

RYAN GRIM
Chief of Police



300 W BARAGA AVENUE
MARQUETTE MI49855
(906)228-0400

CHRISTOPHER ALDRICH
Captain of Detectives

JAMES FINKBEINER
Captain of Patrol Operations

City of Marquette
TPAC Traffic/Parking Advisory Committee
Minutes 10/14/2025

Meeting located in Conference Room # 103, lower level of Marquette City Hall

I. Meeting Called to Order:

5:05

II. Roll Call:

Present: Julie Benda, Grant Combs, Jerry Kujawa, Travis Norman, Barb Owdziej,
Eric Paupore

Excused Absence: Nicole Bates

Others Present: Police Liaison Captain Finkbeiner; Alex Berrones, Marquette
Resident

IV: Approval of Agenda:

The approval of the agenda was motioned by Norman; seconded by Paupore.
Approved.

V: Approval of minutes:

Minutes submitted by: Jerry Kujawa

The approval of the agenda was motioned by Norman; seconded by Paupore.
Approved.

VI: Public comments:

Alex Berrones, Marquette resident of 522 N. Hight Street and NMU Student
presented to the committee the findings from his study of pedestrian and cyclist

RYAN GRIM
Chief of Police



300 W BARAGA AVENUE
MARQUETTE MI49855
(906)228-0400

CHRISTOPHER ALDRICH
Captain of Detectives

JAMES FINKBEINER
Captain of Patrol Operations

behavior on N. Presque Isle Ave. between Waldo and Norwood Street. The study, which Mr. Berrones conducted as part of his course work, surveyed pedestrians and cyclists on the street during March, 2025. Mr. Berrones observed that cars did not stop to allow pedestrians to cross the street. Cyclists used the sidewalk instead of the bike lane on Presque Isle Ave., suggesting that cyclists did not feel safe on the road. Sidewalks were not cleared of snow, creating a hinderance for pedestrians. Mr. Berrones also interviewed pedestrians and cyclists, and many replied that they did not feel safe using the road. This is despite NMU's master plan setting a goal for Presque Isle to be a pedestrian centric street.

Mr. Berrones believed Presque Isle Ave could be made safer by shortening the crossing distance of the street, creating safety islands in the medians, such as the island that currently exists at Presque Isle Ave and Center Street, and installing HAWK signals at intersections, signals which alert drivers with flashing lights when pedestrians are crossing the street.

The committee agreed that there was an opportunity for NMU and the city to work together to create better conditions for pedestrians and cyclists on Presque Isle.

It was moved by Mr. Norman, and supported by Ms. Benda, that the committee recommends that the city of Marquette and NMU collaborate to create a formal pedestrian safety plan on Presque Isle Avenue between Waldo Street and Norwood Street that emphasizes NMU's goals to create a pedestrian centric corridor on Presque Isle Avenue.

All in favor. Motion passes.

VII: Old Business:

1) Downtown Business District sidewalks and other city sidewalks

The committee continued its discussion on whether e-bikes should be allowed on city sidewalks.

Ms. Owdziej spoke in favor of such a ban, arguing that e-bikes on sidewalks create un safe conditions for pedestrians.

RYAN GRIM
Chief of Police



300 W BARAGA AVENUE
MARQUETTE MI49855
(906)228-0400

CHRISTOPHER ALDRICH
Captain of Detectives

JAMES FINKBEINER
Captain of Patrol Operations

Ms. Benda, supported banning e-bikes on sidewalks, citing that most countries in Europe has passed regulations banning e-bikes on their sidewalks.

Mr. Norman, was not in favor of such a ban in Marquette, arguing that our city streets are not safe enough for all e-bike users. Because the streets are not designed to ensure the safety of cyclists, Mr. Norman believed e-bike users should be permitted to use the city sidewalks.

Mr. Kujawa spoke in favor of a ban, adding that while e-bikes on sidewalks poses a risk to pedestrians, cycling on sidewalks is also unsafe for the cyclists themselves, as cyclists are more visible when they are riding on the roads; cyclists on sidewalks are more likely to be unseen by cars as they cross intersections.

It was moved by Ms. Owdziej, and supported by Ms. Benda, that the city create an ordinance to restrict E-bikes on city sidewalks.

Ms. Benda, Mr. Combs, Mr. Kujawa, Ms. Owdziej, and Mr. Paupore voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Norman voted against the motion.

The motion passes.

VII: New Business:

- 1) E-bike Task force Committee Update(s) and discussion
 - A. Task force Committee Minutes Update
 - B. E-bikes/bikes on the roadways
 - C. E-bikes/bikes on the sidewalks
- 2) Traffic Concerns in the area of the old hospital

Captain Finkbeiner informed the committee that residents had complained that the intersection of College Ave and 7th Street has been neglected, with paint markings for the crosswalk and turning lanes no longer clearly visible. Although College Avenue is currently closed East of 7th street, the intersection itself sees traffic and should be properly maintained.

RYAN GRIM
Chief of Police



300 W BARAGA AVENUE
MARQUETTE MI49855
(906)228-0400

CHRISTOPHER ALDRICH
Captain of Detectives

JAMES FINKBEINER
Captain of Patrol Operations

IX: Committee Comments:

Ms. Owdziej encouraged TPAC members to attend the remaining e-bike task force meetings.

Mr. Norman asked that the committee discuss at the November meeting whether parking should be charged within the DDA on weekends.

X: Motion to Adjourn:

Ms. Owdziej motion to adjourn. Concurred by committee.

XI: Time of Adjournment:

6:15.

Approved by Chairperson: _____

Date: 11/11/25

Accepted by Committee Liaison: _____

Date: 11/11/25

The block contains two handwritten signatures. The first signature, in black ink, is written over a horizontal line and appears to be "Mr. Norman". The second signature, also in black ink, is written over a horizontal line and appears to be "Captain James Finkbeiner".