

## CapitolRiver Council Meeting Minutes

December 21, 2021, Board of Directors Meeting, 5:15 p.m., via Zoom videoconference.

- I. Call to Order and Introductions. Chair Jess Grams read aloud the Land Acknowledgement and invited attendees to answer the question, what is a potential question, issue or concern related to the Transportation Chapter of the City's Comprehensive Plan? The Development Review Committee has identified the following questions and concerns so far: Traffic patterns / volume of traffic in Lowertown w/ CHS Field, the Green Line, Union Depot, the Farmers Market and other popular events; people who are experiencing homelessness needing to get off the train with nowhere to go; proposed street car (Riverview Corridor) and how that will mix with vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists; Metro Transit Police and / or Saint Paul Police Department roles in transit-related or traffic-related incidents; the skyway system is a public thoroughfare, so skyway-related concerns / issues also overlap with transportation; completing the bike loop and related traffic patterns; airport noise; street reconstruction projects / opportunities to design streets with more of a pedestrian focus; delivery trucks and / or moving trucks and the effects on congestion; tradeoffs of projects that reduce or eliminate parking versus removing a lane of traffic; and could some downtown streets be pedestrian only?

Attendees mentioned the following questions and concerns: How does the City plan on gathering data on people who are unhoused or don't have access to email? Regarding the goal to make some streets pedestrian-only ... buildings have concerns about deliveries, so would an idea be to close streets to vehicles only at certain days / times (like around the farmers' market on weekends)? Some buildings already have limited access on 4th street due to the Green Line, and now the Purple Line is being added, so how will new transit projects affect vehicle access to specific parking areas? We need to keep pedestrians safe, including people with dogs. An important focus should be pedestrian-friendly streets from a visitor perspective / making downtown more walkable. On baseball game days, people park as far away as the Xcel center. Maybe Saints management can schedule fewer games on week days?

- II. Previous meeting minutes: Board members were asked to review the October 19 board meeting minutes. If there are no objections or requested changes, the minutes will be adopted.

Committee / Work Group Updates: Board members were asked to review the monthly summary prepared by CRC Secretary Judy Miller and Committee Chairs. Also, please see the request by CRC Vice Chair Olga Nichols to help promote volunteer opportunities at Safe Space, and consider volunteering.

- III. Developing a CRC strategic plan for inclusion – Lissa Jones-Lofgren, Leadership and Governance Consultant led a discussion on a draft document for the board to review. The goal is to review and finalize the document at a future meeting, so that it can be used in board member on-boarding and training, and it will provide guidance on how CRC can work on continuous improvement in creating an inclusive, respectful organizational culture. A board member asked if staff would pass along similar documents that have been created by other district councils.
- IV. Pedro Park Work Group Update: Chair Julie Printz summarized the group's final report and next steps. A board member suggested that a new team should be formed to follow up and advocate for implementation of the group's recommendations. Motion by Judy Miller, seconded by Tom Erickson, to support the report in full, to support a full-block Pedro Park whenever possible, and that the CRC board and staff will do everything they can to support that. Motion passed. Board members also discussed volunteer recognition ideas to convey appreciation to the people who served on the Pedro Park Work Group.

V. Recommended process for approving committees, workgroups and projects: CRC Secretary Judy Miller said her goal is to make sure that CRC's purpose is reflected in CRC-related requests that come from board members or from the public. The process should include:

- Evidence that the project is consistent with CRC's purpose and values, including equity and accessibility;
- Sufficient information to assure the Board of Directors understands the scope and resources that are needed for the requested project;
- Focused outcomes and timelines;
- Description of how the focused outcomes of the project will contribute to District 17 (livability, etc.).

Secretary Miller will continue to work with the officers and other board members to refine the recommendations and will present more specific recommendations at a future meeting.

VI. Financial Report and Draft 2022 Budget: Executive Director Jon Fure provided a brief summary of the monthly financial report and draft budget for 2022. The draft budget is intended for discussion only. A recommended budget will be presented at the January board meeting.

VII. Board Member Updates and Future Agenda Items

- Executive Director Performance Appraisal: Board Chair Jess Grams and Internal Affairs Officer Lee Knutson will be scheduling the annual performance appraisal in January. Please contact any of the officers with feedback and / or questions. All are welcome to participate.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned 6:45 p.m.