

**Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee (WUDAC) Tuesday**  
**July 8, 2025 | 7:00 pm-8:30 pm**  
**Hybrid Meeting**

In Attendance:

<b>Call to Order:</b>	Nina Koltnow, Secretary				<b>Respectfully Submitted by:</b> Nina Koltnow		
<b>Date/ Time:</b>	7 PM Tuesday, July 8, 2025						
<b>Attendees:</b>		Ali Oliver-Krueger (Vice Chair)	X	Nina Koltnow (Secretary)		Tanya Baskin	
		Vacant	X	Pedro Matamoros	X	Andrea Hernandez	
	X	Phillip Daley		Vacant			
		Vacant		Vacant			
		Kit Wood		Rob Fox			
<b>Staff:</b>	Crystal Ruiz						
<b>Guests:</b>	See below						

Guests: Councilmember Natali Fani-González  
Director of Transportation – Chris Conklin

Public: Town Hall Hosted in person and via Zoom (65 total)

I. 7:00 pm Call to Order – Nina Koltnow, Secretary

II. Presentations - 7:08 PM -

1. Townhall with CM Fani-Gonzalez re: transportation and parking

Kyle Lucas: Safe streets and roads for all grant (7.5M\$ + 2+M\$ from MoCo) - see slides.

Access to parks: Sligo Creek, Matthew Henson Trail, WRP; looked at high injury network. Major improvements at MH Trail and Conn and at Georgia; WRP from Arcola; Georgia and Evans Pkwy; Sligo at University.

Georgia at Arcola: improvements did not make the Final Cut. Design for Leading Pedestrian Interval not approved. Former SHA employee says a design review has not made it through channels. Art may not be employed to highlight areas of the crossing itself, but perhaps on sidewalks, signal control boxes, etc.

Public comment: Sidewalk on west side of Georgia Ave at Arcola Ave is in poor condition and dangerously narrow.

Public comment: Public interested in State Agency and Local government outreach for updates on these projects.

Public comment: Pleasant View Park needs improved access

Public Comment: How do all these trail improvements improve business accessibility in Wheaton? People need to feel safe walking to and from the business district.

Public comment: A speed camera was requested on Viers Mill, but nothing has happened. They have been told Viers Mill Rd around Norris qualifies for a speed camera. Can we get these changes to happen more quickly? And can we secure a follow-up on the timing.

Chris Conklin: Price and Georgia got slowed down due to request to do work at night. Now have permission to work during the day. It will be disruptive from late July through September. Traffic signal will be replaced at Blueridge and Georgia Ave.

Randolph between Georgia and Connecticut: pedestrian improvements going forward.

\$2M grant that was supposed to come this year for GA Ave improvements did not come because of change in federal administration.

## PARKING:

Parking: Jose Thommana see slides - 1800 parking spaces in PLD, mostly in lots and garages. All fines and parking revenue go to Wheaton PLD budget. Used for PLD operating costs and improvements, support some WUD activities. No parking rate increases from 2013 - 2022. In 22, rates became \$1 - \$1.25/hour, which is less than other parts of county. There is substantial money coming from permit revenue (for agencies). Any reduction in payment hours will necessitate parking fee rate rise in FY28, almost double. It is also possible that businesses could pay for employees or customers to have some free parking. What would the impact be of having lot 13 and under county building free? People are frustrated about parking tickets. What is the balance between parking rates and hours and required revenues for operations? Looks like we may need a rate increase in FY 32 or 33. Parking rates in Wheaton are lowest in region.

Public comment: the issue is that visitors can't park long enough to enjoy businesses (limited number of hours at meters); they have to keep feeding meters. How many businesses have closed in the last 3 years because of parking fines from over policing meters? People are sick of getting tickets.

Public comment: Need more wayfinding for long term parking and improved parking signage inside the public garages. People come for events and can't figure out parking. They get tickets or get towed and never want to come back.

Public comment: What can the PLD can do to stop the ticketing and towing in the parking garages when there are large events? Organizations rent WUD space, but participants cannot find long term parking, or parking terms are confusing, and people are ticketed and/or towed. That pushes people and organizations to go somewhere else because of their negative experience. That there isn't enough signage pointing toward long term parking; parking

meter payment boxes at the County Building are all locked behind the badge access doors. In response, MCDOT said that they are working on moving the payment boxes and that they will work with WUD to make parking free on event days.

III. Reports and Updates - No reports for July 2025

IV. Adjourn 8:45pm

NEXT WUDAC MEETING: Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 1:00PM – 2:30PM