

Community Issues Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 13, 2018— 6:00-8:00pm — Whittier Park

Attendees: Greg Schmidt, Mary Gazca, Simon Blenski, Wanda Classen, Ebiere Okah, Cyndi Hovey, Tina Erazmus, , Viswa Challa, Felino de la Pena, Shannon Dotson, Aldona Martinka, Tim Lovett, Christine Popowski, Rhonda Meyers, Ben Maribog, Nate Broadbridge, Grant Rockwood, Laura Jean, Crystal Audi, Lisa Legge, Morgan Luzier, Dave La Violette, Jackie Cherryhomes, Nate Gotlieb, Tom Holmes, Virginie Nadimi

Staff: Kaley Brown, Dan Stanton

Presenters: Jennifer Neale, Dave Aeikens, Lupe Development/ESG Architecture, Minneapolis Public Works, Tina Erazmus, Public Works - Larry Matsumoto, Virginie Nadimi, Simon Blenski

Welcome

Welcome at 6:30 by Scott, Community Issues Chair. Agenda was reviewed. Standard of conduct policy was reviewed. Scott overviews -- be respectful. Amendments to the agenda: Becky Lewis, Whittier Park Director, will not be here. **Motion** to approve the Agenda **Carried**. Introductions were made.

Introductions: name, where you live in the neighborhood, and how you're avoiding puddles. Minutes from November Community Issues Meeting were reviewed. **Motion** to approve made. Seconded.

Carried.

Announcements/Community Comments & Discussion

Scott mentions that it's his last meeting -- says thank you to everyone for coming, encourages everyone to run for CI Chair next month at the April Community Issues Meeting

35W Construction Updates

Dave Aeikens

Overviewing Ongoing 35W Construction Project:

- Franklin Bridge will open hopefully in May-June
- 38th St Bridge will be open again in August
- Overnight closures next week on 35W

Stage 2 (June)

- There will be a lot of closures and 35W will look a lot different —
 - Right now, there are 10 lanes
 - It will go down to 5 lanes (two going south, three going north), all ramps from west end will have no access to 35W
 - Closing 35W north to I94 West ramp for three 1/2 years
 - Downtown access will be closed for 4 months

Stage 3

- One lane going north-bound will be open for cars; one lane out of downtown for buses only

Dave encourages the use of alternative modes of transportation

26th & 28th St Bridges

- 26th St will close for roughly 5 months once Franklin opens
- when that's finished, move on to 28th St bridge - 6 months (start in October)

Benefits

- Adding a ramp to Lake St going South
- Adding ramp at 28th going north bound
- 11 bridges being rebuilt
- rebuilding whole corridor essentially: 43rd → I-94

Question:

Are they going to increase access to buses?

- yes, in June (phase 2)
 - Metro Transit has 35W-specific website; can sign up for rider alerts
 - There are plans for additional buses → check with Metro Transit
 - Portland and Park will be restriped for bus-only lanes

Will Greenway be affected?

- Potentially for a very short period. If you email Dave, he can get a more specific answer.

Decrease in noise?

- Email Dave and he will look into Environmental Assessment

What will happen to the 28th & 35-W Totlot

- Is this displaced for full period?
 - Park department had to move; will be adding ramp to lake street that goes through there
 - It will come back in improved condition

5th Precinct Safety Updates

Jennifer Neale, Crime Specialist; Inspector Kathy Waite

Auto Thefts:

- Higher numbers recently
- Largest concern in Whittier vs other neighborhoods where instances are very low
- don't leave cars running, don't leave keys in car, etc
- It is illegal to leave car running unattended

Phone Robberies

- Robberies in neighborhood of people walking with phones; don't expose phone

Whittier Resurfacing/24th St Bikeway Updates

Larry Matsumoto, Virginie Nadimi, Simon Blenski,
Public Works

City of Minneapolis will be paving City streets in summer 2018

- Whittier-Lyndale neighborhoods and 24th St

What is resurfacing?

- Opportunity for City to identify streets that are distressed but street has not completely failed
- Just replacing the asphalt surface, nothing changes about curbs, etc
- Assessments will be taken for improvements done to street → it's a shared cost; this is how City can do the work that they do
 - Calculate uniform rate → assess people the same dollar amount, based on area of lot x set rate = cost of assessment; City pays the difference

Timeline:

- Public hearing on April 17th at City Hall
- Official notices will be mailed to affected property owners

Questions?

