

SAPCC Transportation Committee Meeting  
January 28, 2020

Attending: Pat Thompson, Scott Jensen, Karin Nelson, Gordon Murdoch, Nick Studenski, Patty George, Betty Wheeler, and Barb Thoman (guest)

### **Rethinking 94**

Barb Thoman from the Union Park Community Council Transportation Committee reported on her group's work with MnDot's "Rethinking 94" program. Her group considers MnDot's "Purpose and Needs" statement too broad. Keith Bater (?) is forming a group from all affected neighborhoods to be more proactive working with MnDot and St. Paul Public works, which needs to agree with any proposed plan.

It was reported that MnDot is planning on a 10%-15% increase in traffic in it's planning for the next 20 years. No response from MnDot on plans for noise and air pollution reduction.

Thoman's group has written a letter to MnDot to revise its "Purpose and Needs" statement to support clearer, more specific goals, and is requesting our input, or our own letter. Support from city government for this letter is also sought.

Nelson suggests a working group to deal with MnDot and apply constant contact and pressure, and include key city council members. Thoman suggests starting by contacting ward 4 legislative aide Matt Privratsky, Nelson suggests city resiliency officer Russ Stark, also any relevant county officials

Nelson proposes an ally statement with Union Park CC and their letter.

Thoman also invited us to a meeting on improving walkability along Cretin Ave. between University and St. Anthony, particularly to Vandalia Square. Studenski offered to attend. Thompson will forward him meeting info.

### **Cleveland redesign parking**

Thompson presented a spreadsheet documenting her parking count along Cleveland Ave by the U, taking into account vehicles without parking permits, which were omitted in previous counts. The small number of parked cars she counted on December 26<sup>th</sup> when the U was out of session demonstrated the bulk of parking is U related.

Nelson proposes revisiting parking permits along Cleveland and streets to the west, where non-permit parking will become a larger problem as parking is removed along Cleveland. Noting that on-campus parking costs are standardized in a way that leaves many spaces unused, particularly the State Fair lot, Nelson proposes restructuring U parking costs, perhaps by raising the fees for the ramps and lowering the fees for the Fair lot. A question was raised to if the U has an environmental statement that could be appealed to to encourage less car use among staff and students.

### **SAP Elementary Safety Action**

at busy car/pedestrian intersections around the school. Scheduled for Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 AM, or if the state caucuses will conflict, Wednesday the 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 AM. (UPDATE: Confirmed Tuesday the 25<sup>th</sup>)

### **Next Transportation Committee Meeting Rescheduled**

Due to the state caucuses on our regular meeting date of the last Tuesday of the month (February 25<sup>th</sup>) the next meeting will be held on Thursday the 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

### **Sidewalk and Bike Lane Snow report**

Jensen reports that the sidewalk and curb cut on the south side of Territorial between Raymond and Carleton has been kept clear, an improvement over last winter. Thompson submitted photos of the Como and Raymond bike lanes in various states of clearing.

Thompson submitted a letter from Mike Sonn regarding poor snow clearance on the bike lanes along Summit Ave, requesting better plowing.

Also submitted, a draft letter from SAPCC to the city council regarding the bike lane snow removal.

George pointed out that due to snow cover, it is difficult for cars to see the painted bike lanes and park outside of them; language supporting ticketing parked cars blocking bike lanes was stricken from the draft. Nelson moved to send the amended SAPCC letter to the city, Murdoch seconded, passed unanimously.

### **Luther Seminary Redevelopment Update**

Betty Wheeler reported that current redevelopment plans include a car-free path on [reconnected] Hoyt Ave. for pedestrians and emergency vehicles. Large multi-family housing is planned for the west side of Fulham, most with underground parking. A pedestrian path into Breck Woods (Lauderdale) will require an easement for public use. Though the city is interested in re-establishing the street grid in the area, interest in limiting potential thru-traffic is starting to grow.

### **2020 Goals**

will be discussed in February's meeting

Co-Chair election, New Member

Thompson and Jensen were re-elected co-chairs of the committee by acclamation. Nick Studentski is now a full member of the committee.

### **Rohn/Kasota Update**

City council hearing on the property is scheduled for March 4. (time?)