

## **Meeting of the Pedestrian Advisory Committee August 1, 2012**

**Present:** Phillip Ailiff, Neal Baxter, Scott Engel, Diane Hansen, Donna Hemp, Dan Herber, Tony Hull, Peter Janelle, Jacqueline Knight, Andrea Long; Mackenzie Turner Borgen, Rose Ryan, Julie Danzl, Sarah Stewart, Gina Mitteco, Mike Mechtenberg, Joe Bernard, Shaun Murphy.

Vice-Chairman Diane Hansen called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM, and asked all present to introduce themselves.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

Dan moved approval; Peter seconded. Approved.

### **Announcements & Agency Updates**

Rose Ryan: the few who attended the 1<sup>st</sup> public meeting of the Hennepin County Pedestrian Plan Steering Committee shared their insights and concerns; the StarTribune will discuss the Plan Aug. 5.  
Shaun Murphy: the Federal Highway Safety Improvement program has identified 38 intersections in Minneapolis which will receive money for crosswalk counters in 2015/2016.

### **Contact Information**

Steve Elmer will probably replace James Andrew on this Committee.

### **Downtown Parking Lot Study**

The lots around the MetroDome create an unfriendly pedestrian environment. The study, however, only considers these blocks from the development point of view, how and what to build on them. Peter suggested PAC keep this study under scrutiny, to protect the pedestrian interest.

### **Future Meeting Topics**

the Viking Stadium (Shaun);

revising the Pedestrian Master Plan & re-assessing our progress in implementing the same (Dan);

new member orientation re: the Plan (Tony);

field walks (Scott); 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Streets downtown, for instance, which will get improvements soon;

authorizing someone to monitor & husband each project through government (Shaun);

urging the City to resume improving the intersection of 7<sup>th</sup> St. & Olson Hwy. (Mike), and

inviting a spokesman from the Southwest Transit Corridor to discuss how the line will affect this area;

North Mpls Revitalization Project, linking the North Side and the River (Andrea);

the Executive Committee should discuss which topics to assign to which subcommittee (Andrea);

responses to the next pedestrian fatality;

an update on the 2025 Plan (Scott);

updates on Above the Falls, River First and 3 other plans (Joe);

Interchange Project, along 5<sup>th</sup> Street, and its proposed pedestrian plaza (Joe);

the proposed transit hub at 35W & Lake Street.

How many of these should we discuss first in subcommittee?

### **Accessibility & Meeting Material Format**

PDF files are inaccessible to the blind; maps should be described in words; ask guests to supply materials beforehand in accessible format; illustrations void the accessibility of documents.

Shaun suggested PAC draft a policy for these materials.

## **Meeting Time**

Scott: 4 PM is more convenient

Tony: 4-6 PM is more realistic for those working day shifts

Diane: let's start the meeting at 4 PM in September.

## **Project Updates**

Central Avenue—Gina: I'll soon have a list of intersections, curb ramps to be improved there.

Washington Ave.--the status and needs of this route from 35W to beyond Hennepin are under review.

## **Infrastructure Subcommittee—Andrea Long & Scott Engel**

The bike lanes on Park & Portland are unsatisfactory for bikes and pedestrians

## **Programs & Policies—Tony Hull**

PAC should look at the Mpls ADA Transition Plan, esp. what it omits.

Likewise the Hennepin County Transition Plan.

PAC can and should help Bill Fellows work on the Mpls Plan.

Shaun: a field walk with Bill detailing problems for the disabled would be enlightening.

Discussed, with Steve Mosing, changing the City's guidelines for crosswalk markings.

Discussion:

Diane: do the markings compete with other budget items?

Shaun: Yes, but standards would make more effective marking easier to promote.

Joe: And would specify where to apply zebra stripes and better signals

Shaun: fatality data could serve to prioritize need

Mike: as school buses are phased out, school crossings will need to reflect the needs of children using MetroTransit bus service; public housing, senior housing & job training sites also need improved crosswalk markings nearby.

Shaun: long stretches like 42<sup>nd</sup> St. from Cedar to 28<sup>th</sup> Ave., or 15<sup>th</sup> St. along Loring Park, need more crosswalks;

Tony: how about a scoring system, for setting priorities on limited funds?

Peter: also, freeway on/off ramps need improved crosswalk stripes;

Tony: for that matter, all downtown needs a crosswalk inspection;

Shaun: and all areas of high pedestrian traffic..

Nominations opened to replace Tony as chair of the P & P Subcommittee.

Tony moved Dan Herber; Phil seconded. Approved.

Shaun: a few of us should read the ADA Transition Plan and draw up a wish list and comments.

Adjourned at 5:33 PM.