

# TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

**February 6, 2013**

Members Present: Steve Ludwig, Joan Vincent, Hazel Youngmann, Tama Theis, Brian Alsaker, Bob Johnson

Member Absent: Abdi Hassan

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

Chairperson Vincent called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

Regarding the January 16, 2013, minutes, Vincent sought clarification on the Board's vote on the CIP projects. Foss clarified that the Board would allow the City to choose the neighborhood infrastructure projects but that the Board would look more into the regional-type projects with congestion problems.

Theis moved to approve minutes from the January 16, 2013 meeting. Youngmann seconded and the motion passed.

Foss briefly explained the CIP in that each year, there is a neighborhood revitalization project, one regional type project, one project for congestion problems and one for maintenance. In 2015, the Cooper Avenue project from Traverse Road to CSAH 75 will be coming back. In 2018, the 16th Street South project is back in.

Foss reviewed the map showing the top 100 intersections with number of crashes. In viewing this map, it also reiterates the need for safety improvements along the 33rd Avenue North corridor, which is in the CIP for 2016. Foss also briefly explained the map showing a one mile radius from public and private schools validating the need for sidewalk/trails within the City.

Discussion ensued regarding the 8th Avenue SE project and how it was brought to the Council with public hearing. Property owners petitioned against the sidewalk. It was approved at the public hearing but not with a majority vote. The Council reconsidered the project at a different Council meeting and the project was then ordered in by majority vote. Foss explained that the 1994 Sidewalk and Boulevard Use Policy will be updated which was decided at a Council Study Session. The change mainly being sidewalk on one side versus both sides in residential areas but keep sidewalk on both sides of collector streets. The handout showing the schools validates the need for sidewalks on the streets.

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Johnson questioned assessments for sidewalks. It was discussed that per policy if sidewalk is initiated by the City, there is no assessment to the property owner. If the City reconstructs sidewalk in a project area, there would be an assessment. Youngmann gave a brief explanation on how the sidewalk policy was started.

Johnson questioned whether there should be criteria for petitions. Policy should be to petition to add an improvement and not take one away. Alsaker questioned the need for sidewalk if the property owners did not want it and petitioned not to have it in their neighborhood.

Foss explained the Bike Map handout, stating there will be significant changes to the Bike Routes as far as signing within the City so people can get through the bike system. He also stated that the City looks at the bike/trail system when deciding on the CIP projects.

Vincent suggested expanding the agenda item for congestion issues by adding poor road conditions to it. Ludwig brought up the confusion of County Road 120 from west going east and wanting to go north onto Connecticut. This brought up 33rd Street South being the same concept when that project goes through. Foss explained the discussions of trying to balance for improving better capacity but also keeping the businesses in mind.

Youngmann stated there was a legislative forum on transit and transportation at the Whitney Senior Center from 10:00 a.m. until noon on Saturday.

Ludwig suggested the Board members conduct the APO survey link attached to the email from Vincent. It shows how your answers compare to others.

The next meeting is March 6, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. in Conference Room 1. Both Vincent and Johnson stated they would not be able to attend. It was discussed that if no agenda items exist or attendance was low at any specific meeting, there would not need to be a meeting that month.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.