

**Minneapolis Pedestrian Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes**

Wednesday, April 8, 2009

3:00 pm to 4:30 pm
Room 333 City Hall

Agenda

- 3:00 pm** **Introductions**
Approval of Meeting Notes
Announcements
- 3:05 pm** **Walking in the News**
City staff will provide an update on public messaging regarding pedestrian safety discussed at the March meeting.
- 3:10 pm** **Chicago Avenue / 9th Street S Intersection Design**
Ole Mersinger from Public Works will present the conceptual designs for reconstructing the intersection of Chicago and 9th in Elliot Park and seek input on best options for pedestrians.
- 3:25 pm** **Bike, Walk, and Roll Plan**
Jennifer Ringold will present the Park Board's Bike, Walk and Roll Plan.
- 3:45 pm** **Pedestrian Master Plan**
Anna Flintoft will distribute and present the draft final Pedestrian Master Plan. Comments from the PAC will be due by May 1, 2009.

Attendees

PAC Member	Attendees	Representing	Present
X	Jim Adams	Senior Citizens Advisory Committee	
X	James Andrew	Metropolitan Council	
X	Kristen Klingler	Minneapolis Department of Health	X
X	Theresa Cain	Metro Transit	X
X	Aaron Day	City of Lakes Chamber	
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
X	Sarah Harris	Walking Minneapolis Foundation	

X	Elizabeth Haugen	Minneapolis Communications Department	X
X	Steven Hay	Minneapolis CPED	
X	Robin Hennessy	City of Minneapolis Attorney's Office	
X	Mary Jackson	Minnesota Department of Transportation	X
X	Karen Nikolai	Hennepin County	
X	Jennifer Ringold	Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board	X
X	Mike Rumppe	Minneapolis Fire Department	X
X	Jan Sandberg	7 th Ward Citizen – Loring Park	X
X	Steve Sanders	University of Minnesota	
X	David Smith	Minneapolis Public Schools	X
X	Mackenzie Turner	Bicycle Advisory Committee	
X	Kathy Waite	Minneapolis Police Department	
X	Mary Watson	6 th Ward Citizen	X
	Margot Indieke Cross	Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities	X
	Rebecca Gomez	Bike Walk Ambassadors	X
	Shaun Murphy	Minneapolis Public Works	X
	Ole Mersinger	Minneapolis Public Works	X
	Howard Verson	Minneapolis Public Works	X

Summary of Items Discussed

Walking in the News

Anna Flintoft and Elizabeth Haugen reported that they will be meeting shortly to develop a game plan on promoting positive walking messaging in the media.

Chicago Avenue / 9th Street S Intersection Design

Ole Mersinger from Public Works presented the conceptual designs for reconstructing the intersection of Chicago and 9th in Elliot Park. He presented two design options: a roundabout and a signalized intersection. The committee had a lot of questions about how roundabouts operate. Committee comments included:

- There are issues with traffic signal timing for this intersection and pedestrians not knowing when to cross etc.
- Roundabouts are good for moving vehicles, but are not pedestrian friendly.
- Single-lane roundabouts are difficult for emergency vehicles because a stopped vehicle can block the whole lane, and there is a hospital nearby.
- There is a college nearby, and students will likely walk through the middle of the roundabout and not use the designated crosswalks.
- Research shows that roundabouts are overall safer for pedestrians, but the context is important, and this may not be an appropriate location.
- Overall the Committee favored a signalized intersection over a roundabout.

The Committee would like a presentation on roundabout design and issues/benefits for pedestrians at a future meeting, as more roundabouts are likely to be proposed in Minneapolis.

Bike, Walk, and Roll Plan

Jennifer Ringold presented the Park Board's Bike, Walk and Roll Plan survey results, focusing upon survey respondents who identify themselves as walkers. The purpose of the plan is to identify both programming and infrastructure changes to support bicycling, walking and rollerblading at Park Board facilities. Highlights of the survey include:

- Walkers generally think the Park Board is doing a good job of meeting their needs.
- Crowded trails and concerns about personal safety are more likely to limit walkers use of trails than concerns about intersections, conflicts with other trail users, and lack of information about facilities or programs.
- The program/service which walkers would most like the Park Board to provide are days when parkway s are open to pedestrians and cyclists and closed to motor vehicles.

Pedestrian Master Plan

Anna Flintoft distributed copies of the draft final Pedestrian Master Plan.

The timeline for PAC comments and final council adoption is as follows:

- Deadline for Comments: May 1, 2009
- Discussion of Comments: May 6, 2009 PAC meeting
- Public Review: June 1-30, 2009
- Council Adoption: July 31, 2009

Known improvement needs for the plan include:

- Ch 5 project readiness ratings require further review – City, Hennepin County, Mn/DOT
- Map 20 is missing some crashes
- Map 11 is missing some pedestrian bridges
- A map of sidewalk railroad crossings is being developed.
- More photos are being added.

PAC feedback is particularly needed on implementation responsibilities for the agencies and city departments represented by the PAC.