

**Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting
Summary Meeting Notes**

December 6, 2007
3:00pm to 4:30 pm
Room 333, City Hall

Agenda

- 3:00pm** **Introductions**
Approval of Meeting Notes
Announcements
- 3:05pm** **Bike-Walk Twin Cities Program Update** – Joan Pasiuk from Transit for Livable Communities will brief the committee on the federal Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program, known locally as Bike-Walk Twin Cities. The program is funding a portion of the cost of the Pedestrian Master Plan and may fund future pedestrian improvements resulting from recommendations of the Pedestrian Master Plan. Joan will present the program’s objectives, timeline, and plans for future funding solicitations.
- 3:25pm** **Pedestrian Master Plan Kickoff** – The City recently hired the consultant team of T.Y. Lin International, SRF Consulting, and Bacon and Associates to prepare a Citywide Pedestrian Master Plan. The Pedestrian Advisory Committee will serve as the primary advisory body for the plan. Consultant Project Manager Craig Williams and other project team members will kick off the project with the committee. Discussion topics will include project objectives, schedule, final products and public involvement strategies.
- 4:25 pm** **Review of Action Items**

Attendees

PAC Member	Attendees	Representing	Present
X	Jim Adams	Senior Citizens Advisory Committee	
X	James Andrew	Metropolitan Council	X
X	Deborah Boyd	Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board	X
X	Theresa Cain	Metro Transit	X
X	Anna Flintoft	Minneapolis Public Works, PAC Chair	X
X	Anna Gillette	7 th Ward Citizen – North Loop	X
X	Loretta Grewe	Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities	
X	Stephanie Gruver	4 th Ward Citizen	
X	Diane Hansen	12 th Ward Citizen	
X	Sarah Harris	Walking Minneapolis Foundation	

X	Elizabeth Haugen	Minneapolis Communications Department	X
X	Diana Hawkins	City of Lakes Chamber	
X	Steven Hay	Minneapolis CPED	X
X	Robin Hennessy	City of Minneapolis Attorney's Office	
X	Mary Jackson	Minnesota Department of Transportation	X
X	Karen Nikolai	Hennepin County	X
X	David Rak	Minneapolis Dept of Health & Family Support	
X	Mike Rumppe	Minneapolis Fire Department	
X	Jan Sandberg	7 th Ward Citizen – Loring Park	
X	Steve Sanders	University of Minnesota	
X	David Smith	Minneapolis Public Schools	X
X	Mackenzie Turner	Bicycle Advisory Committee	X
X	Kathy Waite	Minneapolis Police Department	X
X	Mary Watson	6 th Ward Citizen	X
	Patty Bowler	Minneapolis Department of Health	X
	Lisa Cerney	Minneapolis Public Works	X
	Shaun Murphy	Mpls Bicycle & Pedestrian Programs Intern	X
	Joan Pasiuk	Transit for Livable Communities	X
	Craig Williams	T. Y. Lin International	X
	Barry Warner	SRF Consulting	X

Summary of Items Discussed

Introductions/Approval of Meeting Notes/Announcements

There were no comments on the meeting notes. Anna announced that a [recent study](#) ranked Minneapolis and St. Paul 17th out of 30 cities regarding walkability.

Bike Walk Twin Cities Program Update

Joan Pasiuk from Transit for Livable Communities gave an overview of the Bike Walk Twin Cities Program to date. This federally funded program, which is also known as the Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program (NTP), has approximately \$21 million to spend over the life of the program. Mode shift toward walking and biking must be demonstrated by 2011, with the potential for Congress to expand the program to other localities beyond the current four. The other pilots are Sheboygan County, WI, Marin County, CA, and Columbia, MO. Minneapolis stands out as the most urban of these four.

A round of solicitations was done earlier this year in planning, infrastructure, and operations categories. Most of the awarded projects were successful because of their potential for connectivity. Bicycle boulevards were one of the more innovative projects funded. None of the projects are yet under construction. A list can be viewed on the Transit for Livable Communities website at www.tlcmnnesota.org. The next solicitation will occur in the spring of 2008. The categories won't be as broad as in the past solicitation; instead they will have specific requirements which require innovation.

Part of the effort of the Bike/Walk Twin Cities Program includes education. Seminars like the Pedestrian Training Workshop led by Michael Ronkin will continue. Also, the Bicycle & Pedestrian Ambassador Program will be launching in 2008, and will work with the general public to increase biking and walking.

Committee questions and answers included:

How much money is left for the next solicitation?

Approximately \$7 million remains, but this amount will be split into 2 remaining solicitations.

What sort of public health measures were woven into this program?

A general category of basic physical activity was included in the program. The CDC is a partner, and a few small targeted studies will be done.

What sort of feedback have you gotten after the first solicitation about pedestrian projects, since most of the funded projects were bicycle-related?

This wasn't by design; it was sort of how things came down the pipe. But we also knew we had the Pedestrian Master Plan in the works. We did fund some livable streets projects in St. Paul, and the bicycle boulevard projects which were funded are great for pedestrians.

Are you aware of any innovative pedestrian projects done in other pilot cities?

No, and it's harder for people to conceive of really innovative pedestrian projects. Michael Ronkin had a lot of nuts and bolts ideas, but other ideas are coming up.

Pedestrian Master Plan Kickoff

Craig Williams from T. Y. Lin International and Barry Warner from SRF Consulting presented a Powerpoint on the scope of the Pedestrian Master Plan. There will be 3 public meetings in 2008; the first will present a plan of the scope of work, the second will give the status of what has been accomplished midway, and the third will be a presentation of the final plan.

After the presentation, committee questions and answers included:

Will the Pedestrian Master Plan be broad or specific to local neighborhoods?

There will be broad policy recommendations, but there will also be a list of short-term and long-term project needs. Some projects will be designed, and others will only be identified as potential improvement locations. It depends upon how long this list becomes. It will probably be hard to find all of the problems out there, so the plan will look at more of the systematic policies and practices that will affect localized problems.

How does the City's street lighting policy fit into the Pedestrian Master Plan?

The City is developing a street lighting policy, has completed public meetings, and is continuing to work with policy makers on the funding of street lighting. The Pedestrian Master Plan will be coordinated with the street lighting policy and may provide some analysis of priority needs for enhanced pedestrian lighting.

The committee was then asked to provide ideas for projects that might be good for an immediate list needed in the spring of 2008, and for policies or procedures that should be examined.

Committee ideas included:

- A lack of pedestrian lighting on the Portland, Park, & 11th Avenue bridges over I-94.
- The litter problem in the downtown district.
- The lack of marked crosswalks, which are currently only striped at stop lights.
- Maintenance funding for marked crosswalks.
- The effectiveness of painting versus poly crosswalks.
- The effectiveness of mid-block crossings, since they are so infrequent.
- The right-turn on red policy.
- The dollar cost versus the benefit for pedestrians, regarding new infrastructure projects.
- Education and outreach solutions, to augment infrastructure improvements.
- Integration of the City Health Department's Safe Routes to School plan.

Committee members were encouraged to forward other ideas on to Anna, who will forward them to Craig.

Next Meeting

Thursday, January 10th, 3:00 pm, City Hall Room 333