

Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee
Encouragement, Enforcement, and Education Subcommittee

Agenda -- DRAFT

Apr. 19, 2012

4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

Commuter Connection Conference Room

(US Bank Plaza Building, 220 S 6th St, STE 230)

1. Member introductions/Approve agenda (4:00 - 4:05)
2. Dero ZAP resolution (4:05 -4:30)
3. Issues of the Day (4:30-5:00 Shaun Murphy)
 - [Response to Bike/Ped fatality in San Francisco](#)
 - [Response to April 9 bike robbery/murder](#)
 - [Enforcement Training Follow-up](#)
4. City Staff Updates (5:00--5:15)
5. Other items/Announcements (5:15 --5:30)

Other/For information/For future:

6. Economic impact of bicycling (CPED & Convention Center) on May 17

DRAFT Resolution of the [BAC/CEAC/PHAC]
Supporting Encroachment Permits for the ZAP Twin Cities Program

Whereas, the Transportation Management Organization, working with Minneapolis green business Dero Bike Rack Company, has secured Non-motorized Transportation Pilot and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality grant funding for an innovative program called ZAP, which will automatically count participating bicyclists and make this count information available to employers; and

Whereas, ZAP readers at nine locations on the perimeter of downtown will be able to count the vast majority of bicyclists entering and leaving downtown; and

Whereas, these ZAP readers require encroachment permits in order to be placed on nine existing City light poles; and

Whereas, ZAP Twin Cities will have significant benefits to downtown employees who commute by bike, including enabling their employers to provide robust incentives as part of their wellness policies that will mean tangible rewards for biking to work; and,

Whereas, ZAP Twin Cities will also have great value for downtown employers, creating a free and easy-to-manage wellness initiative based on objective data (rather than self-reporting), reducing traffic congestion, improving employee health and productivity, and likely helping to reduce health care premiums for participating employers; and

Whereas, a ZAP cordon around downtown will obviate the need for individual employers and downtown building managers to install counter infrastructure on their own property and at their own expense; and

Whereas, the Bicycle Master Plan Implementation Plan, which was passed unanimously by the City Council, calls on the City to “support workplace bicycle commuting;” and

Whereas, ZAP Twin Cities will meet several City goals and strategies, including “Livable Communities – Our built and natural environment adds character to our city, enhances our health and enriches our lives;” and

Whereas, ZAP Twin Cities will have a significant impact on increasing the health of downtown employees by encouraging active commuting, and will directly impact the *Healthy Weight* Sustainability Indicator; and

Whereas, ZAP Twin Cities will have clear environmental benefits, positively impacting the *Air Quality*, *Climate Change*, *Bicycling* and *Transportation Alternatives* Sustainability Indicators; and

Whereas, ZAP Twin Cities will directly benefit the City of Minneapolis by providing access to bicycle counts at nine locations that can augment the annual bicycle counts and provide needed information on weather, seasonal, and other external impacts on bicycling; and

Whereas, ZAP readers have already been installed on-street on the University of Minnesota campus, and have had no adverse effects; and

Whereas, City Public Works staff have indicated that the placement of ZAP readers on nine existing City light poles will not have an adverse impact on City operations; and

Whereas, the nine ZAP readers would be affixed to existing City-owned light poles, creating no additional obstructions to the pedestrian realm; and

Whereas, the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances Title 5, Chapter 95.13, authorizes the City to deny encroachment permits that would “endanger the health, safety or welfare of the public or would cause hardship or damage to nearby property owners,” and the nine ZAP readers would clearly cause none of these adverse impacts; and

Whereas, the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances do not authorize the City to deny encroachment permits based on the preference of individual Council Members; and

Whereas, the nine ZAP readers will be no more obtrusive than many other items that have been granted encroachment permits to be placed on City-owned infrastructure, including wireless internet nodes, cameras, banners and more, and ZAP readers would provide more public benefit than much of this already-allowed use; and

Whereas, aesthetic concerns about the ZAP readers do not outweigh the many benefits of the ZAP initiative, and even from an aesthetic perspective the ZAP Twin Cities initiative is positive, as a nine-location cordon around downtown will likely *reduce* the total number of readers installed throughout downtown; and

Whereas, Seventh Ward Council Member Lisa Goodman has made clear that she opposes granting encroachment permits for the nine Dero ZAP readers; and

Whereas, Public Works staff have indicated that they will not grant an encroachment permit for the nine Dero ZAP readers unless the application is supported by Council Member Goodman;

Therefore, Be it Resolved by the [BAC/CEAC/PHAC]

That the [BAC/CEAC/PHAC] strongly urges Council Member Lisa Goodman to stop obstructing the ZAP Twin Cities initiative, and calls on the Minneapolis Public Works Department to grant the necessary encroachment permit for nine ZAP readers to be affixed to existing City light poles.

Be it Further Resolved that, if a permit is denied by the Public Works Department, the [BAC/CEAC/PHAC] urges the Transportation and Public Works Committee and full City Council to grant an appeal of such denial.