



May 29, 2018 Village Listening Session Q & A

Below are answers to the particular questions raised at the listening session for which the Village did not have immediate answers or information. As promised, those questions were researched. To the extent possible, we offered answers below. In some cases we identified planned actions and further research in response to a question. Anyone with additional questions or needing further clarification is welcome to contact Village Administrator Todd Schmidt at 850-5227 or tschmidt@waunakee.com. For those interested in watching the Listening Session, a recording has been uploaded to the Village's YouTube Channel.

Q: The area near/around the Hovde construction project is dangerous for pedestrians – lack of lighting, sidewalk closure, etc. Can this be addressed?

A: Good observations. We have forwarded these concerns to the police and engineering departments and have asked that they review the area and consider potential temporary modifications. This will also be communicated to Hovde's construction team. Regardless of potential temporary modifications, given the nature of construction, traversing this area may still be challenging depending on the timeline of construction. A by-pass piping system of the public sewer system currently runs above ground along the edge of the property currently which pushes out the fencing.

Q: Why do we need two stop signs on Water Wheel Drive in between Simon Crestway and Ireland Dr? What purpose do they serve? Wouldn't they be more appropriate when more development and parks in the area are complete?

A: We have asked the Police Department to review these signs and consider whether they are appropriate and effective for their intended purpose. What is important to note is that the Village wants to make sure that Water Wheel Drive doesn't become a heavily used "connector" street from Q to Peaceful Valley Parkway. Rather, we hope for this to primarily serve the immediate residents in that portion of the Kilkenny Farms neighborhood. The stops are intended to discourage through traffic, and instead encourage drivers to head up to the signals on Q at Peaceful Valley Parkway.

Q: There are concerns about safe pedestrian crossing of Main Street in various areas, with heavy traffic and lack of breaks in traffic during peak times. Are there plans to evaluate these issues?

A: These are good and valid concerns. In the past few years Village staff have made requests of the State DOT to add some additional controls, but those have been turned down. We would like to continue to press this issue with the State, so we will invite DOT representatives to attend an upcoming meeting of the Village's Public Works Committee to discuss this further. Please stay abreast of future meeting agendas to see when this will occur.

Q: Also relating to Main Street, there are concerns about traffic congestion and overall capacity of Main Street to handle more traffic with additional development density in the area. What can be done by the DOT or others to help manage these conditions?

A: Waunakee is part of the Madison Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) which has experts in transportation modeling. The Village will contact MPO staff to find out if they have the ability to assist with modeling potential future conditions on Main Street and evaluate current impacts. It may be possible to host a presentation about this which could be scheduled for a future meeting of the Plan Commission and/or Public Works Committee. Such a process will be discussed with the chairs of those committees.

Q: Is it possible to have a referendum on allowing or prohibiting any particular development?

A: This is a tricky question, because applicants for various Village approvals are entitled to the same procedures. If procedures are different for different projects, then the Village is opening itself up to potential liability (either in the form of equal protection or procedural due process, or both).

Q: Can the Village consider holding a public education program on TIF, with experts on both the pro and con side of the issue?

A: Yes, we will look at coordinating a program like this.

Q: Also relating to TIF, are there limits to what can TIF funds can be spent on and to what amount?

A: There are a couple of answers to this question. First, the State limits the amount of equalized value in any community that's within TIF districts (also known as TIDs) to no more than 12% of total equalized value. In Waunakee, we are at about 6.5%. Second, when a new district is created it is limited by the projects and expenses that are detailed in the approved project plan, including development incentives. All of the project plans for the Village's TIDs are available on the Village website at www.vil.waunakee.wi.us/443/Tax-Incremental-Financing-TIF-Districts.

Q: How can a citizen provide feedback to a Village committee, board, or commission if they are unable to attend the meeting in person?

A: Members of boards, committees and commissions are typically provided an agenda packet with meeting materials by Friday of the week prior to the meeting. Staff typically finalizes assembling these materials by Thursday of the week prior to the meeting. If a resident can provide comments in writing before the meeting packet is finalized, we can include those comments as part of the assembled packet. Please consider emailing your comments to the Village Clerk at jhelt@waunakee.com and identify the specific meeting item(s) you are commenting on.

Q: Next week on June 7th the Plan Commission is considering a zoning change request by TWall for properties on Second Street in between West and Fish streets. If those properties are changed to C-1D, but the TWall project itself does not move forward, can those homes be converted to commercial uses?

A: The answer is yes, that would be possible. Those homes would then fall under the C-1D zoning and the applicable permitted and conditionally permitted uses in the code for that district. The Village's Code is available via a link on the Village's website at www.vil.waunakee.wi.us. Once in the Code system, you can find the C-1D uses in sections 133-488 and 133-489.

Q: What happens next after Plan Commission action on the TWall rezoning application on June 7th?

A: The Plan Commission has three choices – to recommend Village Board approval, recommend Village Board denial, or table action to a future meeting. If the Plan Commission recommends approval or denial, then another public hearing and action item would come to the Village Board. This is tentatively scheduled for the regular Board meeting on July 2nd. This is “tentative” because if the Plan Commission tables action, then that would push back the schedule. The timing will be firmed up following the Plan Commission’s decision.

Q: Can the Village give more thought to creating some sort of Historical Society, Committee, Commission, etc.?

A: Yes, and Village President Zellner is currently considering how to best move that discussion forward. We would anticipate Plan Commission and / or Village Board action to form a study group to evaluate the options for creating this type of body. There will be more to be heard on this in the coming months.

Q: How can citizens find out when openings occur on Village committees, boards and commissions?

A: Generally the Village tries to advertise openings via our social media outlets and the Waunakee Tribune. Expiring terms of existing committee, board and commission members typically come up in the spring of each year. Most committees have staggered terms. Staff will work to update the Village website during the next few weeks to include the original appointment dates and term expiration dates for all who are serving on boards, committees and commissions.

Q: How can I stay updated and informed on Village issues?

A: There are numerous ways to keep in touch and contact the Village:

1. Our Village website is www.waunakee.com
2. The Village sends out updates through our blog at <http://waunablog.blogspot.com/>
3. The Village’s facebook page can be found by searching for Village of Waunakee in the search bar and liking our page.
4. The Village can be found on twitter at <https://twitter.com/waunakeewi?lang=en>
5. The Village’s [YouTube Channel](#) includes videos of recent Village Board Meetings and Listening Sessions.
6. You may also stay connected with the Village through the Village of Waunakee Smart Phone App (MyWaunakee) which can be downloaded from the Apple Store or Play Store. Simply search for MyWauankee to download.
7. Of course, you’re always welcome to contact us directly at (608) 850-8500