- **What is resurfacing vs. reconstruction vs. renovation?**
 - Reconstruction is tearing out whole road, driving on dirt road, assessment is huge comparatively
 - Renovation isn't really done much anymore
 - Resurfacing is a mill and overlay of the street, much less time, less costly

Direct additional questions to Larry Matsumoto, larry.matsumoto@minneapolismn.gov

Updates on 24th St Bikeway Project

- Started project this summer
- Performed outreach to find out how individuals use the street
- Conducted parking counts
- Recommended bikeway design is on back of fact sheet handed out
- Bikeway will be installed following resurfacing, summer of 2018

Question:

Parking will go away; will there be an increase in transit?

- That is a question for Metro Transit
- 25 spaces will go away
- No removal of travel lanes, however → driving will not be affected

- Full parking study is online: www.minneapolismn.gov/bicycles/projects/24thStBikeway

You can reach out with questions or comments to Virginie Nadimi, virginie.nadimi@minneapolismn.gov

If you would like to share more thoughts, please come to the 24th St Bikeway Presentation on Wednesday, March 14th, 6:30-7:30pm at Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association (LHENA)'s office (2909 Hennepin Ave, 2nd Floor). Facebook event: facebook.com/events/2018950531762965/

Ward 10 Office Updates

Tina Erazmus

Notes office hasn't been at CI Meetings recently due to the inauguration as Councilwoman Lisa Bender became Council President

- Comprehensive Plan will be released march 22nd
- There will be a page on the website overviewing; you can give feedback

Question:

Allowing single-family properties to have fourplexes?

- The City is looking at making it possible for someone who buys a family home to tear it down and build fourplex
- Council still needs to vote on this; this is not a done deal yet
- Will go to vote by Council in December

410 West Lake Street Development

Lupe Development

Section 42 - 60% of area median

~44,000 for a household

Lupe is Minneapolis-based developer, focused on affordable housing

They are showing new, revised plan for a residential development at 410 W Lake St; website allows submitting comments and questions: lupedevelopment.com/contact-us/

In October, they came to the Community Issues Meeting with a single-phase project that spanned over the alleyway

- not well-received by neighborhood or city council

Now:

- it is a two phase project: 111 unit buildings with 55 enclosed parking stalls —> 2 mirroring buildings
- 1 and 2-bedroom apartments
- Green features: green roof, solar system, water harvesting, led fixtures, low impact development, stormwater management, off-site fabrication, low VOC materials

Questions:

- will you be offering organics systems - composting - built in?
 - It has not been talked about

Materials:

- Base will be brick
- Metal panel
- Composite panel, high pressure laminate

Question:

- Are exterior metal panels fireproof?
 - They are compliant

Question:

- private-funded, tax deal
- 30-year commitment to maintaining affordability

Lyn-Lake Business Community, Morgan Luzier:

- Much better iteration than previous
- This project will happen most likely - good support from Council
- As neighborhood, encourage to be vocal at City-level
- Good to have healthy relationship with developers
- Walk ups on Harriet are great
- 2 things to improve:
 - Request to change zoning from residential to commercial —> neighbors are concerned about shadowing, step back 5th and 6th floors for human scale
 - Lake street is commercial corridor; storefronts are crucial to corridor vitality —> corners of buildings need commercial presence

Lupe has met with business community —> they said they didn't want more retail
LUPE is willing to look into it; they will be back again —> this is an ongoing relationship with the community

- Willing to market a retail space and hire a broker

Question:

- How do you tie in alternative modes of transportation?

Echo sentiment of set back for upper floors

LUPE will be back again soon —> continue to keep the dialogue going

Kaley Brown, Whittier Alliance Community Engagement Manager - Strategic Planning Process Updates

Whittier Alliance is preparing a first draft to get more feedback; will be available for comment at the Annual Meeting:

Resource Fair, 5:30-6:30pm

Board Election and agenda, 6:30-8pm

2017 Highlights

After annual meeting, there will be final vote on the Strategic Plan

Motion to adjourn. Seconded. Approved.

Adjourned 8:03pm

Minutes submitted by Dan Stanton.