

To: Minneapolis City Council
Minneapolis Public Works

From: Minneapolis Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Date: January 3, 2018

Subject: Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan Input

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The Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) has been actively engaged in conversations about the Comprehensive Plan with city staff, as a committee, and in our own communities since late 2016. The PAC has developed the following list of priorities that we believe are necessary to creating and sustaining a walkable and vibrant city during the next 20 years.

GOAL: Grow Our City

- **RATIONALE:** We support growth and welcoming new people to live and thrive in our city. We recognize that greater density of residents supports more businesses and amenities and demand for services like transit and walk/bike infrastructure, and lowers individual carbon footprints. More residents and businesses also increase the tax base, spreading out the cost burden for government services.
- **STRATEGIES:**
 - 21st Century Zoning
 - Diverse Neighborhoods, Complete Communities
 - Safety for All Pedestrians, Safety Beyond Policing
 - City Funding for Public Transit
 - Set Mode Share Goals for Walking

GOAL: Placemaking and Neighborhood Branding Supports Livability through Greater Walkability

- **RATIONALE:** While known for its lakes and parks, additional jewels of Minneapolis are its neighborhoods. A vibrant and sustainable neighborhood is one in which walking plays an important role in the residents', and visitors', lives, because it is safe, efficient, convenient, and enjoyable.
- In order to improve the walkability of neighborhoods, and therefore the residents' and visitors' engagement with the neighborhood, efforts to support placemaking and branding efforts need to be encouraged and supported through zoning, procedure, and policy reform.

GOAL: Great, Plentiful Businesses and Amenities to Provide Services and Job

- **RATIONALE:** Business density and variety along commercial corridors and neighborhood interiors is important for walkability, quality of life and environmental sustainability. Businesses create "eyes on the street" and improve real and perceived safety. At the same time, studies have shown that compared to drivers, walkers spend more dollars, more often, at small local businesses.

GOAL: A Thriving Downtown and Vibrant, Community-Enhancing Commercial Nodes and Corridors

- **RATIONALE:** Downtown and our commercial corridors are pedestrian-generators. Attention to creating and sustaining vibrant, equitable, compelling, and competitive public spaces where people are already living, working, learning, shopping, connecting, and playing, will boost walking and the economy.

GOAL: A Legible, Comfortable and Safe Streetscape and Built Environment

- **RATIONALE:** To promote safe, pedestrian-first street features, recognizing geographic realities and challenging historical street design that has focused on vehicles rather than walkability.

GOAL: Dense and Varied Housing Encourages and Supports Robust Walkability

- **RATIONALE:** A diverse housing supply allows for residents of all incomes, family types, and circumstances. Housing density provides the economic and social base to support thriving commercial options and a vibrant cityscape, which encourages walking. New housing provides more ADA accessible units, benefiting those who walk and roll.