



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

South Avenue Steering Committee

Friday, August 4, 2017

11:00 AM

3rd Floor Conference Room

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:02 a.m. by Council Member Phil Ostrem.

Roll Call

Present: 5 - Paul Medinger, Michael Richards, Phillip A. Ostrem, Martin Gaul, Mary Kessens

Excused: 3 - Francis J. Formanek, Vacant 1, Vacant 1

Others present: Kevin Luecke, Jim Rohe, Council Member Marshall, Jason Gilman.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Kessens, seconded by Gaul, to approve the May 24, 2017 meeting minutes. The motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

Agenda Items:

1. [17-1048](#) Overview of WisDOT South Avenue Recommended Alternative

Attachments: [South Ave Steering Committee 4 Packet - 20170804](#)

Kevin Luecke introduced WisDOT's preferred alternative, Alternative 1. It keeps the street in the existing ROW with roundabouts and 8 properties affected. It includes a continuous center median.

Council Member Gaul suggested installing additional signs to remind people of the speed reduction in the interim, noting the speed is under the City's control as a connecting highway. Jim Rohe indicated WisDOT is willing to work with Matt Gallager on a more comprehensive look at speeds and transitions. Mary Kessens also noted the need for truck access to Riverfront's production facility at Castle Place and 11th Place, noting Riverfront access at new roundabout plus careful design of pedestrian system. She also suggested the 25 mph transition south of Riverfront to make transit and pedestrian areas safer around Riverfront. Gaul suggested coordinating the transit stops with MTU given the roundabout locations. Gaul asked if we could open 14th across railroad to make roundabout access there more desirable. Matt Gallager stated the railroad might work with City if we close another one, but probably not if we are just

trying to open a new one. Michael Richards also noted the importance of what will happen at Trane Park. Gaul suggested connecting two streets at Trane Park - 15th and Chase St - giving no room for an off lane transit stop, which slows traffic around the park. Gaul noted the 14th St roundabout aside from immediate value on the corridor has more value off the corridor, especially if we can open 14th across railroad for emergency access to Green Bay St. Gaul asked Jim Rohe if WisDOT would pay for 15th-Chase transit stop and Jim stated it would be considered. Kessens inquired if a rapid flashing light crossing is needed, roundabout design to reduce speeds in and out, narrowed lanes, 25 mph south of Riverfront and 14th St roundabout. Gaul noted closure of 15th and connecting to Chase St for transit stop, connecting 11th Pl and Benora Lee Ct to make future connections (northbound one way on 11th) to Benora and connect roundabout to Townsend not Castle and make Townsend through street.

2. [17-1049](#)

Discussion of official Steering Committee response to Alternative

Jason Gilman will work with Toole Design to draft a letter and send back to committee for ratification and distribution. Gilman will submit scope for Toole to study the 14th connection/roundabout. Richards inquired how we can provide data to justify the 14th St roundabout; Gallager suggested expanding scope for Toole to model it for WisDOT.

A motion was made by Kessens, seconded by Gaul, to direct staff to draft an official letter to WisDOT. The motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

3. [17-1050](#)

Final Study Report Outline

4. [17-1051](#)

Other Study Recommendations

- a. Benora Lee Court Extension
- b. Burlington Northern RR Trail
- c. Other Bicycle Accommodations

Next Meeting Date/Agenda Items

Adjournment

A motion was made by Richards, seconded by Kessens, to adjourn the meeting at 12:40 p.m. The motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

Notice is further given that members of other governmental bodies may be present at the above scheduled meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility.

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

Requests from persons with a disability who need assistance to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk's office at (608) 789-7510 or send an email to ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org, with as much advance notice as possible.