

Macalester-Groveland Community Council

Transportation Committee

January 23, 2017

Attendees: Adam Backstrom (chair), Liz Boyer (MGCC staff), Dave Pasiuk (secretary), Brian Martinson, Kieran Wells, Spencer Ludtke, Colin Fesser, Jeff Christianson, Bryce Rasmussen, John Zwier, Alex Cunliffe

New Introductions: None

Minutes: Passed

Ford site Transportation-Planning Q&A by Merritt Clapp-Smith and Mike Richardson, City of Saint Paul PED

- Merritt and Mike presented plans for the Ford Site focusing on the transportation issues.
- They showed the percentage of trips taken from Highland to various parts of the Twin Cities including the round-trip distance.
- Cretin Avenue was presented as the north-south route and Montreal Avenue as the east-west route to and from the Ford Site.
- The traffic volumes on Cretin Avenue are projected to increase by approximately 204 vehicles per hour during rush hour.
- They stressed that all means of transportation will be included in the plans.

Committee members and others responded with questions and comments such as:

- If the City asks for input into the design of the streets at the boundaries of the Ford Site and beyond will our voices be heard and will actions be taken to make Cretin and Montreal safe for all means of transportation.
- The Randolph and Lexington project was sited several times as an example where the committee's input was ignored by the County.
- The level of rush hour traffic was questioned because the joining of Cretin and Montreal Avenues in the Ford Site not only give those living there access to 94 and 35E, but it also creates a new easy connection for those travelling to and from home across the river to work in Minneapolis. Therefore the increase in traffic on the two streets is way too low.
- Several people stressed the idea that all 4 means of transportation must be taken into consideration in the planning. If occupancy of the site is not really going to happen until 2025, who knows what transportation methods will be in use then.
- The committee members stated a willingness to participate fully in the transportation issues at the site and stand ready to participate in any way possible.

Follow-up on review of City's updated 5-year street plan:

- Because the presentation ran longer than planned, we decided to share any questions we have for Public Works on the Google Group. A representative from Public Works will be at the February meeting.
- **Other Business:**
 - A question was raised about lowering the speed limit on streets in Saint Paul. Again because of shortness of time, it was recommended that we discuss this in the Google group and talk about it at the February meeting.

Next Meeting: February 27, 2017, 6:30 pm, Edgumbe Recreation Center