

Whittier Housing and Land Use Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 15th, 2023, 6:30-8:00pm

Hybrid Format: WhittierAlliance (10 E 25th St) +
Zoom Digital Meeting

Attendees: Shannon Dotson, Eleanor Phillips, Peter, Jason with Hennepin County, Ryan, Fontaine Burruss (city mpls public works), Peter Haugeh, Katie Caskey (HDR), Samira Missaghi
Presenters: George Rishmawi, Jason with Hennepin County, Ryan (Community member)

Staff: Meggie Garcia,

Welcome/Introductions

-The meeting is called to order at 6:30pm.

Attendees completed a round of introductions.

The meeting chair presented the agenda. Motion to approve the agenda is seconded and passes unanimously.

The meeting chair recognized Standard of Conduct; Non-discrimination and Anti-racism; and Conflicts of Interest Policies.

-July Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved.

Whittier Alliance - 2116 Nicollet Avenue Lot Update

George introduces and summarizes early stages of lot development into single occupancy/affordable housing units in partnership with Alliance Housing.

George confirmed that there are efforts to include bike racks and storage in the development.

Lyndale Ave S Reconstruction | HDR & Hennepin County

Jason Spidal, Hennepin County, Project Manager

Supporting the project temporarily

Pilot Program: Restriping of Lyndale occurred in July 2022, community feedback has been very positive about pedestrianization, safety of new setup--negative feedback around travel times.

Speed and crashes occurring on Lyndale decreased throughout the pilot.

Reconstruction project from Franklin to 31st on Lyndale now on the county list for reconstruction.

Scope includes everything--underground utilities and storm drains all the way to traffic signals, pavement, sidewalks.

Goal is for the reconstruction to support integrated, multimodal transportation for the community.

Survey data collected in Summer-Fall 2023, Design concepts in Winter 2023, community feedback on final design in Spring 2024. Construction is expected to begin in 2026.

Open House on August 24th 4-6 pm for community engagement and presence in upcoming community events.

There is a scannable QR code for engagement event information and the BeHeard link

Josh Potter, long term project manager, contact info below:

Questions



Josh Potter

josh.potter@hennepin.us

612-596-0820

Project funded in part by federal dollars. City/County contributions are matching.

Katie Last Name from the County (?) team managing outreach for this work.

26th Street Traffic Calming Conversation | Ryan Kronzer

HLU Meetings Every third Tuesday of the month (Bob's Java Hut, Fire and Ice Pizza).. Community group that meets to talk about urban design and traffic calming efforts in the neighborhood. The group is organized on the Whittier Solidarity Network Discord or email Nick Hutchinson.

Noting high traffic speeds on a crisscrossed network of streets in Whittier.

26th St. is a two lane road going East. Members observe high vehicular speeds and people going the wrong way in the bike lane. Group is proposing protection for bike lane and expansion to be two way. Seeking to incorporate two way bike lane into existing, ongoing projects.

Traffic calming proposal submitted Fall 2022 scored highly, but were not selected for current implementation efforts. The project is still in the running for implementation in future.

Community participants provide generally positive feedback for the proposal and recognize current safety challenges.

Next Steps: Ryan to seek out who the project managers are for the projects addressing this area and ask for a "project demonstration" or pilot execution. Ryan to reach out to try to determine who to talk to. Seeking a Whittier Alliance board ask. George to request September board presentation in August board meeting.

General Announcements, Opportunities, Comments:

Flyer requested–Community member to reach out to Josh for flyer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, Sept 19th, 6:30-8:00 pm - Hybrid in-person/zoom meeting

Meeting minutes submitted by [Kate Davis](#)