

City of Minneapolis Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Notes

Wednesday, November 3, 2010

Attendance:

Voting Members: Neal Baxter, Jack Garland, Anna Gillette, Matti Gurney, Martha Hage, Elizabeth Haugen, Dan Herber, Kelly Wilder

Non-Voting Members: Anna Flintoft, Mary Jackson, Lonnie Nichols, Liliana Rivera

Others: Chris Engelmann, Robin Garwood, Anna Noren, Donald Pflaum

1. **Approval of September Committee Meeting Notes.** The committee approved the September committee meeting notes.
2. **Approval of October Field Walk Notes.** The committee approved the field walk notes for the October field walk of the Warehouse District Heritage Streets area with the correction that 5th Street under the 3rd/4th viaducts is actually 5th Avenue.
3. **Announcements.** Matti Gurney reported that the Walk Friendly Communities recognition program sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration, about which PAC member Tony Hull had emailed the committee, has an application deadline of December 15, 2010. Matti Gurney, Kelly Wilder, and Anna Flintoft discussed the possibility of Minneapolis applying and concluded that the application process was a significant time commitment and that we should wait for a future round of applications.
4. **Riverside Avenue Reconstruction Project.** Chris Engelmann from Minneapolis Public Works presented an update on the Riverside Avenue reconstruction project and shared the current proposed layout. Committee members commented that the design needs to maintain pedestrian accessibility around street furniture such as bike racks and utility covers.
5. **Snow Clearance Communications Plan.** Elizabeth Haugen reviewed the Communications Department's proposed sidewalk snow clearance communications plan for Winter 2010/11. The Committee discussed additional ways to get the word out about sidewalk snow shoveling, including:
 - translating the messages into Spanish and Somali and working with organizations and media specific to those populations
 - distributing the information to Park Board recreation centers
 - working with the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department to get the information out to annual neighborhood organization meetings, going on nowRobin Garwood reported that Council Member Gordon's office is sending letters to business owners in his ward who haven't shoveled in the past to more proactively target those property owners. He suggested that strategy could be offered to other council members.

The committee also discussed the idea of holding an annual sidewalk shoveling awards program, but didn't come to any conclusions. One idea discussed was to have a broader pedestrian-oriented business awards program that covered all seasons.

- 6. Pedestrian Master Plan Implementation – Maintenance Chapter.** The Committee discussed the recommendations in the Pedestrian Master Plan Maintenance chapter with the intention of identifying a strategy for focused discussion and action at the December meeting. The Committee identified the three implementation strategies related to construction zones. Anna Flintoft asked the Committee for volunteers to sit down with city staff prior to the December meeting; Jack Garland and Neal Baxter volunteered. The Committee also discussed the need to proactively plan for implementation of all Pedestrian Master Plan recommendations and the need to report annually to the City Council’s Transportation and Public Works Committee’s on the Committee’s work.
- 7. Next Meeting, Next Field Walk, Potential Future Topics.** The next committee meeting will be December 1, 2010, instead of a field walk. There will also be a committee meeting on January 5, 2011. The committee tentatively plans to do a snow issues-oriented field walk on February 2, 2011.