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MINUTES

TH 61 Reconstruction Project - PMT Meeting #4

October 11, 2017

10:00 a.m.

Lake City - City Hall

Meeting Chair: Chris Hiniker

Minutes by: SEH

Present: Mark Nichols, Mark Sievert, Scott Jensen, Megan Smith, Nate Blanchard, Chris Hiniker, Chad Hanson, Bill Anderson, Andy Masterpole

Copies to: PMT members

I. PMT Meeting #3 Review

A. Chris reviewed notes from the prior meeting and reviewed the agenda

II. Visual Preference Survey Results

- A. Pedestrian crossings - support for something beyond baseline painted crosswalks. Mark Sievert inquired about the timing to seek input regarding aesthetic elements from the Chamber and other stakeholders. Chris indicated that the project layout should be set prior to seeking input. It is important to have the project more clearly defined to understand what opportunities exist for aesthetic features. Chad indicated MnDOT does not like colored concrete because it fades and becomes a maintenance issue.
- B. Sidewalks – the group prefers some pavers. The baseline is standard concrete and any pavers will be at the City's cost.
- C. Lighting – Group prefers older style (waterfront) fixtures. MnDOT baseline is cobra style lighting. The group would like to pursue two-level lighting along the waterfront trail (lower light fixture on trail side and higher fixture on highway side).
- D. Street Furnishings – Preference for informal (low wall) seating with landscaping. MnDOT baseline is no seating. Group agreed that seating could be an item installed after the highway project is complete, to manage costs. Will need to ensure the road is designed to provide spaces for future furnishings. Mark Sievert noted that we need to keep long term maintenance in mind, snow removal, etc. Megan noted that seating along the waterfront is very important to allow people to gather and linger.
- E. Trash & Recycling – MnDOT base is nothing. The group concurred receptacles would likely be added after highway construction is complete. Likely in similar locations as currently exists.
- F. Landscaping - Baseline is boulevard seeding. Group is interested in some landscaping, keeping maintenance in-mind. Landscaping will be discussed more during final design. Mark Sievert noted there is a certain expectation for landscaping from what we have presented to folks. City has nice existing

parks, flowers etc. Mark Nichols indicated that nice landscaping can help slow traffic and attract folks. He stated the example of the west shore highway in Michigan.

- G. Wayfinding – MnDOT base line is nothing. This is an item that could easily be added later. Scott noted signs were tried in the past but they were too small. MnDOT only allows signs for public uses on their right-of-way.
- H. Fencing and Barriers – MnDOT base line is nothing unless needed for safety. Megan asked if a barrier/fencing will be needed along the Riverwalk similar to what currently exists. Chad indicated it won't be required because of the shoulder, boulevard, and lower design speed.
- I. Public Art – The group agreed that the need for and location of public art would be defined after the highway project is complete.
- J. Sustainability – Opportunities for potential sustainability elements such as rain gardens for stormwater treatment will be considered during the final design phase.
- K. Mark Nichols noted that residents are split on whether trees should be included along the waterfront. The group consensus is that trees are a benefit, can help calm traffic, and can be managed to limit obscuring Lake Pepin views.

III. Current Task Activities

- A. All of the supplemental field survey work is complete.
- B.** The ADA field walk with MnDOT staff took place on September 25th. SEH is waiting to receive the field walk detailed notes from MnDOT. **SEH will update the layout to reflect MnDOT's ADA input.**
- C.** Discussed refinements to the typical sections. Based on observations during the ADA field walk, modifications to the proposed roadway typical sections were suggested, in particular the segment between Jewell and Chestnut. **The PMT directed SEH to develop a typical section between Jewell and Chestnut that provides for a grass boulevard between the sidewalk and curb. SEH will coordinate with MnDOT to develop a typical section that provides for five foot sidewalks, boulevards, retains adequate parking space and accommodates turning movements at the public street intersections.**
- D. Medians – City staff indicated a preference for more than three medians. The group concluded the following:
 - 1. Proceed with longer median between Jewell and Woodburn.
 - 2. Proceed with longer median between Monroe and Green (centered on Clay)
 - 3. Shift northern median to between Central Point Road and Bay View.
 - 4. Add a shorter median between Adams and Grant. Chad indicated MnDOT may not be supportive of a fourth median given maintenance concerns.
- E.** Discussed potential closure or modification of some accesses on parcels that have multiple access points. **City staff will send a letter to the affected property owners informing them of the project and potential for access modifications. SEH will provide mapping highlighting the locations being considered.** These maps will be included with the letter. **Staff will follow-up with in-person meetings with each property owner.**

IV. Upcoming Task Activities/Schedule

- A. Chris noted it is important that the group focus on advancing the project layout for the remainder of 2017 to stay on schedule. The aesthetic considerations will be set aside until after the geometric layout is approved by MnDOT (planning for early 2018).
- B. City staff will send access letters to affected property owners by October 20th. Meetings with property owners will be held the weeks of October 23rd and 30th.
- C. The preliminary layout will be reviewed with the City Council at a work study session (planning November 27th).
- D.** Public open house will be scheduled for mid-December. **PMT requested that SEH prepare a typical section in the Riverwalk segment and photo renderings. Megan requested that all open house materials also be made available on-line.**

- E. Following the open house, the layout will be refined then sent to MnDOT to initiate the geometric layout review and approval process.

II. Next Meeting

- A. Next PMT meeting is scheduled for November 15th.

SEH believes that this document accurately reflects the business transacted during the meeting. If any attendee believes that there are any inconsistencies, omissions or errors in the minutes, they should notify the writer at once. Unless objections are raised within seven (7) days, we will consider this account accurate and acceptable to all.

If there are errors contained in this document, or if relevant information has been omitted, please contact Chris Hiniker at 651 490 2063.