

Union Park District Council Transportation Committee Meeting

Monday, 06.09.2025, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm, Via Zoom

Committee Members Present: Scott Berger, April King, Barbara Thoman, Mary Morse Marti, James Johnson, Jerome Benner, Allen Saunders

Guests: Brian Isaacson, Mike Rogers

Staff : Jason Wheeler

1. Agenda and Minutes

- Scott moves, Mary seconds approval of Agenda and Minutes, approved unanimously

2. Updates & follow-ups

- Jason joining UPDC for the summer
- Leah is stuck on airplane, might not be able to make it
- No big updates from the council transportation-wise
- Snelling-University: got critical corridors funding
 - \$50k in funding for a cohesive plan for the area around it
 - Talking to Lisa if you'd like to know more
- Great Plains institute project – eight meetings - air quality
 - Almost everybody put transportation related air quality at the top of the list
 - They buy the sensors, put them where they want
 - Can't be used to establish policy, but can link it to health problems, studies, etc.
 - Other district councils are part of this, how do we get sensors on properties?
 - Air quality on top of land bridge
- Breakaway event management
 - Not sure where it is next year
- Joint transportation meeting
 - Park Mobile – contract that company now has with Falcon Heights, putting up temporary. City will be collecting \$25/day fee, city keeps 80%.
 - Help offset city costs for managing parking and transportation
 - Way to give out tickets if they don't pay
- Parking during soccer games
 - Areas outside permit area getting complaints
- Started in May, they're going to start sending out parking enforcement for illegal parking
- No known follow-ups for letters yet

3. Ramsey County Public Works - Brian Isaacson & Mike Works, Ramsey County Public Works

- Signal priority on green line
 - On county roads in city limits, the city manages the lights for the county
 - Working with city to make tweaks to signal priority
 - Desire from all agencies to support transit better
 - Cretin & Eustis? Light seems very long, holds trains for longer
 - Raymond doesn't back up as much, often holds trains, Eustis could be a problem with 280 backups

- When Green Line opened – hoped 42 minutes end to end, ended up 50 minutes, over time has been closer to 42.
 - When we had quarterly meeting, in last 3-4 years, operational concerns with people opening doors between stations; takes people to do it
- County participation in green line capital improvements
 - Changed in 2023 – prior to then, the county had a share in maintenance
 - Regional sales tax shifted it to Met Council
 - Concern for Commissioner Moran, especially with maintenance
- Dead trees along avenue
 - Our concerns with city
 - Difficulty with infiltration with water
 - Partner with capital city watershed district
 - Mortality rate with trees in right of way - 50% of new trees die
 - Whiskey barrels along highway 41 - plastic and power washed once a week
 - Ford Parkway trees (with little fence, and big planter)
 - Considerations around adding “no right on red” along corridor in spots, appetite to study it
 - Early in conversation to study
- Board actions
 - County backed away from Riverview Corridor
 - If we were to reallocate, based on set of criteria
 - Tomorrow, approving a list of initial corridors for use of reallocated funds
 - Federal funds aren’t as ironclad as they used to be
 - Would like to make pedestrian and bicycling experience better (via sales tax and rail authority levy)
 - Living document with constantly adding projects
- What is county’s position on separated projected bike lanes?
 - In between, can lower speed limits with bike lanes
- Concerns about public input with regards to monetary allocation
- Being on the list makes it eligible, but it doesn’t mean a project will happen, that will still have public hearing
 - Expect projects to be added annually
- Majority of segments with bike lanes went down 5-10 miles per hour
- Concerns with distracted driving
- Potential pilot project with cameras around schools
 - Mendota takes pictures and sends warnings (based on observed speed)
- Seeing more parking enforcement efforts has been super helpful
- Putting temporary bus only lane westboard (prior to cretin), give transit an advantage, met transit saw a lot of delays related to bridge work on 94
- County system feeling some effects from I-94 road closings, limited ability for traffic evaporation due to bridge crossings
- Gold line – ten minute service, longer throughout the day

5. Follow-ups

- Bus lanes in Saint Paul are okay for bikes, but not Minneapolis

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- Wabash sidewalk – Metro Transit has design plans, bids this fall, constructed next spring
 - Concordia speed testing

Adjourned: 8:09 pm

Next Meeting:

Next meeting Monday July 14th, 2025 via zoom.