

Public Works Minutes from November 11, 2025

Discussion and Possible Action regarding street parking restrictions on Elizabeth Street near the Middle School.

Marquardt stated at the Public Works meeting on September 9, 2025, the committee reviewed parking discrepancies including some along Elizabeth Street. The committee did not make any recommendations at that time regarding Elizabeth Street due to having interest in talking with the school district first to get their input. Included is the list of parking restrictions on Elizabeth Street. The first restriction listed is no problem. The next four restrictions are contrary to the last restriction listed.

The existing signage is as follows:

- West Side from 115 north of Melrose to Court Street: No Stopping, Standing or Parking. (4 signs)
- West Side from Kay to Walworth: 2 Hr. Parking during School Hours, 8:00 – 4:00. (1 sign)
- West Side from Walworth to cul-de-sac: No Parking This Side. (6 signs)
- East Side from cul-de-sac to Walworth: 2 Hr. Parking during School Hours, 8:00 – 4:00. (5 signs)
- East Side from Walworth to Middle School property: 2 Hr. Parking during School Hours, 8:00 – 4:00. (2 signs)
- East Side adjacent to Middle School Property: No Parking This Side of Street. (2 signs)

Marquardt stated there could be a minimal financial impact with purchasing any new signs that would be required.

Board Member Hicks stated he had concerns during the Transportation Committee meetings regarding drop off and particularly pick up, which has always been a disaster on Elizabeth St., in front of the middle school. Hicks noted that it may all change in the next year, two or three with the referendum passing. He wondered if it was any better or worse right now?

Mrs. Dowden, Principal, Whitewater Middle School, stated it hasn't gotten better or worse. It has stayed consistent; however, picking up is much more chaotic.

Board Member Hicks said the Public Works Committee talked about making no parking, standing, or stopping from north of Melrose going south to Walworth Ave.

Samuel Karns, Whitewater Superintendent of Whitewater School District, stated it might be better to wait to make changes until the upgrades are made at the middle school. The district will need to change the behavior with the parents on where they can and cannot drive.

Marquardt stated his recommendation is to clean up the ordinance because it's contradictory and the police department cannot enforce anything. The current ordinance says you cannot park in one area, and a different ordinance says you can park in that same area. Marquardt recommendation is to clean up the ordinance based on the signage that is in currently in place. That way, in case someone does park where they are not supposed to, the police department can enforce the ordinance.

Dave Friend, Director of Building & Grounds for Whitewater Unified School District, commented that the police might have a chance to enforce the ordinance in front of the middle school once the bus loop gets installed.

After further discussion, the committee decided to leave the signage and the ordinance information status quo. Therefore, no action was taken on this matter. Marquardt stated they will work with the school district to figure out a plan.