

**Macalester - Groveland Community County  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, April 26, 2010 | 7:00 PM

Edgumbe Recreation Center | 320 South Griggs Street | Saint Paul

**Members in attendance:** Amber Dallman, Dave Pasiuk, Terry Casey, Andy Albrecht, Mike Kowski, Jay Mac Bride, Lauren Anderson (staff)

**Guests:** Mary Davis, Brian McClellan

**Meeting called to order:** 7:03pm

**Approval of March 2010 Minutes:** Dave made motion, May seconded - motion passes

**Added to agenda under Other Business:** Traffic circle at Wheeler and Wellesley; Public Art ( as part of RSVP funding; Kowalski's

**Jefferson Bikeway Update**

Amber gave a recap of the 4/20 meeting on the bikeway. Highlights from the meeting include signage for the bikeway, sharrows (though none between Cleveland and Snelling), and a Pedestrian Refuge Test this summer at Cleveland & Jefferson, which will involve traffic counts, a ban on left turns, and some sort of temporary structure (cones?) to simulate a permanent Pedestrian Refuge. FYI: a Pedestrian Refuge is a median with curb cuts to allow bicyclists and pedestrians to pass (but does not block alleys). No dimensions of the refuge were given at the 4/20 meeting, but Dave estimates it will be 50-60 feet long. Committee also recommended sending a written letter that would encourage Council member Pat Harris to offer feedback on this summer's Pedestrian Refuge Test and to cc Paul St. Martin, John Matsco (sp?). The last public hearing before voting will be on 5/5 at 5:30pm. Jay will attend, represent the Transportation Committee, and read the Committee's resolution. If approved, project will be implemented in 2011.

**Snelling Median**

Public Works is currently working on water lines and construction of the median may not happen until 2011. Also, audible warnings crosswalk may be included as part of the construction.

**Bike/ Pedestrian Education**

Amber proposes that the Committee takes up this as a special project. Jay suggested "Auto, cycle, bike, and pedestrian" education to include all users of the road. Dave brought up the new law regarding motorcycles & bicycles being able to proceed through a red light after waiting a "reasonable amount of time." Committee discussed challenges of educating around some laws and need to disassociate this educational campaign from the bike boulevard. Some members are in favor of launching campaign this summer and utilizing existing resources (like

“Share the Road”) then expanding in subsequent months, while others favor brainstorming and launching in fall. We could potentially have a Bicycle/Pedestrian/Auto Corner in Illuminator and E-Illuminator. Committee also discussed the need to see what else is out there related to education or events including MacGrove Moves, Grand Ole Day, National Night Out, or Twin Cities Bike Walk week. Dave will contact Mpls Bike Ambassadors and Laura Baum with Smart Trips.

**Action Step:** Members will research and send Lauren examples of bicycle, pedestrian, or automobile education for the next meeting. Lauren will compile and send out with the May agenda and April minutes.

### **Transportation Projects:**

Ideally, Jay, Amber, or another member from the Committee will apply to be part of the City Transportation Committee. The application is available on the City’s website and due on Friday. Item 2.9, which includes rapid buses to the Central Corridor Light Rail was briefly discussed.

### **Central Corridor Presentation:**

The Transportation Committee would like to offer another presentation related to the Central Corridor. Dan Soler, who gave a similar presentation at the MGCC Annual Meeting, would like someone from the Metropolitan Council’s outreach department instead. Mary proposed making the presentation available to board and community members. MGCC’s Outreach Committee has also expressed interest in a presentation. Amber will contact Dan to see if he could come to the May or June Transportation Committee meeting – we plan to advertise it in the E-Illuminator as an “Informational Presentation” with few or no questions.

### **Greenway Update:**

Brian McClellan gave an update from Deputy Mayor, Ann Mullholland, and John Matsco (sp?). CP Rail sued the City of Saint Paul and there will be a hearing on 5/17 to determine whether the lawsuit will go to the Surface Transport Board or a Federal Court. The City’s impression is that the Surface Transport Board will probably favor CP Rail so the City would prefer it goes to Federal Court. The length of the proposed Greenway has been limited to Snelling & Marshall heading east toward Jefferson – originally the project was to run from the Mississippi River to the San Morgan Trail along Shepard Road. The City cannot defend the original plan, so they’ve narrowed the scope. If the lawsuit proceeds to Federal Court, the City hopes for a court date in April 2011. The results of the hearing will be available 3-4 weeks after 5/17. 7-8 million in funds awarded from the Metropolitan Council for the project have been returned by the City in hope of receiving future funding. Meanwhile, supporters are trying to build community support around the Greenway.

### **Grand & Syndicate | Grand & Prior:**

Jay will follow up with Paul St. Martin. Currently, other types of traffic calming are being considered for Grand & Prior because stop signs are not being obeyed. An interested resident had emailed Samantha in Russ Stark’s office. Committee discussed a speed tables and whether a traffic circle would fit in the intersection and be navigable by buses.

**Traffic Circles:**

Lauren gave an update from Lisa Falk-Thompson at the City on the Wheeler & Wellesley traffic circle. Multiple neighbors mentioned concerns about the traffic circle, so the City plans to hold a hearing on either 5/18 or 5/20. According to Lisa, the MGCC is responsible for drafting a letter outlining who is responsible for maintaining the plantings in the traffic circles (as referenced in the Committee's January 2010 minutes). If this traffic circle is approved, we will draft a letter outlining the residents who agree to maintain and leave it at that. In general, however, the Transportation Committee would like clarification from the City related to:

- Percentage of signatures needed on a petition
- Process for determining whether a hearing is needed
- Maintenance of plantings – we hope that once the letter is sent to the City, we do not need to enforce the maintenance.

**Kowalski's:**

The store is holding a food demonstration on 5/1. Jay brought up the idea of conducting an informal survey to gauge how customers arrived at the store to demonstrate the need for parking lot design that will be safer for bicyclists and pedestrians.

**Public Art as part of RSVP funding:**

Committee did not discuss this item.

**Meeting adjourned: 8:13pm**