaining 40 mph streets. Westnedge Ave is likely to decrease.

Sidewalks and Trees

- Strong support to add/repair sidewalks. Funding mixes include Foundation for Excellence, grants, and potential assessments (examples given from Lansing)
- Tree policy – removal reviewed by Tree Committee; typical 3:1 replacement for healthy removals; active trimming/planting grass

Maintenance/311

- Use 311 for sightline, vegetation, or obstruction concerns; attach photos and include email for faster follow-up.
- Example site of concern per Valerie: Crane & Inkster (overgrown 'natural garden' at corner impacting visibility).

Neighborhood Plan (IK 2035) – What the City Needs from Us

- Provide a prioritized list of locations/intersections (Tier 1, 2, 3) for safety improvements so projects can be programmed/budgeted.
- Include a preamble/philosophy (e.g., prioritize kids/ADA users, slower speeds, safer crossings, sidewalks, protected bike facilities)
- City staff (Larry; and Nolan/Christina for planning) can work with WHNA to align data

Problem Areas (from discussion)

- Bronson at Edgemoor and Bronson at Midvale Terrace: wide intersections, long crossings, fast turns. Potential: bump-outs, raised tables, islands.
- Eastbound Crosstown → Northbound Park (near Fastsigns/REMAX, Covenant Academy): difficult left turn on to Park St. Possible protected/permissive left timing.
- Inkster near school: speed humps effective; noted 2–3 mph speed reductions citywide.

Communications and Engagement

- Desire to co-host City/WHNA sessions; City to provide notices, sticky-note maps, transcriptions
- Series of 'learning sessions' before solutions: Streets & Safety, Sidewalks/ADA & Trees, Biking network and crossings
- Use plain-language one-pagers and visuals for clarity
- City's SS4A (Safe Streets for All) consultants to share near-term project list within 1–2 months.

Decisions

- Hold separate mini meeting focused on IK 2035 priorities/materials
- October 10 — Parkwood-Upjohn: internal dry run (venue/AV test; not public)
- Next regular WHNA meeting: Oct 2 (Thu) for finance & IK budget.

Action Items

WHNA Board will:

- Compile a prioritized list traffic/public Works issues such as intersections/corridors (tiered) that includes Bronson at Edgemoor, Bronson at Midvale Terrace, Crosstown @ Park (left) as reported hotspots
- Draft guiding preamble for WHNA Neighborhood Plan (values/principles for street design)
- Prepare simple data handouts re: speed, volumes, crash heat map with callouts (request City's help with formatting - Dennis, Larry, Nolan, and Christina)
- Plan learning sessions structure and dates, draft outreach plan (FB ads, flyers, door hangers)

- Discuss and approve budget for IK 2035 outreach (printing, venue, childcare, snacks, etc.)
- Route 311 issues with photos and email (Start with Crane and Inkster); track ticket numbers
- Consider inviting Public Safety Officer to future sessions

The City will:

- Share short overview of active projects and near-term planned work
- Share clearer visuals (speed/volume stations, crash maps) in formats for public use
- Confirm criteria/feasibility for traffic calming tools: raised tables, bump outs, diverters, and when paving coordination is optimal
- Provide status on Crosstown/Park signal retiming study and tough timing for Bronson Blvd planning
- Advise on sidewalk funding paths and tree implications.

Other Business

The items on the agenda that were tabled for next month were:

- Finance Report - Craig
- Bike Racks in Crane Park - Wilson
- Annual Report Draft – Steve
- Instagram Account - Wilson

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm by Wilson Xu. **The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 2 at 5:45 at the YMCA on Maple Street.**

Minutes submitted by Dana DeLuca, Secretary