

# Macalester-Groveland Community Council

## TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

June 27, 2011 6:30 PM

Edgecumbe Recreation Center 320 Griggs Street, Saint Paul

**Attending:** Michelle Crain, Amber Dallman, Mike Kowski, Jay MacBride, Milton Papageorge, Dave Pasiuk (minutes), David Redmond

**Staff:** Lauren Anderson

**Guest:** Elizabeth Stiffler, City of Saint Paul; Caroline Baum, Mac-Groveland resident; Connie Bernardy & Sarah Hollerich, Active Living Ramsey Communities

**Minutes:** Motion and second to approve the minutes from the May 23, 2011 meeting with one correction. Passed

### Grand Avenue & Finn Pedestrian Safety

Caroline Baum, a resident near the intersection presented her concerns about trying to cross Grand Avenue at Finn. She stated that she has contacted people at the University of St. Thomas and the police department and received little help in her quest to easily cross the street to the day care that is part of the University. Elizabeth Stiffler presented the statistics concerning the intersection. The traffic flow is about 5,000 vehicles per day. There was one traffic crash at this intersection in the last 3 years. Two motions were made concerning this intersection. A motion was made to ask the MGCC to request the St. Paul Police Department to conduct an enforcement campaign to ensure safe pedestrian crossings at this intersection between the hours of 7:45 – 8:30 AM and between 4:45-5:45 PM, Monday thru Friday during the University of St. Thomas school year. The frequency of these enforcement campaigns will be determined. A second motion was made to ask the MGCC to request the City of Saint Paul to install a center line pedestrian crossing sign and to conduct a series of traffic studies in October 2011 to determine which pedestrian safety and traffic calming techniques should be implemented at this intersection. Both Motions Passed.

### Snelling Avenue Benches Project

Connie Bernardy and Sarah Hollerich from Active Living Ramsey Communities presented information about the Ramsey County Be Active, Be Green Project. There currently is an opportunity to place benches on Snelling between Randolph and St. Clair on the right of way. The purpose of these benches is to give those walking along Snelling a place to sit and rest. There is funding available from MNDOT because of the resurfacing of Snelling to pour concrete

bases for benches to be placed along Snelling. Benches need to be maintained by community members or businesses, which includes shoveling snow, picking up trash, and fixing the bench if it becomes damaged. A motion was made for the Transportation Committee to seek support from the MGCC board to explore potential bench sites and reach out to businesses willing to maintain the benches as part of the Be Active, Be Green project on Snelling Avenue between St. Clair Avenue and Randolph Avenue. The Motion Passed.

### **2011 MGCC Pedestrian Safety Campaign**

The Pedestrian Safety Week brochure that was redesigned and printed by Summit-Hill Association was discussed. Several concerns of the accuracy and tone of the brochure were raised by various members of the committee. The committee voted not to partner with the Summit Hill Association on this year's Pedestrian Safety Week. Chair MacBride will meet with SHA to discuss our concerns.

### **Nice Ride Update**

Jay Macbride distributed copies of a letter he drafted concerning the proposal of Nice Ride to add a bike station on or near the intersection of Grand and Syndicate. This intersection and the nearby Kowalski's market has been a source of ongoing discussion with the committee, Public Works and Kowalski's concerning pedestrian safety. We have not been able to reach a scenario that meets our concerns and we felt that adding a Nice Ride station to this location would only complicate matters. A motion was made to redraft the letter and ask MGCC to send this letter to the City of St. Paul and others. The letter will clearly state that the Nice Ride Station must be part of an overall solution to this ongoing problem and not an addition to it. The Motion Passed.

### **Other Business**

Michelle Crain stated that a bike rack was removed from Grand Avenue in front of the Green Mill. She is investigating the reason for the removal and will report. Dave Pasiuk stated that the test diverter was placed on Lincoln Avenue west of Hamline to help restrict traffic from going the wrong way on a one way street.

The next meeting will be Monday, July 25, 2011 at 6:30 PM

A motion was made to adjourn and seconded. Motion Passed