

City of Minneapolis Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

3:30 pm to 5:00 pm

City Hall Room 333

Voting Members

- | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Philip Ailiff | <input type="checkbox"/> James Andrew | <input type="checkbox"/> Neal Baxter | <input type="checkbox"/> Jack Garland | <input type="checkbox"/> Anna Gillette |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Matti Gurney (Chair) | <input type="checkbox"/> Diane Hansen | <input type="checkbox"/> Martha Hage | <input type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth Haugen | <input type="checkbox"/> Dan Herber |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tony Hull | <input type="checkbox"/> Amy Loegering | <input type="checkbox"/> Silvia Magana | <input type="checkbox"/> David Smith | <input type="checkbox"/> Kelly Wilder (Vice-Chair) |

Non-Voting Agency Members

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Gomez (Bike/Walk Amb's) | <input type="checkbox"/> Karen Nikolai (Hennepin County) | <input type="checkbox"/> Theresa Cain (Metro Transit) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> James Andrew (Metropolitan Council) | <input type="checkbox"/> Mary Jackson (Mn/DOT) | <input type="checkbox"/> Joe Bernard (Mpls CPED) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sarah Stewart (Mpls DHFS) | <input type="checkbox"/> Matt Clark (Mpls Police) | <input type="checkbox"/> Anna Flintoft (Mpls Public Works) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lonnie Nichols (MPRB) | <input type="checkbox"/> TBD (MPS) | <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Sanders (U of M) |

Agenda:

1. **Announcements** (opportunity for members to inform committee of activities of interest)

2. **Pedestrian Master Plan Implementation Priorities** – Matti Gurney, Committee Chair

3. **Work Zone Practices** (Attachment 1) – Work Zones Subcommittee

Relevant Pedestrian Master Plan Recommendations:

- [Objective 5.4: Maintain Pedestrian Safety and Accessibility in Construction Zones](#)

4. **Snow Clearance Practices** (Attachment 2) – Mike Kennedy, Public Works

Relevant Pedestrian Master Plan Recommendations:

- [Objective 5.1: Ensure Effective Snow and Ice Clearance for Pedestrians](#)

5. **Walk Friendly Communities Application** (Attachment 3) – Anna Flintoft, Public Works

Relevant Pedestrian Master Plan Recommendations:

- [Objective 6.3: Showcase and Celebrate Great Walking Experiences](#)
- [Objective 7.3: Improve Tools to Identify, Plan, Design and Evaluate Pedestrian Improvements](#)
- [Objective 7.4: Foster Effective Pedestrian Advocacy and Stewardship](#)

6. **Next Meeting: May 4, 2011**

Upcoming Meeting Topics:

Topics	Tentative Date
Health Department: Obesity Prevention Programs Related to Walking	May 2011
Mpls Public Schools: Safe Routes To Schools Update	May 2011
Walk Friendly Communities Update	June 2011
Crosswalk Marking Practices	TBD
ADA Transition Plan	TBD
Pedestrian Counts	TBD

City of Minneapolis

Department of Public Works

TRAFFIC & PARKING SERVICES

300 Border Av. N. Minneapolis, MN 55405
Phone 612-673-5750 Fax 612-370-3973

DATE: March 30, 2011

TO: Pedestrian Advisory Sub Committee on Pedestrian Accessibility through Construction Zones

FROM: Steve Mosing, Allan Klugman, Doug Maday, Dennis Bechard
Public Works, Traffic and Parking Services Division

SUBJECT: DRAFT MEMORANDUM: Pedestrian accessibility through construction zones

Committee Members:

As a result of a meeting held 11/19/2010 with this Committee, staff from Public Works has produced a draft outline on the planning and implementation for accommodating transportation users through construction zones. The primary focus of this particular outline is pedestrian accessibility as it pertains to the Minneapolis Pedestrian Master Plan Objective 5.4.

The following Sections outline the basis of the need for accommodating pedestrians along with planning, process, and future steps. The intent of this memo is to provide stakeholders guidance through the construction process with emphasis on maintaining pedestrian connectivity and safety.

