

SAPCC Transportation Committee meeting – DRAFT  
June 28, 2022

Present: Scott Jensen, Joe Kendrick, Pat Thompson, Kim Frair, Karen Nelson, Nick Studenski

Jensen moved to approve the minutes of May 31, 2022. Frair seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

### **Cleveland Ave. construction and trees - status, discussion**

SAPCC's petition for an EAW was denied in mid-June. Phase 1 is underway. Now determining strategy to save as many trees as possible in Phase 2. Working on ideas about combining the in-street bike lanes north of Folwell with the multi-use path in order to save the trees up there, among other things.

### **Report on finishing our Territorial Road project, grant reports**

Our celebration of the Territorial Road projects was on June 18 with the launch of Kada Goalen's mural and two benches by Austin and Kotonu Watanabe. We conducted surveys that day and for several days afterward. The AARP Community Challenge grant after-action report was submitted on June 24.

Its final questions were about medium- to long-term impact and next steps. We hope to see increased use of the crosswalk at Territorial and Carleton, greater street life in the area generally and neighbors connecting with neighbors. Long term, we hope to leverage the investments to get work done on the street surface itself and decrease the amount of heavy truck traffic.

In the short term we will work with St. Paul Public Works to add the pedestrian crossing signage we already have at Territorial and Carleton, and continue to count the number of pedestrian crossings at the crosswalk periodically to see the effect of its existence over time.

The bigger questions are about getting a mill & overlay on Territorial and working for policy change to the 1-mile heavy truck rule, which allows trucks to use any state aid road, up to 1 mile, on the way to their final destination.

- Jensen (second by Kendrick): Motion to write a letter to Public Works about carrying out a mill & overlay from Hampden to Raymond as soon as possible (2022 or 2023). Letter to include repainting the crosswalk at Carleton and adding ped xing signs, bike lanes as planned earlier. Include quotes from the survey or other sources from residents. The street needs to be safer and quieter, increase in number of residents. **Approved unanimously.** (Jensen will draft the letter before the Board meeting on July 14.)
- Policy change on the 1-mile rule (to become a ¼ mile rule, for instance): this is something that would go through City Council, so to be discussed with CM Jalali's office. We had discussed with her previous aide, Matt Privratsky. Need to get it back on the radar. We will work on this in the near future, discuss with SAPCC staff.

### **Other traffic-calming topics:**

- Mid-street crossing signs, ped Xing signs at Carleton, Your Speed sign placement/move to Raymond north of the railroad trestle, no-turn-on-red sign for southbound

Como-to-Raymond, speed limit and 4-way stop sign on Raymond (north of Como during construction detour).

- How to interface with Public Works for things like this? Can we designate a person whose role this is, who can keep track of status? Public Works is understaffed and overworked, hard to get their attention.

### **Blocked bike/pedestrian access on Territorial at the Minneapolis border**

Jessica may have sent a letter on this, Thompson will check. Also check with Prospect Park Neighborhood Association to see where they are at on this. Assuming it doesn't get fixed soon, "bike route" signage needed at Westgate and Territorial directing to the Transitway and at Malcolm. Backtracking from Malcolm is really far, so that sign is even more important.

### **Safe Streets for All funding**

The joint District Council transportation committee group is drafting a letter of encouragement to a range of MPOs (municipal planning organizations) to apply for Safe Streets for All funding, which is part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, with a deadline in September.

<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A>. Because at least a third of this year's CIB proposals, and much more than a third of the money required, were for traffic-calming projects, and driver speeds and general driver behavior have deteriorated since covid, there is a clear need and interest in infrastructure changes to address driver speed and behavior.

Jensen / Kendrick: Motion to allow SAPCC reps to sign the organization's name on a letter urging the appropriate Twin Cities MPOs to apply for Safe Streets for All funding, whether St. Paul, Ramsey County, or the Metropolitan Council. **Approved unanimously**

### **Street-level amenities in South St. Anthony Park**

Such as trash cans, dog poop receptacles, cigarette butt receptacles, possibly street lights. On Raymond, University, Territorial. Studenski is interested, will look into it.

### **CIB proposal update**

- Raymond street lights south of University Ave. were funded
- Bike parking at parks was funded

### **Railroad merger**

Canada Pacific and Kansas City Southern railroads are merging – should we have a presentation on this at next meeting? We think not. The email about this is from a PR/Public Affairs company in Des Moines; who hired them?

### **Committee member recruitment**

Studenski will post in his building. We identified other places to post a flyer.

### **Next meeting**

NOTE!! Our next meeting will be in the new Westgate Park unless it is raining: bring your own folding chair! We will connect up the Zoom with tethering, for people who want to call in.