

To: Minneapolis City Council
Minneapolis Public Works

From: Minneapolis Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Date: February 3, 2016

Subject: 2016 Regional Solicitation

2016 Regional Solicitation

Background:

In 2016 the Metropolitan Council will manage another round of Federal transportation funding through the “Regional Solicitation” process. Minneapolis and metro-area municipalities compete for these funds by submitting capital improvement project proposals that have regional transportation significance. Roadway projects that include bike and pedestrian elements tend to fare better during the project scoring process. There are also application categories for bicycle and pedestrian projects.

Recommendation of the PAC:

The Minneapolis Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) recommends that Department of Public Works staff make a more meaningful effort to engage the PAC as the City prepares to submit proposals for the 2016 Regional Solicitation. In 2011 and 2014 the PAC was only informed at the last minute about the funding opportunity. In both cases several pedestrian-related projects were submitted, and ultimately awarded funds, without PAC input.