PEDESTRIANS IN CONSTRUCTION ZONES

1.0 BACKGROUND

- The Minneapolis Pedestrian Master Plan addresses several policies and strategies to help enhance the walking experience in the City.
- Within the framework of the Master Plan, pedestrian plan goals were developed.
- Goal 5 addresses the maintenance of the pedestrian system.
- Under Goal 5, Objective 5.4 articulates subjects relating to the maintenance of pedestrian safety and accessibility in construction zones.
- Traffic and Parking Services (TPS) staff has reviewed the Pedestrian Master Plan, has met with the Subcommittee of the Standing Pedestrian Advisory Committee and has further refined its approach to dealing with pedestrian access in construction zones.
- The purpose of this memorandum is to document how TPS is planning on addressing the pedestrian/construction zone topic in the future.
- The future procedures build on past practice of the TPS division
- Further, the future procedures show an even greater commitment to enhancing the pedestrian experience and safety through the construction zone
- Guiding principles in the future application of construction zones will be:
 - Attempt to minimize disruption to existing pedestrian movements by following MUTCD requirements that a pedestrian access route be provided to the maximum extent feasible.

Draft Memorandum March 30, 2011

- The burden of proof will be placed on the contractor to establish justification for those times in which a sidewalk must be closed or relocated
- This memorandum delineates the major steps in the process for Planning, Implementing and Monitoring Pedestrian Access in Construction Zones.
- The memorandum closes with recommendations for further steps and evaluation of the success of activities relating to Pedestrians in the Construction Zone.

2.0 PROCESS FOR PLANNING, IMPLEMENTING AND MONITORING PEDESTRIAN ACCESS IN CONSTRUCTION ZONES

2.1 Planning

When planning occurs:

- Planning for construction zone management occurs after project is approved and is signed off on.

Objectives of the planning:

- Direct contractor to construct project while accommodating competing users (i.e., construction efficiencies are not the sole determining factor).
- Planning efforts allow contractor to present rationale for their proposed construction zone treatments.
- Planning efforts allow City staff to understand construction activities and to identify impacts to other interests and stakeholders

Procedure:

- The City has changed its process so that now the Contractor is required to provide a Traffic Control Plan to the City for projects with closures or detours
- Contractor meets with City staff to discuss terms of the Traffic Control Plan and construction zone requirements
- Construction zone pedestrian accommodations are considered within a broader context of City staff reviewing overall construction impacts (e.g., impacts on infrastructure and utilities)

Factors Considered:

- Schedule of construction/job duration
- Hours of operation
- Construction zone management may be different when workers are present vs. when workers are not present (i.e., weekday vs. after-hours or weekend)
- A project may have more than a single construction zone design (by timeframe); construction zone can be dynamic and change during the course of the project
- Examples of what has been done are attached

2.2 Implementation

- Permits issued to contractor (reference on-line permitting system)

Draft Memorandum March 30, 2011

- Contractor is also governed by controlling city ordinances (e.g., noise ordinance, construction hour time restrictions, etc.)
- Traffic control agents also receive copy of the permit
- All traffic control equipment and materials provided by contractor
- Permit places construction zone requirements on the contractor
- All equipment and installations must conform to the Minnesota Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MMUTCD) standards, including new and evolving standards for Temporary Pedestrian Access Routes
- In some cases “extraordinary” requirements may be imposed (e.g., use of police/traffic control agents)

2.3 Monitoring and Enforcement of the Site

- Recognize that in an urban environment, we must actively assign resources to monitor and manage construction sites and that pedestrian access must be managed
- Requirements placed on Contractor:
 - Contractor shall be required to inspect the traffic control devices daily
 - Contractor shall provide a 24 hour phone number on construction signs at each closure point and detour point
- Monitoring actions by City staff:
 - TPS staff makes timely inspection of construction sites to verify that contractor is complying with permit conditions
 - TPS staff includes one person, full time year around for this activity; in summer the inspection crew increases to 2-3 people.
- Enforcement actions:
 - For minor issues: TPS staff will talk to site superintendent to resolve
 - For violation of law (e.g., closing a street without a permit): TPS staff will contact Traffic Control officers or the Minneapolis Police Department

3.0 FUTURE STEPS AND EVALUATION

- TPS will report back to Pedestrian Advisory Committee in one year
- TPS will maintain a record of construction zone/pedestrian access issues that have been addressed
- Presentation will include:
 - What strategies worked
 - What strategies did not work
 - Innovative methods that can be shared

