

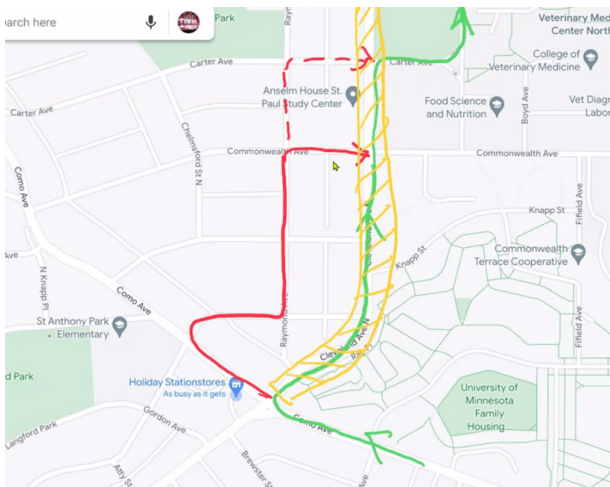
## SAPCC Transportation Committee meeting - DRAFT April 26, 2022

Present: Pat Thompson, Karen Nelson, Nick Sudenski, Kim Frair, Scott Jensen, Ray Bryan  
Guests: John Mark Lucas (Univ. Minn Transportation Manager), Mindy Keskinen

Nelson moved to approve last month's minutes. Studenski seconded. **Unanimously approved.**

### U of M Circulator detour from Cleveland

John Mark Lucas, a former member of the Transportation Committee, now works for Parking and Transportation services with the University of Minnesota. He attended to discuss the upcoming detour of the St Paul Circulator during construction on Cleveland Ave this summer. The construction is from Como to Buford. The Circulator currently runs north along Cleveland every 20 minutes between 7am-6pm on weekdays, no service on weekends. It only runs when school is in session (June and July, then September and October). Below is a sketch from John Mark showing potential detour routes. The openness of the intersections at Commonwealth and Carter is not certain, but it is assumed that some of the intersections will be open in some capacity. The circulator is the smaller bus, similar to a Metro Mobility van.



### June 11 Territorial Road event

Event will be from 10:00–11:30 a.m., Saturday, June 11. New mural and benches will be debuted. Lawn games at the Seal corner, chalk activities on the sidewalks (hopscotch, guided poetry). There will be walking tours of the murals, looking into discounts from local restaurants (Dogwood), Evie car share demo. Kids' crafts (popcorn chains on trees? owl masks to coordinate with the mural design). No formal speeches, but we will take photos and thank AARP, Good Neighbor Fund, Councilmember Jalali, others who helped it all come together.

### Twin Cities Boulevard letter

The Transportation Committee voted unanimously last month to sign the letter in support of the Twin Cities Boulevard vision. Because it was unanimous, it was put on the Board's consent agenda. At the board meeting, it was removed from the consent agenda, discussed and ultimately tabled for next month in response to concern that the issue also pertains to land use, but the Land Use Committee has not discussed it. The Land Use Committee will discuss it at their next meeting. Depending on what comes out of that meeting, there could be a proposed amendment to our motion. In general, the Board will consider the final outcome at its May 12 meeting. Transportation Committee members are able to attend either or both meetings, which are both at 7 p.m. on Thursdays on Zoom.

### Joint District Council transportation committee meeting update

Pat and Scott attended a meeting of members of transportation committees from other district councils in the western/northwestern part of Saint Paul (Como, Mac Groveland, Hamline Midway, Union Park). Topics that we may coordinate on:

- Creating our own version of Stop for Me without the enforcement arm/media attention?
- Snow clearance issues. For instance, grant to fund free grit supplies like Minneapolis has, bus stop clearing based on Adopt a Drain model
- Non-police pedestrian safety events - block parties / play streets – district councils could have their own barricades to facilitate this so it's cheaper to do residential street parties.
- University Avenue cleanup along the Green Line.
- Working for photo and speed/red light enforcement
- Creating an online resource among the committees - list of meeting times, minutes. Who's, what's, when's for better info.

### **Health effects of highways forum**

The forum is now scheduled: May 19, 6:00 p.m., St. Peter Claver Church, 375 Oxford Street N. A block east of Lexington, just north of I-94. Food (masks recommended), info from health expert, open mic from people who live near highways. Facebook event: <https://fb.me/e/2oFWFSBwf>

### **County road speed limits**

- The county commissioners held a work session with a presentation from the county Public Works engineers. Notes attached with more details. But the upshot is that they plan to do what they can to expedite speed limit reductions within the calendar year, especially on streets like Raymond that have bike lanes and where adjacent and contiguous streets have lower speed limits.
- County Public Works engineers noted that roadway design is the effective lever to modify vehicle speed, rather than changing speed limits. But there is recognition that abrupt changes in speed limit when roads switch from county to city ownership is inconsistent. This is related to recent speed limit reductions in St Paul-owned streets.
- DOT guidelines (MUTCD): Current directive to set the speed limit at the 85th percentile will go away, eventually the 50th percentile instead. There was an overt statement that the county will begin this standard sooner on roads with bike lanes.
- The county would prefer to add a lot of bike lanes (which then allows them to change speed limits), but adding protected bike lane adds cost to a street reconstruction / mill and overlay, decreasing the number of miles that can be improved.
- It was noted that the county board will need to approve any speed limit changes on county roads.

### **Committee goals and work for the rest of the year**

Thompson suggested we start thinking about projects or goals for next year. Please review them before the next meeting (attached with the minutes). Grant applications are generally due in March/April, but it's never too early to start thinking about next year. Studenski suggested purchasing cigarette butt receptacles and asking Public Works for permission to install them on light poles, such as on Raymond north of University, and asking local business owners to help empty them. It was mentioned that particularly in light of new buildings opening, we could talk with PW about more trash cans, ask apartments to install dog poop bags dispensers. Other topics discussed were making sure Nice Ride locations are equitably distributed, addressing semi truck parking, and returning to heavy truck traffic (including more truck counts in new locations).

### **Summary of motions:**

- **Last month's minutes were unanimously approved.**

### **Summary of action items:**

No board action items this month.