



Northfield Transportation Advisory Committee

Thursday February 13, 2020

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers

Northfield City Hall

801 Washington St.

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Dave Bennett, Ben Martig, Mayor Rhonda Pownell, Suzie Nakasian, Galen Malecha, Betsey Buckheit, Glen Castore, Jesse Cashman, Brandon Cash

Members Absent: Will Schroeer, Ron Sommers, Glenn Switzer, Lisa Peterson

Others present: Tracy Holguin – Hiawathaland, Mark Kresbach – Dakota County Engineer, Scott Peters – Dakota County Planner, Mike Slavik – Dakota County Commissioner, Mike Hancock – McLane Trucking, George Brooks – Taylor Trucking, Todd Peterson – Post Consumer Brands, Beth Kallestad, Barb Neitzel – Recording Secretary

- I. Welcome/Introductions (5 Min)
Introductions were made. Co-Chair Nakasian stressed the need for concrete results to accomplish transportation needs.
- II. Review of Minutes from May 2, 2019
The May 2, 2019 Minutes were not approved.
- III. Dakota County 2040 Transportation Plan – County Engineer Mark Kresbach & Transportation Planner Scott Peters

County Engineer Kresbach gave a presentation on Dakota County's 2040 Transportation Plan, which included background information, transportation plan principles, plan investment goals, and next steps (a copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes). The draft plan will be discussed at the May Dakota County Board Meeting and approved for public comment in June.

Committee Members: Councilor Suzie Nakasian-Co-Chair, Mayor Rhonda Pownell-Co-Chair, Galen Malecha, Ron Sommers, Glen Castore, Glenn Switzer, Will Schroeer, Betsey Buckheit, Lisa Peterson, Jesse Cashman, Brandon Cash

Specific areas that affect Northfield include the realignment of Decker and Garrett Avenue and updating turnback and 10-ton highways of CSAH 23 (Eveleth Ave) from CR96 (320th St.) to North Avenue.

IV. Update on Focus Areas and 2020 Work Plan:

a. Highway 19 Corridor:

D. Bennett noted a move towards preparing a corridor study that focuses on safety, which incorporates the Gateway Improvement Plan and Planned Walking and Bikeway Plan.

The main part of the discussion involved comments and safety concerns from representatives of Taylor Truck Lines, Post Consumer Brands, and McLane Trucking.

It was determined the next step would be to collaborate with MnDOT, Rice County and other stakeholders in order to be organized as partners and have a plan in place to bring the project forward in 2025.

b. Transit Hub Advocacy:

D. Bennett stated there is a transit bill in the Governor's Bonding Bill to support building out the area around the Depot site.

B. Martig presented the transit hub plan, access roads and parking areas. He requested letters of support from Hiawathland and the colleges.

Mayor Pownell reported on the success of the house bonding tour.

c. Transit (intra-city & inter-city)

i. Local and Regional Transit Needs Survey

The TAC discussed various ways to prepare an effective transit survey to meet the needs of the community and businesses. One expectation would be to hire a consultant to gather statistically accurate data in order to determine solutions.

d. Highway 246 Turnback – tabled on hold

D. Bennett stated Rice County and MnDOT have a draft agreement on the turnback; however, there has been no movement on the Goodhue County side.



It was determined this item would be set aside in order to focus on the TH 19 Corridor, Transit Needs Survey and Transit Hub Advocacy.

- V. Next Steps Forward
This item was not discussed.
- VI. Next Meeting Date/Time
This item was not discussed.
- VII. Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 1:19 p.m.

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