APPENDIX

Samples of construction zone pedestrian treatments as stated in MnDOT Temporary Traffic Control Zone Layouts.

cc: Jon Wertjes, Director Traffic and Parking Services
 Don Elwood, Director Transportation Planning and Engineering

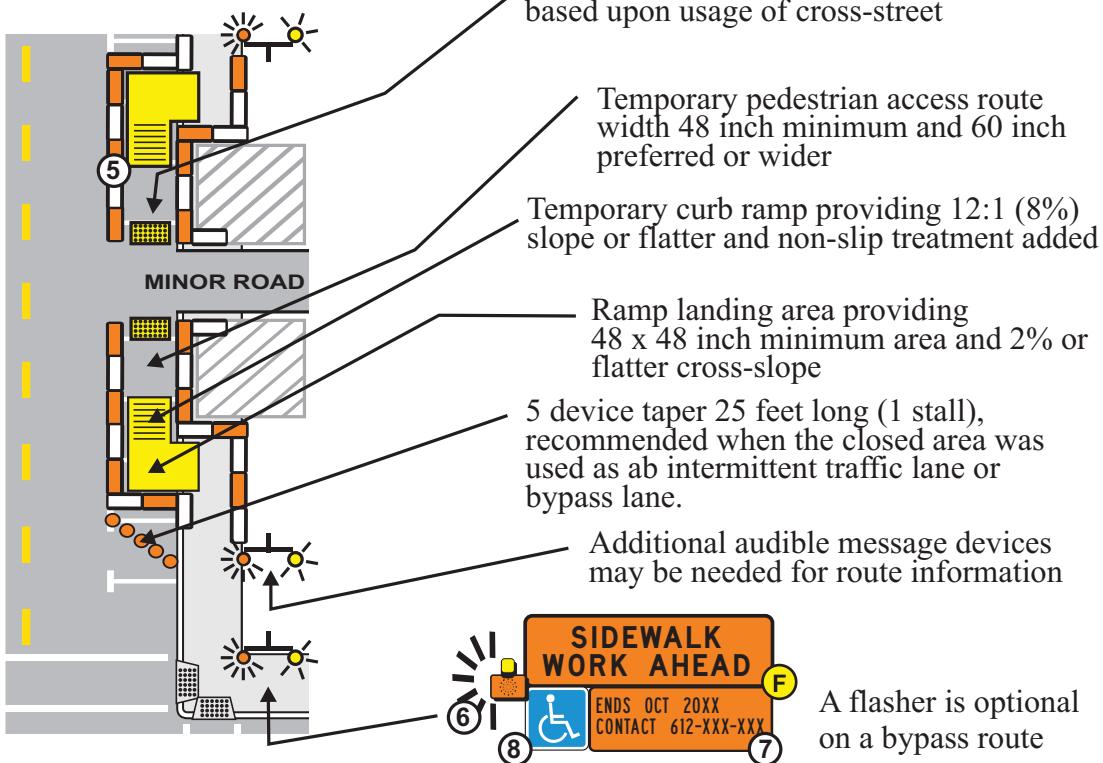
Pedestrian Accessibility in Construction Zones

C:\Documents and Settings\klugmas0\Desktop\Memo TPS to PAC Sub Committee 2011-03-30.doc

