

August 11, 2025

UPDC Transportation Committee

Attending: Lisa Nelson, Chair; April King Co-Chair; Jerome Benner, Barb Thoman, Allen Saunders, James Johnson, K.C. Cox, Mary Morse Marti.

Guest: Jane McClure

Minutes

6:36 p.m. Alan moves to approve minutes
 Jim seconds
 Approved

Executive Director's Report - Leah Sullivan excused herself from reporting this month due to prior conflicts

Upcoming events:

Ice Cream, Peanut Butter and Jam at Merriam Park is coming up in September and committee members are encouraged to volunteer.

Open Forum

- Discussion of opportunity to support businesses near Snelling University intersection
- UPDC and Hamline-Midway Coalition are sponsoring a dinner on Metro Transit's Safe and Strong livability outreach and enforcement efforts along the Green Line. Tues Aug 19, 6 - 7:30 p.m. at Bethlehem church.
- Allen reports that Jimmy Shoemaker from Public Works spent two hours discussing Pelham Boulevard reconstruction with community members at Desnoyer Park last week. It has a solid bicycle plan. Public Works is surveying the neighborhood for user input on stop sign implementation. Strong participation and good work by the City.
- Jerome held three working groups (on what? Sorry, I was booted out of Zoom ugh) Once the City conducts their review it will be made public.

Parking and St. Thomas - Presented by Jerome Benner

Students occasionally leave their cars parked on neighborhood streets for long periods of time. UST has opened up their Minneapolis parking lot to make parking more flexible to students. They tell freshmen not to bring cars to campus and inform them of parking rules and regulations, including permit guidelines. UST staff are available to discuss this and resolve any issues with students and neighbors. City parking enforcement workers are in limited supply.

Benner reports that the UST first time, full year student body numbers 1715 as of today and of this the University is housing approximately 1490 of these students on campus (this includes St. John Vianney Seminary). The other approximately 225 students are commuting from home.

The total number of students living on campus will be approximately 2970 (this also includes the seminary). He thinks last year's 10th day total undergraduate student body was approximately 6100 but they won't know this year's until early/mid Sept. Benner estimates that there will be around 49-50% of the total student body living on campus again this year.

Discussion ensued on how to encourage and support students in adopting multimodal transportation.

Request to expand permit parking zone #???

Discussion. **No motions presented, no action taken.**

7:20 p.m. Rethinking I-94 Letter

Committee member Barb Thoman drafted a letter re: I-94 with Scott Berger's input. MnDOT is about to release its continuing project options for Rethinking I-94. The letter asks for a longer, 90-day public comment period so the neighborhood has a chance to respond. Second, the letter asked for the at-grade option to advance in order to be studied, as among other reasons it is the most popular option in community surveys. The third request is that MnDOT rename one of the options from "Reconfigure" to "Expand," because the option expands the highway to four lanes throughout the project area and the adjustment more accurately describes the intent of the option.

Barb recommends that our committee approves this letter, refer it to the UPDC Board for approval, and then send it to MnDOT over Leah Sullivan's name.

Allen Saunders moves to approve this letter and refer it to the UPDC Board
Scott Berger seconds. APPROVED 7 Ayes, 1 Abstention

Discussed IceCreamPBJAM Event. Lisa will reach out to Lisa to see if volunteers are still available

Notes submitted by: Mary Morse Marti, Jerome Benner