

Community Issues Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 13, 2017— 6:00-8:00pm — Whittier Park

Attendees: Katie Jones Schmitt, Saralyn Romanishan, Rebecca Lewis, Joe Knaeble, Karen Doom, Paul Wilmes, Jennifer Neale, Jasha Johnston, Jen Kader, Mary Gazca, Annie Flynn, Penny Dahl, Kendra Sundvall, Kathy Kullbery, Rite O’Keeffe, Beth Comeneaux, Christine Popowski, Virginie Nadimi, Simon Blenski, Erin Sjoquist, Dave LaViolette, Mary Hartnett, Michael Schulte, Ron Wundidelei, Mary Ann, Karen Clark, Greg Schmidt, Kevin Beaudin, Kathy Waite, Shane Morin, Pete Stanton, Josephine Musemeci, Kathryn VanDuyhoven, Joe Amrhein, Grant Rockwood, Sophie Thaden, Ceasy Thaden, John Edwards, Nan Kalke, Felino de la Pena, Audrey Johnson

Staff: Ricardo McCurley, Kaley Brown, Anne Lehman

Presenters: Jennifer Neale, Karen Clark, Becky Lewis, MnDOT staff, Virginie Nadimi, Simon Blenski

Welcome

Welcome at 6:30 by Jen Kader, Whittier Alliance Board Member. Agenda was reviewed. Standard of conduct policy was reviewed. **Motion** to approve the Agenda **Carried**. Introductions were made. Minutes from October Community Issues Meeting were reviewed. **Motion** to approve made. Seconded. **Carried**.

Social

-talking about greenway CO /call for art on greenway just came out
-reviewing minutes.

6:30 **Welcome:** Opening Remarks, Review Policies (Standard of Conduct and Conflict of Interest)
Approve Agenda

6:35 **5th Precinct Updates - Jennifer Neale, Crime Prevention Specialist**
Whittier Park Updates - Becky Lewis talking about youth engagement and childcare / some adult programs going on as well that includes pottery classes and a class with a naturalist.
MN District 62A updates - Rep. Karen Clark

[Full update in PDF form](#)

CRIME AND SAFETY -5th precinct

Updates on search warrant in whittier community center: it was put in place because of suspicion of narcotics activity in a local community center, the police were successful in communicating with neighbors and other community members.

The police are not allowed to view posts on NextDoor but there is an opportunity for them to post on nextdoor, according to the privacy rules of NextDoor.

Another note that the police cannot see forums on nextdoor therefore the only way they can know about neighborhood crime and concerns is through regular police report.

7:10

35W MNDOT Updates

MNDOT will update us on the progress of the 35-W construction including timetables for the reopening of Franklin and the closures of the 26th and 28th bridges. *Franklin Bridge is due to open in either May or June 2018.

- replacing 11 bridges -replacing 44 streets with 50 year old pavement
- repairing 4 other bridges
- adding access to lake st. business
- lake 35s -35WN ramp at 28th, making things more accessible for workers
- the highway road will be to 5 lanes changed to 3 lanes.

There will be No ramp access to 35W

online visuals for www.mndot.gov/35w94 there are ways to get on the email list.

- There will be air quality and water quality supervision throughout the process.
- There will be Significant closures for the projects that are taking place in June and July.
- No significant closures to the greenway, only for a day or 2.
- Hotline # 612-284-6125 for mndot questions.
- How will the detours affect the poor neighborhoods in the area?
- Why is everything happening all at once? Is there a way to fight that?
- Need more detail from head guy.
- Need more info on web page about redirecting and detours
- they know what years things are happening (2018) don't know specifically when.

Franklin will be open before they close 28th.

Stage 2 the most difficult because there will be lots of closes.

plans in place to add more ways of transportation over time (more bus routes and bus stops) during these projects.

Whittier gets added daytime traffic and the wedge gets more rush hour. Distribute survey info from ZJ and get more info from citizens.

24th Street bikeway - Virginie Nadimi, Public Works

Preface: the address of the meeting was compromised due to the city having the location wrong on their site, it was also advertised as a meeting that would be solely about the bike lane rather than the original minutes we had already planned.

Next year, a bike lane will be added to 24th, from 35W to Hennepin in line with the city's bike plan.

The bike lane will most likely be done during the summer at the same time as the repavement project.

Public Works is planning to have their next meeting on bike lanes in december. It has not been not yet been scheduled. They are currently taking in information from studies on parking and traffic throughout the drafting design process of the bikeway. So far Public Works is looking to apply a regular (non guarded) bikeway to 24th. They are looking to compromise with the community.

Neighbors are wondering if there will be more lighting installed on the same streets that bike lanes will be implemented on. Many were vocal about how their struggles with finding parking at night and how far they have to walk back to their homes once they find parking. Others are wondering what affect this bike lane will have on our neighbors who are differently abled and need wheelchair access to the curb in front of their homes for services to help with limited mobility.

-There is also concern for how the lanes will affect traffic in their neighborhoods along with the MNDOT projects going on for the next few years.

-asking for the city transportation site to be updated with the exact plans.

2018-2022 Strategic Plan update - Ricardo McCurley

Announcing dates and times for public engagement on the Whittier Alliance Strategic Plan.
(ran out of time)

7:50

Announcements/Community Comments & Discussion

Whittier Volunteer Appreciation Party - Fri., Dec. 8 from 5-7pm at Wedge Table (2412 Nicollet Ave)
(ran out of time)

8:00

Adjourn @8:14pm

Notes submitted by Anne Lehman.