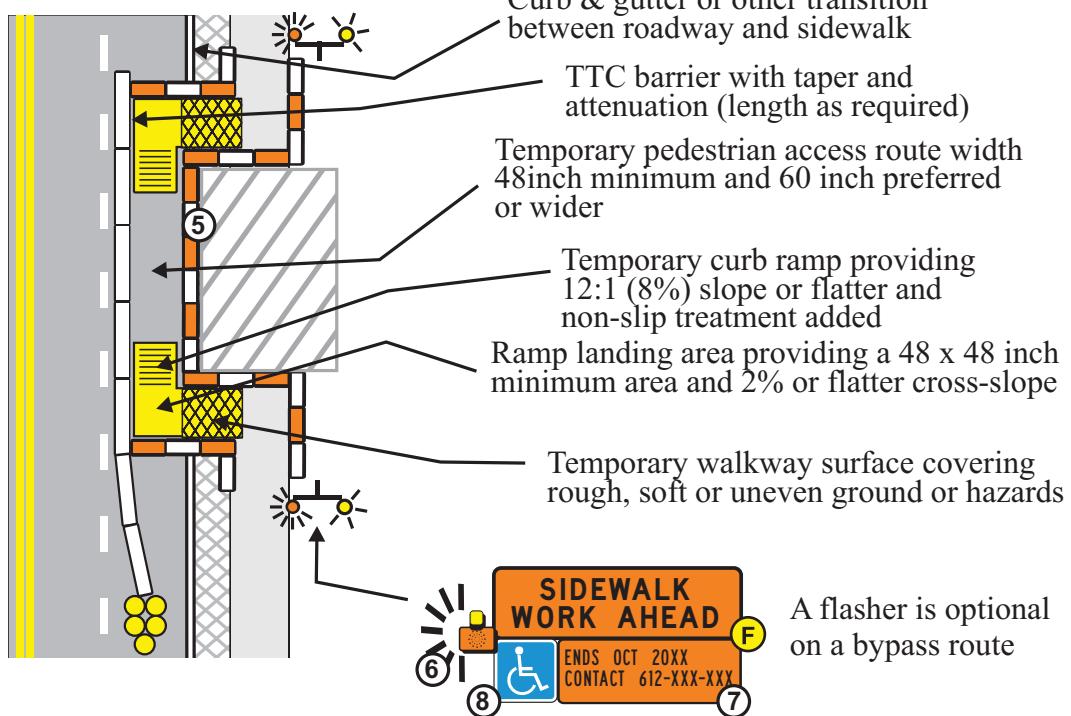
NOTES:

1. When crosswalks, sidewalks or other pedestrian facilities are blocked, closed or relocated, temporary facilities shall include accessibility features consistent with the features present in the existing pedestrian facility.
2. The examples show only key typical dimensions. Refer to the Mn/DOT "Temporary Pedestrian Access Route" (TPAR) website (<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/trafficeng/workzone/tpar.html>) for standards, guidance and options when blocking, closing, or relocating pedestrian facilities.
3. Where high speeds and/or high traffic volumes are anticipated, barrier should be used to separate the temporary pedestrian walkway from vehicular traffic. When used, barriers shall be installed as detailed in the MN MUTCD Part 6F.
4. Only traffic control devices controlling pedestrian flows are shown. Other devices may be needed to control traffic on the streets.
5. When both sides of a temporary pedestrian bypass require channelizing devices, then the devices should be a similar type (railing system, barricade, or fencing system), excluding when TTC barrier (such as concrete barrier) is used to protect pedestrians from an open traffic lane.
6. An approved audible message device or tactile message should be provided for sight-impaired pedestrians. When used, a message device should provide a complete physical description of the temporary pedestrian by-pass including duration, length of (and/or distance to) the bypass, any restrictions or hazards and project information as listed in note 7 below. The message device(s) may also describe an alternate route. The number and location of devices should be determined for each project prior to starting work. Devices may be placed prior to sidewalk work to warn regular users of the planned work.
7. Typical sign message for a temporary pedestrian bypass should include information such as the duration of the walkway restrictions (beginning and/or end dates) and a project contact number for 24/7 questions or reporting hazards.
8. The International Symbol of Accessibility should be displayed when any walkway through a work zone has been determined to be TPAR compliant. The Symbol of Accessibility shall not be displayed if persons with disabilities should not enter the temporary pedestrian by-pass. An alternate route should be posted when the temporary pedestrian bypass is non-compliant to TPAR standards.
9. Conditions that are beyond recommended standards should be documented. A walkway is non-compliant if it is missing key ADA elements such as curb ramp(s), truncated domes, and detectable edging. Other restrictions or hazards may include insufficient width or pinch-point widths, traffic conflicts, steep grades, non-continuous railings, tripping hazards, or uneven/rough/soft surface conditions, etc.
10. When a sidewalk is closed but workers are present who will provide assistance or directions to pedestrians, then the devices as shown are not required.

SIDEWALK BY-PASS LAYOUT 85a

LOW-SPEED ROADWAY**HIGH-SPEED ROADWAY**

or

LOW-SPEED MULTI-LANE**SIDEWALK BY-PASS
LAYOUT 85b**

