

Minneapolis Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting
Wednesday, June 1, 2016

Resolutions:

#1: The Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) supports the City of Minneapolis/MNDoT Cooperative Signal Project as presented on May 19, 2016, to the PAC's Infrastructure & Engineering Subcommittee. The PAC is especially pleased to see curb bump-outs, APS and ADA-compliant pedestrian ramps included.

#2: With the passage by the City Council of an Complete Streets policy for Minneapolis, the Pedestrian Advisory Committee invites Nathan Koster to discuss with the PAC how this new policy will be implemented (esp. the modal priority that informs the policy), and how the PAC can help city projects reflect the policy in future.

#3: Moved, to recommend that Public Works staff start researching a potential "WOW Streets" program, based on top recommendations from the Strategic Planning Process and the Walk Friendly Community Workshop.

Present: Philip Ailiff, Greta Alquist, Emily Antin, Neal Baxter, Shaina Brassard, Alex Cecchini, Julia Curran, Donna Hemp, Tamir Ali Mohamud, Bob Loken, Dan Herber, Julia Tabbut; Matthew Dyr Dahl, Mackenzie Turner, Joe Bernard, Ben Somogyi, Gina Mitteco, Heidi Schallberg, Kelly Yemen, Julie Danzl

Welcome

Chairman Greta called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM, and asked all present to introduce themselves.

Approval of the Meeting Minutes

Dan moved the minutes; Alex seconded. Approved.

Infrastructure & Engineering Subcommittee—Julia Curran

Parklets are going in across town, and we're making them easier to install from now on.

We discussed the CIP list, too.

Also a discussion about the Northeast signal project, and actuated pedestrian signals (APS).

Alex: do the state and city standards agree here?

Julia C: we need to address the "user feedback" gap with these, as pedestrians don't always know what to expect.

Julia read Resolution #1, Neal seconded. Approved. (See text above)

Programs & Policies Subcommittee—Alex Cecchini

Two items dominated the agenda. Open Streets, and ideas for demonstrating the latest pedestrian improvements. We talked about installing demo bumpouts and where they would have most effect. We decided to try them across major streets crossing the Open Streets festivities. Also, we decided to look into evaluation surveys, asking Pedestrian Alliance allies for help at these events, and drawing zebra crosswalk markings in chalk. Julia Curran, Alex and Matthew offered to work on this.

We also talked about the recently adopted Complete Streets policy. We propose the following motion: to invite Nathan Koster to discuss with the PAC how this new policy will be implemented, esp. the modal priority that informs the policy.

Dan Herber seconded the resolution. Approved.

(See text of Resolution #2 above)

We next focused on visioning, and pushing the agenda forward. We decided to move the WOW Streets concept further each month. In general, we want Public Works to co-ordinate re-surfacing and other street work with building new ADA-compliant curbs. We also want to use this focus on the WOW to build our annual CIP proposals.

Moved, to recommend that Public Works staff start researching a potential "WOW Streets" program, based on top recommendations from the Strategic Planning Process and the Walk Friendly Community Workshop. (Resolution #3 above)

Neal seconded. Approved.

Alex also mentioned that on June 1, at 6 PM, a presentation will take place at Grace Church (28th & Hennepin) concerning the Pedestrian Overlay District in that vicinity. He will attend this meeting.

Update on PAC's Annual Report to the Council's Transportation & Public Works Committee—Greta Alquist

Greta will inform the TPW of PAC's year, on June 7 at 9:30 AM in City Council chambers. She intends to say the following:
1. This opportunity is wonderful. The PAC enjoyed big wins and many challenges in 2014/2015.

PAC's members are committed and conscientious and our subcommittees work at a very high caliber.

2. Strategic Plan highlights; Complete Streets modal priority was a very strong move in favor of pedestrians; the winter snow clearance pilot brought in valuable data; the Walk Friendly workshop was a big success (and brought forward the

WOW Streets concept); P & P subcommittee looks at zoning, land use, etc., to effect change in the pedestrian environment.

3.close—how to move forward; mention of the Resolution about resolutions

Greta asked for ideas, and the following came forward:

Shaina: emphasize that we are walking experts and that we build expertise in the City's designs for projects, and much else

Joe B.: my membership in PAC adds to and augments my staff work, and PAC adds an element I get nowhere else. PAC is also now a part of the staff consciousness, if you will. They want to know what the PAC thinks.

Donna: PAC also looks out for disability issues (helping the Disability Committee)

Julia C.: invite Public Works and any other City officials on our walks

Dan: the PAC agency members should get recognition as useful members who inform the lay members

Bike/Ped Team Updates—Mackenzie & Matthew

Parklets—3 City-owned parklets are ready, at 28th Ave S. & 42nd St.; in front of Smoke in the Pit (38th & Chicago) and at 16th & Chicago. CARAG neighborhood funded a parklet on Lake & Bryant (at Morissey's) and North Loop paid for another at 2nd St. & 1st Ave. North. Use of parklets for street cafes will be on the agenda at the June 7 TPW Committee meeting, and a pilot program for this change is in the works for 2016 and 2017. Aligning the rules for sidewalk cafes and the specifications for parklets will present an interesting problem.

Membership—appointments for the coming year will be decided on June 21. Selections have been made, but not confirmed with the applicants. All current PAC members who re-applied will serve for the coming term.

Dan: Can you address the applicant pool?

MD: we received 12 applications, 3 from Ward 10 and 2 from Ward 8; none came in from Wards 11 and 13.

Alex: PAC was not in the press much lately, which may have contributed to the smaller applicant pool.

Shaina: P & P Committee should begin planning a recruitment drive in January every year.

Hereafter a long discussion ensued over resolutions, when & how to post them promptly. All agreed that the minutes should be posted on the website sooner. At present, the minutes are posted some 2 months after the meeting. Bob asked if the resolutions might be approved and posted before the minutes are, before the following meeting.

Agency Announcements

MTB: I'm leaving! June 8 is my last day in the department. I will move to state government as the Department of Transportation's Metro District Bike-Ped Coordinator, starting June 29. I've worked for the City for 8 years.

MD: Simon Blenski's replacement is hired, and starts June 13.

Alex: the Comprehensive Plan revision group is looking for new policies, so expect an e-mail from me to gather ideas.

Julie Danzl: Safe Routes will move to the Nutrition Services Department of the Public Schools, a big and good change! We also received a grant for 2016/2017 to work on equity issues.

Julia Curran moved to adjourn; Shaina seconded. Approved, and adjourned at 5:24 PM.