

**Draft Minutes
Community Development Committee
October 9, 2018**

Attending: Garrett Peterson (Co-Chair), Sheldon Mains, Bob Hain, Sandy Laffner, Paul Onuler, Becca Staley, Mark Sulander, Marne Zafar, Lindsay Sorge, Jeff Weinburger, Winston Cavert, Robin Garwood (Council Member Cam Gordon's Office), Scott Shaffer (Seward Redesign), Doug Wise (SNG Housing Coordinator), Sam Graf (SNG Community Organizer).

The September 11th Community Development Committee minutes were approved

Discussion of Revised Minneapolis 2040 Plan

Doug Wise said the revised draft Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan is available online at <https://minneapolis2040.com/>. The website provides an opportunity to view either a marked-up or clean version of the plan. The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on October 29, and the City Council will hold a public hearing the week of November 12. Doug said that Cam Gordon has scheduled a meeting on October 15th at Bracket Park to discuss the plan with Ward 2 residents. The City Council is expected to vote on the Comprehensive Plan in December. Public comments can be submitted to the Planning Commission and City Council [online](#).

Doug said the main change to the plan was reducing the maximum number of units allowed in the residential districts from four to three. The Built-Form Map was changed to show the commercial uses along 25th Street. Doug said the Corridor 6 (2-6 stories) designation for both sides of 29th Avenue and the west side of 30th Avenue was not changed. He said there was strong opposition to this from residents of the area at one of a previous committee meeting. Doug said that 29th Avenue was recently made a Bike Boulevard and the Greenway crossing was closed to vehicle traffic to reduce the amount and speed of traffic on 29th Avenue. Doug said he feels the increased density would be in conflict with these actions.

Doug said SNG's recommended changes for semi-truck parking and traffic on local neighborhood streets was not included in the changes. Robin Garwood said the city is beginning work on a new transportation plan and said these concerns will be addressed in that plan.

Sheldon Mains said that his comment about requiring affordable housing to remain affordable for at least 30 years was added to the plan, although he feels it didn't go far enough.

Mark Sulander questioned whether the community engagement process was effective in reaching the entire community. He said that attendance at community meetings was overwhelmingly white homeowners. Sheldon said that there were efforts made to reach underrepresented residents. Garrett Peterson said that while there is always room for improvement, community engagement for the plan went beyond what he has seen for any other governmental action.

Doug said he feels many of the policies regarding the environment and global warming are not strong enough given the seriousness of global warming and methods of addressing it are commonly accepted as being effective. He said most of the policies start with the words "Identify", "explore" and "encourage". He would prefer to see the policies start with "Identify and implement" the various strategies.

Proposed Design for Replacement of the Pedestrian Bridge over I-94

Sheldon Mains said the pedestrian bridge over I-94 near 22nd Avenue is in poor condition and does not meet handicapped accessibility (ADA) requirements. Scott Shaffer passed around drawings showing three different concepts. Including the previously developed plan created by the community and Augsburg University. This concept featured spiral ramps on both ends. After further analysis, it was found that the ramps were not long enough to meet ADA requirements. The consultant working with the I-94 Reconnecting Neighborhoods Management Committee has developed two new options.

Option 1 has a switch back (U shaped) ramp on the north side and a straight ramp extending down 22nd Avenue on the south side. Option 1 would require the closing of 9th Street immediately west of the bridge and narrowing of 22nd Avenue just south of I-94.

Option 2 has switch back (U shaped) ramps on both ends. This option would require a narrowing of 9th Street, but not closing of the street.

The committee discussed Options 1 and 2. Concerns were raised about the additional approvals, time and cost needed for Option 1, due to the closing of 9th Street. It would be easier to obtain approval for the Option 2 design.

Motion: Because of the poor condition and inability to meet handicap access (ADA) requirements, the Seward Neighborhood Group (SNG) strongly supports replacement of the pedestrian bridge over I-94 with a new bridge in alignment with 22nd Avenue as soon as possible. Winston Cavert moved and Mark Sulander seconded. Motion passed. Robin Garwood abstained.

Motion: Based on the three bridge designs presented by Seward Redesign, the Seward Neighborhood Group (SNG) prefers design Option 2 for the new pedestrian bridge over I-94. Winston Cavert moved and Bob Hain seconded. Motion passed. Robin Garwood abstained.

Update on Hiawatha Avenue Homeless Encampment/Relocation

Doug Wise said the city is moving quickly to address the Homeless Encampment located along Hiawatha Avenue because of the cold weather. The City Council has approved the construction of a "Navigation Center" on land owned by the Red Lake Nation near the Franklin LRT Station.

Doug said a survey of the encampment was completed on October 1st by the Red Lake Nation. Surveyors reached 191 people living in 103 tents at the encampment. Five more tents went up after the survey was completed. The survey found 73% of the occupants are adults, aged 18-54. 18% are minors and 8% are 55 or older. There are slightly more women than men. 80% are Native American.

When the respondents were asked where they would like to move to, 50% said they would like to move into their own apartments; 20% said they would like to find a sober living environment; and 17% said they would like to enter inpatient treatment. The vast majority of respondents said they would prefer Native-American specific shelter.

Robin Garwood said the city is moving as quickly as possible. It has approved a waiver of its procurement policy, which requires competitive bidding for demolition of the buildings. When asked why the buildings could not be used, Robin said there is environmental contamination and it has been determined that the buildings are unsafe. Sheldon Mains said the building have

serious structural defects and the roofs are leaking, and may not withstand a heavy snow load. The Navigation Center will use trailers to house up to 150 persons and service providers.

Report from Robin Garwood, Council Member Cam Gordon's Office

Robin said there is a group which includes HCMC and Street Voices called Envision, which was formed to address the need for long-term supportive housing.

Robin said they may have found a solution to the truck parking issue in the neighborhood. It would involve setting up a Special Service District prohibiting truck parking. He said he would be setting up another Task Force meeting.

Report from Doug Wise, SNG Housing Coordinator

Doug said the Revolving Loan Program and Interest Reduction home improvement loan funds are out of money. He said several applications were submitted at once, which depleted the funds. Doug said there is about \$20,000 in unallocated program income and recommended these funds be allocated to the Revolving Loan Program and Interest Reduction Program.

Motion: The Seward Neighborhood Group (SNG) approves the allocation of all of the program income available when the Contract Amendment is drafted to the Revolving Loan and Interest Reduction Programs. Sheldon Mains moved and Winston Cavert seconded. Motion passed. Robin Garwood abstained.

Doug said SNG has made some staff changes. He said Kerry Cashman is now the executive director. Doug introduced Sam Graf, SNG's new community organizer, he is taking over the community organizing role from Kerry.

The meeting adjourned at 8:47.