

Macalester-Groveland Transportation Committee
Meeting Minutes / March 22, 2010

Members in attendance: Dave Pasik, Terry Casey, Amber Dallman, Jay Mac Bride, Mike Kowski, Andy Albrecht, Carrie Au-Yeung

Guests: Laura Baum, Brian McClellan

Meeting called to order at 7:08pm

Approval of February Minutes

- Dave moves to approve
- Mike seconds
- Approved

Laura Baum, St. Paul Smart Trips

Laura gave an overview of Smart Trips programming. ST is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve access and mobility for those moving in and around St. Paul. Passed out ST order form for ST kit. Get a customized transit itinerary, neighborhood map, coupon book, etc. Commuters send in form and have free kit delivered by bicycle courier. ST also gives demonstrations “how to ride the bus” and other events through November. (ST also gives winter commuter tips.) Laura passed out events calendar. Partner with neighborhood businesses to help get word out, distribute materials like the coupon book. ST is funded 80% CMAQ, 20% local matches (foundations, St. Paul, Bike Walk Twin Cities, etc.).

ST has evaluated programming using before/after telephone surveys in neighborhoods and vs. control group. Positive evaluations (more commuters opting to bike/walk to work and other destinations) have yielded continued funding the last several years. Laura offered to help the committee brainstorm for future programs, events, etc. and left materials and business cards.

St. Paul Transportation Committee

Projects Proposed for District 14

- Table further discussion on specific projects until next time. Dave, Jay. Approved.

MGCC recommendations for how to collaborate with City Transp. Committee

Discussion on St. Paul Transp. Committee process

- Suggested adding pedestrian safety to priorities and ways for both orgs to explore projects to improve/enhance/address safety concerns.
- Can we get procedures for scenarios (how should we expect process to go, flow chart of steps, how City handles each situation to improve relations with residents and provide transparency)
- Is the creation of the City’s Transp. Committee in response to a PR issue?

- Discussion about the future of the City's Transportation Committee—what's its mission? How will it interact with MGCC and City Council members for the MGCC area?
- City should practice more care with communication to residents and going through the MGCC and its Transportation Committee.
- Is City going to take Transp. Comm. recommendations? Who wins TC or Council Member?
- Will the TC be more balanced and provide a more neighborhood-wide perspective and hear other residents in neighborhood (not directly adjacent to a specific project)?
- Layout timeline and decision making process. Who's making decisions and on what time scale?
- Will MGCC get a heads up before City contacts residents about projects and will there be time to make recommendations before communications are sent.

MGCC Staffing Update

New staff has been hired and MGCC Transp. Committee will have staffing for next meeting. Amber, Jay, and Terry will help get new staff up to speed with contacts and committee procedures, etc.

Other Business

- Annual Meeting, April 15 at Smail Gallery (Macalester)
- No Grand/Syndicate update
- Jefferson Bikeway was laid over with City Council until April 7th meeting which is date of public hearing
- Snelling Median (Mike K.) – City accepted Federal funding, archeological study will proceed within 30 days to being process, which will then go to State review. State and City working with plans
- Annual Meeting – 3 transportation topics
- Intersection of Grand and Prior (stop signs) to look at different traffic calming measures

Adjournment at 8:12

- Motion: Mike
- Seconded: Carrie
- Unanimous