

# TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

**January 16, 2013**

Members Present: Steve Ludwig, Joan Vincent, Hazel Youngmann, Tama Theis, Brian Alsaker, Abdi Hassan

Member Absent: Bob Johnson

City Staff Present: Steve Foss, Cheryl Malikowski, Recording Secretary

Chairperson Vincent called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Ludwig moved to approve minutes from the December 5, 2012 meeting. Alsaker seconded and the motion passed.

Foss reviewed the Proposed Street and Utility Improvements Map that was handed out which showed various numbered areas for possible street and utility construction. Foss explained the process of a collaborative effort between various departments for determination of project priorities based on a combination of utility and roadway condition needs.

Foss sought guidance from the Board relating to their role in programming individual neighborhood rehabilitation projects. The Board indicated a preference for delegation to staff of detailed review and scheduling of these types of projects allowing the board to focus on a bigger picture approach.

Foss provided a summary work to date:

- 2014: Seberger Park Neighborhood, Area 7 on the map. This project is very large and will likely need to be constructed in phases. We propose the advancement of three of the four quadrants with the balance carried over to 2015.
- 2015: The balance of Seberger and Area 16.
- 2016: Area 1
- 2017: Area 6

All of these projects would be reconstruction of the sanitary sewer, water main, storm drain and streets.

Foss then led a discussion pertaining to community-based types of projects including the following:

- 2014: TH 15/33rd Street South Interchange
- 2015: Widen 33rd Street South from CSAH 75 to Southway Drive
- 2016: Extension of Heatherwood Road
- 2017: 22nd Street South from Cooper Avenue to County Road 136
- 2018: Possibly bringing back 16th Street South between Roosevelt Road/CSAH 75 and 9th Avenue South.

Foss asked the Board's input on bringing back projects that were not approved by the City Council. He would like to see the project on 16th Street South come back as it serves more of a community need versus local. Youngmann questioned what type of road 33rd Avenue was. Foss suggested that the City also does overlay and maintenance projects. Some projects do not end up in the CIP, but they are maintained through an overlay or maintenance project. Foss suggested that other smaller projects such as the intersection of 25th Avenue and 3rd Street North and also at 8th Street North or 10th Avenue North by the post office could also be done.

Ludwig suggested getting a map that showed some of the congestion areas of the City for potential projects and also a bike lane/trail map that may show where some of the trails connect or not connect. Discussion ensued regarding the ranking of projects and how to find the congestion areas.

Vincent reiterated that the Board trusts the City's judgment about which neighborhood projects should go first but want a view of the congested areas for discussion. Vincent suggested putting "congestion issues" on the Board agenda each month for discussion so that each member can bring up different issues.

Ludwig stated he would like to know where accidents happen and possibly get accident reports to find out where the problem areas of the City are. Foss stated that the information is not very accessible and summarized to get an overall report for congested areas. This questioned the reason for divided lanes. Foss stated they are used for capacity. This stated the traffic problems where vehicles drive incorrectly to get around them.

Foss facilitated a discussion relating to City transportation policies, such as the Complete Streets Policy. Discussion ensued regarding sidewalks, bike lanes and trails and whether or not they were needed on every project. Vincent agreed with Complete Streets; Alsaker thought it should be left up to the neighborhood; and Youngmann suggested educating the neighborhoods. This is not completely sold on Complete Streets, but if the area has a need for it or has an area to connect to, then it would be fine. Some areas have a lot of waste with all the concrete and bituminous. Foss explained that each area would not get the complete package including sidewalks, bike lanes and trails. They would look at the whole area before deciding what is best.

Foss explained that for the next meeting, he would like to focus more on the benefits of the regional-type connector projects and also bring a map of trails and bike lanes. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 6, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. in Conference Room 1, due to scheduling conflicts.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.