

**Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting
Summary Meeting Notes**

January 10, 2008
3:00pm to 4:30 pm
Room 333, City Hall

Agenda

- 3:00pm** **Introductions**
Approval of Meeting Notes
Announcements
- 3:05pm** **Committee Vice Chair** – The committee will discuss the need for and consider selecting a Vice Chair.
- 3:10pm** **5th Avenue N and 5th Street N Pedestrian Facility** – Lisa Cerney from Public Works will seek input on a proposed new pedestrian facility at 5th Avenue N and 5th Street N near the future LRT station.
- 3:25pm** **Pedestrian Profiles** – Shaun Murphy will seek input on the planned pedestrian profiles for the City’s pedestrian website.
- 3:30pm** **Pedestrian Master Plans from Other Cities** – Anna Flintoft will give a brief overview of pedestrian master plans from other cities.
- 3:40pm** **Minneapolis Pedestrian Master Plan** – Anna Flintoft and consultant Craig Williams from T.Y. Lin will brief the committee on the Pedestrian Master Plan work to date and seek input on the project objectives, public meetings and public engagement strategy, and approach to inventorying existing practices and conditions.
- 4:25 pm** **Review of Action Items**

Attendees

PAC Member	Attendees	Representing	Present
X	Jim Adams	Senior Citizens Advisory Committee	X
X	James Andrew	Metropolitan Council	X
X	Deborah Boyd	Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board	
X	Theresa Cain	Metro Transit	
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	Diana Hawkins	City of Lakes Chamber	
X	Steven Hay	Minneapolis CPED	X
X	Robin Hennessy	City of Minneapolis Attorney's Office	X
X	Mary Jackson	Minnesota Department of Transportation	X
X	Karen Nikolai	Hennepin County	
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
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
X	Mary Watson	6 th Ward Citizen	
	Patty Bowler	Minneapolis Department of Health	X
	Lisa Cerney	Minneapolis Public Works	X
	Martha Hage	Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities	X
	Shaun Murphy	Mpls Bicycle & Pedestrian Programs Intern	X
	Jennifer Ringold	Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board	X
	Craig Williams	T. Y. Lin International	X

Summary of Items Discussed

Approval of Meeting Notes/Announcements

There were no comments on the meeting notes. Anna announced that the meeting in February will be back on schedule - on the first Thursday of the month. Patty Bowler announced that the Get Fit Twin Cities initiative is launching this month.

Committee Vice Chair

Anna explained that she will be going on maternity leave soon and suggested that a Vice Chair be selected by the committee to run meetings when the Chair is unavailable. The Bicycle Advisory Committee has both a Chair and Vice Chair. Anna nominated Jan Sandberg to serve as a Vice Chair. The nomination was seconded and passed on a voice vote. Anna explained that in her absence, other City staff will be responsible for preparing the agenda in consultation with the Vice chair and will be responsible for preparing meeting notes.

5th Avenue N and 5th Street N Pedestrian Facility

Lisa Cerney from the Minneapolis Public Works Department gave an overview of a proposed pedestrian ramp, at the intersection of 5th Avenue N and 5th Street N to provide access to the Hennepin County Environmental Services building. The intersection is in close proximity to the new Twins ballpark and the future termini of the Hiawatha light rail line. The new light rail tracks will alter the grade of the existing street and cut off the existing at-grade pedestrian and

vehicular access to the the Hennepin County Environmental Services building from 5th Street. Without the new ramp, pedestrians walking to the building from Downtown and the Warehouse District would be forced to take a circuitous route to the new entrance of 6th Avenue N and 5th Street N. With the ramp, the sidewalk would be narrowed to 6 feet wide; without the ramp, the sidewalk would be 10-12 feet wide.

Committee members were asked for their reaction to the proposed project. Committee questions, answers, and comments included:

Will there be street furniture as part of that 6' zone?

Yes, there may be some streetlights and stoplights included in the 6' width.

Does this building get much foot traffic?

Probably not, but we can check with Hennepin County.

Will pedestrians be able to access the building from the intersection of 5th Street and 5th Avenue?

No. The light rail tracks are laid at this intersection. The tracks are also 6' higher than the road at its maximum.

If someone got off at the train, they would have to walk all the way around?

Yes.

As part of the design could the sidewalk expand into the street?

No, because the light rail track wall will be next to the sidewalk.

How wide is the sidewalk right now?

8'

The sidewalk should remain to be at least 8'.

Pedestrian Profiles

Shaun Murphy from the Minneapolis Public Works Department gave a short presentation on Bicyclist Profiles, which are currently posted on the City's website at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/bicycles/meet-bicyclists.asp>. A similar page will be posted on the City's website for pedestrians. The committee gave feedback on a proposed list of questions. An e-mail along with a list of final questions will be circulated to committee members, to solicit potential pedestrians to be profiled on the new page.

Pedestrian Master Plans from Other Cities

In response to questions from the last PAC meeting about what Pedestrian Master Plans typically look like, Anna presented a handout, giving a brief overview of sample elements from pedestrian master plans from other cities.

Minneapolis Pedestrian Master Plan

Craig Williams from T.Y. Lin International presented a draft vision/objectives/outcomes document and a public outreach strategy document for the Minneapolis Pedestrian Master Plan.

Committee comments included the following:

Vision Document -

- It should include commute, shopping, errand-running trips.
- It should have a tangible, measurable goal to work toward.

Objectives Document -

- The language should be less institutional and bureaucratic, and more like a newspaper article. It shouldn't lose a lot of information, but it should be more reader-friendly.
- Add bold areas and fewer words.
- The word "accessible" should be added to the document.
- There should be a list of things that won't be done by the Pedestrian Master Plan.
- Be clear on how this plan will be linked to other plans.

Final Outcomes Document -

- The final outcomes are clear.
- A pedestrian design guide should also be accessible in text for readers with disabilities, and not just graphically.

Public Outreach Strategy Document -

- Say "persons with disabilities" and not "Americans with disabilities."
- Use "public safety" instead of "law enforcement."
- Say "places of worship" and not "churches."
- Include county elected officials, colleges and universities, the Walker, the Guthrie, corporations with local campuses, the TMO, the Blind society, immigrants, Metro Transit users, children, the Youth Coordinating Board, runners, business associations, the Neighborhood Sustainability Conference (Alliance for Sustainability), AARP, the Stairstep Foundation, and the Minneapolis Council of Churches.

Craig will revise the public outreach strategy document and send it to members for review. If committee members can provide an organization name or contact, it would be helpful.