

Present: Ray Bryan, Betty Wheeler, Pat Thompson, Scott Jensen, Kim Frair, Bailey Waters, Karen Nelson, Nick Studenski, Cleo the sheltie

Approval of the minutes of February 23: Amended to include last names of all attending and a change to the fifth bullet under the Territorial Carleton intersection item to clarify that the possible planters would make it clear to car drivers that the path not for cars. After that, the minutes were approved without objection.

Bailey Waters was recommended to become a member of the committee. Her name will be forwarded to the SAPCC board for approval.

### **Wabash bike trail letter of support**

The letter of support for St. Paul Parks' grant proposal to the DNR for funding of the bike connection between Pelham and the new park at Westgate was submitted, with final approval from SAPCC executive committee. The funding does not cover the Wabash bridge portion, just the park portion on the west side of the bridge, which is unfortunate. Committee members commented that the tracks in the street on Wabash near/across Pelham in general need to be removed because they are dangerous to bicyclists and people on scooters. Maybe as part of the Midtown Greenway extension project. The metal removed would have value as scrap, at least.

### **Territorial Road project and grant status / update**

Scott, Nick and Pat met to talk about details, and Bailey provided feedback on the main project description and the Good Neighbor Fund questions. The Neighborhood STAR grant proposal was submitted (for \$10,000) by the March 24 deadline, now the AARP and GNF deadlines loom on April 14 and 15, with Bloomberg on April 24. SAPCC ED Kathryn Murray put in a lot of time on the STAR proposal. Pat sent a letter to Sean Kershaw at Public Works about creative crosswalks on arterials (after asking him about that at a Sustain Saint Paul meeting), but hasn't heard back. Pat and Kathryn are meeting again on Wednesday to do more work on the upcoming grant submissions. Needs:

- Talk to Saint Paul PHA for permission on the Seal bench.
- Letter of support/agreement from Public Works about the Carleton corner/bench and both crosswalks. (We added a Seal crosswalk to the proposal since our last meeting.)
- Letter from the Seal Residents council (connect with Melissa Pappas).
- Letter from St. Anthony Greens HOA (Scott)
- Letter from St. Paul PHA about the bench on the Seal Street corner.

The late-discovered dry well is causing problems for Public Works with the sidewalk (it's a surface drain near utilities). Jary Lee of PW says construction could start in June once it gets figured out.

### **Highway 280 speed limit**

MnDOT is doing a speed study on Highway 280, which could result in raising the speed limit. Removing the left turn light at Broadway is funded for 2024. Do we want to pass a motion now, opposing any raising of the speed limit? Environment Committee already has. Or do we want to spend some time in the next month on some research to write a stronger resolution? Bill Lindeke may know some things, or Sherm Eagles. Ask on the list serve for memories of what may have been promised to the neighborhood. Wikipedia has some info – Scott will look into it. Plus include the danger of icy overpasses, close-together on and off ramps.

### **Rethinking I-94 Purpose & Need, Goals statement**

The draft Purpose & Need statement has been released, though it is still not posted. The 30-day NEPA comment process starts as soon as it is posted. The Policy Advisory Committee meets on April 9 (Pat will attend). Do we want MnDOT to present to the Transportation Committee about the P&N? Would need probably an hour of our time. Yes. Pat will request for an upcoming meeting, maybe not May since we will have the next topic on that agenda...

### **Saint Paul parking minimums policy**

Basically, the City Council will be considering a major change in parking policy in Saint Paul, with two options: B is to remove parking minimums citywide, while A is a more complex set of carrots and sticks. In order to understand B, particularly, all committee members should attend one of the webinars that have been set up, which are April 15 or April 20. We will discuss at our next meeting since comments are due May 2. The webinar links are at

<https://www.stpaul.gov/departments/planning-economic-development/planning/current-activities/parking-study>

Many cities are considering eliminating parking minimums, which would not mean there is no parking. Instead it means businesses and developers add the parking they think is needed to make their project work and that can be financially supported by it. Minneapolis has changed its parking minimum policies, but not eliminated. (Nonresidential uses of 1000sf or less are exempt, 1 per dwelling unit.) There is an argument to be made for both the idea of simplicity (removing it altogether) and using the change as an opportunity to incentivize what the city wants (which may be what option A is, but that's why you need to watch the webinar and find out). At our next meeting we will see if we can reach a decision or not. If we do, it will go to Executive Committee in order to meet the May 2 deadline.

### **Clean Cars update**

More than 1,400 comments supportive of the new rules were received, including the one from SAPCC via our committee and the Environment Committee. The administrative law judge now has three-four weeks to make a decision; it may require an extension because there were so many comments.

### **Cleveland Ave. construction**

Pat has emailed Nick Fischer to find out when it will start and which street will be the boundary (where will the bus detour?). Bailey reports that Hendon will be the local detour. probably (since the construction edge is just north of Buford). Pat will check with Metro Transit to see if the 87 bus will be using Hendon to Raymond or if it will use some other route through the campus via the Transitway, perhaps.

### **“Your Speed” sign locations**

Pat has emailed Beth Stiffler at Public Works to ask if we can have an additional location for the sign. If we can't, which if any of the SSAP locations would we change to allow for another one on southbound Raymond near the co-op? The two options are Territorial eastbound just west of 280 or Franklin westbound just west of 280. Because the Exeter construction is itself traffic calming on westbound Territorial, that seems like the best option. There was general agreement on this option, if it is necessary.

### **Updates on mill and overlay plans**

Territorial east of Raymond is in the Public Works' plans for some time between 2023 and 2025, probably in 2023. We will keep pressing for sooner if money becomes available, such as from new federal sources.

### **Paint that is gone**

The Energy Park and Raymond intersection markings are almost gone or totally gone. Pat will contact Barb Mundahl to see if they can be repainted this summer. Some other spots, even up at Como — which was done even more recently than the EPD intersection — are also very bad.

### **Puppy report**

We are the only committee with a puppy – hello Cleo! She is already doing her business outside and following some basic commands.