SAPCC Transportation Committee Minutes [DRAFT]

APRIL 24, 2018


1. Approval of agenda and minutes
Karen moved to approve, John seconded. All in favor.

2. Extending Greenway from Minneapolis River Road into St Paul
Liam provided a short update on the plan. Fundraising for engineering study at $11K with a matching need 45K. Expected start of engineering study mid-May, with completion midsummer Railroad wants to see support from St Paul side before committing.

3. Bike Parking
Betty and Pat still working on getting letters from businesses/property owners for approval needed by city. Charter schools and Joy of the People will also receive them. The racks are partly a way of branding the neighborhood. Three bike racks will be placed on Raymond by Security Building (need to get confirming letter from building owner). Exeter has also said yes to bike parking near the Naughty Greek. Need to connect with owners of the triangle building at Franklin and University.

4. Como Construction Kiosk at Carter & Como
The bulletin board kiosk next to the Finnish Bistro is in the construction right of way for the Como rebuild. Barb Mundahl from Public Works says it will have to be removed, most likely, because it will be difficult or impossible to not disturb it during construction. The current bus shelter at Carter will be replaced with a Metro Transit standard shelter. Architect Joe Michels designed it, was on the board years ago. It is the last remaining example of his commercial work. He may have the plans if someone wants to build raise money to build a new version of it. Is this a transportation issue or better suited to Land Use? Confer with the Land Use Committee.

5. TAP (Transit Assistance Program) through Metro Transit at Seal HiRise
We signed up 13 people on Sunday, 4/22, which may not seem like a lot, but a substantial number of people in the building have disability passes or have already gotten a TAP card by going downtown. We discussed whether the effort was worth the return; need to do better
publicity, which was hampered by late approval from Metro Transit. We decided to do a Mayfest table (May 12th, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.) to promote the TAP program, gather input on safety and accessibility for SHIP grant, promote the Bicycle Benefits program and Safe Routes to School, talk about pedestrian and bike visibility, and promote bus availability. Scott, Pat and Karen can be there.

6. Seal SHIP grant work

Wheelchair ramp connecting to the sidewalk on the south side of Territorial was installed last fall, providing a route to Raymond Station light rail for those using wheels. During and after the TAP signup on Sunday, we brainstormed ways to make crossing Territorial at Seal safer; Scott is working on a project list including paint for creative bumpouts on both sides to reduce street width, possibly painted tire planters, and a bench on the Seal property. Also contacting Betsy Christensen at SPPHA for permission on the bench. We will most likely have work parties on the weekends of June 9 and 16, with a Stop for Me crosswalk event held in late May.

7. Raymond Parking

Proposed building by Jamie Stolpestad has been approved by the city zoning committee for T3 at 2330 Long Street, to now go before the city council for approval. Patty George, owner of Salon George on Raymond, expressed concerns not only about building height but parking impacts on her business and other businesses on Raymond. She said there have been conflicting presentations by the owner to land use committee, neighbors and city zoning committee on size, number of units, height of building, details, no plans to look at.

Motion by Charlie - 2nd by John Mark: Recommend to council that it discuss and possibly send a letter to Zoning and Ward 4 council member that this development has been presented verbally in very different and conflicting ways with no actual plans and that in may negatively affect parking and businesses in the community. This is part of a recent pattern of zoning decisions not allowing enough time for review by SAP Land Use Committee, as with the Baker Court T3 designation.