

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

March 4, 2015

Members Present: Ryan Daniel, Kurt Franke, Steve Ludwig, Hazel Youngmann, Sue Ek, Caleb Dirckx (ex-officio)

Member Absent: Tama Theis

Others Present: Jody Dirckx

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

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

New members were introduced to the Board. Franke moved to approve the February 4, 2015, minutes. Daniel seconded and the motion passed.

Foss gave a brief overview of the Capital Improvement Program and some of the detailed changes for the street surfacing projects. There will be a Joint Board Meeting to discuss the CIP in detail on Thursday, March 12, 2015, at 4:30 p.m.

Franke questioned why some trails and sidewalks are not plowed within the City. Foss stated that he knew the Parks Department plows some trails but not all. This would be a Parks Department policy. Foss briefly reviewed the sidewalk snow removal policy. Ludwig asked if the Board could get a map that listed all of the trails that are plowed or have a Parks Department representative come to one of the meetings to discuss this issue further. This item will be put on the April agenda.

Youngmann stated that a lot of traffic goes in and out of the Whitney Center right now and wanted to know how the detour will work during construction of the Aquatic Center and also how bus access will be affected. Foss stated that there will be limited impact on traffic during the construction of the center. There will be a separate entrance to the Aquatic Center off of Stockinger Drive. Foss stated that resurfacing Northway Drive/12th Street North from 9th Avenue North to TH 15 is in the CIP for 2016 to prepare for increased traffic. Youngmann questioned whether 11th Avenue North by the Whitney Center will also be done. At this time, 11th Avenue North is not in the CIP. Youngmann recommended reviewing this section of street.

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Discussion ensued on bus access to the new Aquatic Center. Daniel stated that he will be meeting with his Operations Team and will bring up this item for discussion and report back to the Board on his findings for pickup and drop off to both centers. Franke stated that the current design configuration seems to be more exclusive for vehicle traffic and not pedestrian, bicycle or bus traffic. Ludwig questioned how the Board could express their concern on the design layout. Foss thought the Board could make a motion in written form and submit it to Scott Zlotnik and the Mayor. Franke made a motion to have the design of the Aquatic Center reviewed for traffic flow to be better optimized for transit, bicycle and pedestrian traffic with special consideration to the front entrance and surrounding sidewalk/trails and also its connection/access to the Whitney Center. It was moved by Franke, seconded by Youngmann, to have the motion prepared in more detail and then reviewed and voted on by the Board at the April meeting.

Ek questioned the phone number for the pothole hotline. There are currently two phone numbers to call (650-2949 – Pothole Hotline and/or 650-2900 – Public Works Office).

Franke discussed information on the Beaver Island Trail Extension 8 and Sartell trail from the APO TAC meeting that he had attended. Franke also mentioned that MnDOT has a Bike Plan open house on March 12th from 5 – 7:00 p.m.

Daniel mentioned that he was asked by Governor Dayton to participate in a press conference on transportation funding on Friday, March 6th at the MnDOT office. Daniel offered a 31-day bus pass to the Board members so they can ride the bus.

Dirckx asked to do his Community Problem Solving presentation at the April meeting. This item will be put on the April agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.