Macalester-Groveland Community Council (MGCC)
Transportation Committee Meeting MINUTES
September, 2026

Location: Hybrid (Rec Center + Zoom) | Chair: Hugo Bruggeman

Attendees

Hugo Bruggeman, Ginny Housum, Ann Hartell, Mimi Gingold, Spencer Ludtke, Laura Wallace, Brian C. Martinson, Tom Moss, Dave Pasiuk, Chris Leifeld, Meghan Paul, Catherine Plessner, Tom Alf, John Kingrey. (11 online, 3 in-room)

I. Welcome & Introductions (6:30 PM)

Chair Hugo Bruggeman called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. With 11 participants online and 3 in-person, detailed introductions were waived as no new members or guests were attending.

Hugo acknowledged Sarah Johnson's departure from the board and shared an Anne Frank quote: "How wonderful it is that nobody needs to wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."

Ginny Housum volunteered to serve as committee secretary going forward.

II. Approval of May & July 2026 Minutes (6:35 PM)

Ann Hartell moved to approve minutes with corrections; Ginny Housum seconded. Corrections included: May minutes—Breadsmith name clarification, Hamline spelling, relocating Mimi's comment to appropriate section; July minutes—specific vote count (7 ayes, 2 nays, 4 abstentions) rather than approximations, and attaching resolution documents. Both motions passed with these corrections/attachments.

III. Additions or Deletions to Agenda (6:37 PM)

Hugo corrected agenda Item VI language to reflect that MGCC did receive a written response from Public Works on June 15th, contrary to original agenda text.

IV. Draft Resolution for Grand Ave. Discussion (6:40 PM)

Hugo introduced a draft resolution addressing the Grand Avenue reconstruction process, where the city deviated from 2022 MGCC board approved recommendations without formal notification. The goal is forward-looking process improvements rather than assigning blame.

Discussion Points:

- Dave Pasiuk argued against revisiting past issues, suggesting focus on establishing written change notification requirements for future projects
- Ann Hartell suggested understanding city constraints (MnDOT variances, City Council approvals)
- Tom Moss supported forward-facing language documenting expectations for future pedestrian projects
- Meghan Paul noted value in creating reference documentation for posterity

Outcome: Ann Hartell, Mimi Gingold, John Kingrey agreed to help Hugo Bruggeman revise the draft with more forward-looking language for October consideration. Format (resolution vs. letter) remains under discussion.

V. Board Did Not Advance Stop Sign Resolution (7:00 PM)

Hugo reported the Board did not take up the July Transportation Committee resolution supporting the Finn & St. Clair four-way stop petition—second time this year a transportation committee-approved resolution failed to be on the agenda of the next Board meeting (March resolution was not on the April agenda of the board; which we had subsequently raised as an procedural issue back then).

Procedural Discussion:

- Hugo noted that, per historical precedent, committee-approved motions do automatically proceed to the next Board agenda as a motion that is on the table
- Brian Martinson referenced bylaws (Article 8, Section 3) stating committees "shall issue reports and/or recommendations to the Board" and "shall not take action without prior approval"
- Ginny Housum noted a 2024 HLU committee resolution permitting independent committee action (no board vote required) on items with urgent timing requests, though not codified in bylaws
- Mimi Gingold will bring bylaw clarity to the Executive Committee for policy review; Hugo noted to also ask for clarification from the board

VI. Snelling & Grand Ave Reconstruction Update (7:20 PM)

Presenters: Hugo Bruggeman, Spencer Ludtke, Laura Wallace

Construction Status:

- Construction nears completion according to planned timeline
- Bus line and signals operating normally

Public works did send a reply email to follow-up on MGCC's May Meeting questions on June 15. Now MGCC's TC follow-up is needed, especially on:

- No right-turn-on-red (westbound Grand)
  - Restored due to A-Line bus visibility obstruction,
    - MGCC/TC may want to analyze the other three directions
- Stop lines at crosswalks
  - Contrary to PW letter, such application is deemed compliant with MUTCD manual
  - Further reason for pushback; Grand & Lexington has stop lines at all four crosswalks
- Side discussion on No right-turn-on-red (eastbound St. Clair)
  - Not restored despite similar conditions (need to add this to October agenda/ October discussion recommended)

Actions:

1. Spencer Ludtke and Chris Leifeld volunteered as working group to observe intersection operations and prepare October response.
2. October meeting should revisit our inquiry with PW to restore a No right-turn-on-red (eastbound St. Clair) sign, as these conditions are very similar to those on Grand and Snelling.

VII. Committee Updates (7:35 PM)

1. Randolph Heights Elementary School Crossing

Resolution sent to Public Works by September 24th deadline. Initial acknowledgments received positively. Hugo will follow up with Tom Basgen regarding speed trailer deployment.

2. Tree Trimming & Steward Program (Mimi Gingold)

Tree trimming list closed out. Tree Steward Program revived with 7 sign-ups; training contacts distributed. Recommend removing from regular agenda updates and posting to newsletter periodically instead.

3. Alternative Parking Management Committee (Ginny Housum)

Subcommittee toured ARRIVE system implementation in Falcon Heights (State Fair). Key findings:

Metric	Details
Revenue	$49,000 generated in 2025
Enforcement	License plate readers + parking ambassadors (young employees) issue tickets
Flexibility	Variable rates by time/event; higher rates discourage street parking during events
Privacy	System matches plates to payment status only; no owner data stored
St. Paul Status	Administrative citation ordinance under implementation working group; not yet adopted

Considerations:

- Effectiveness depends on enforcement capacity
- Could serve as MacGroveland/Union Park pilot
- Meghan Paul raised concerns about private security managed via tech contracts
- Tom Moss supported as market-based approach to reduce permit parking exclusivity
- Further discussion with Council member Coleman and Mayor's office needed

4. Sidewalk Infringement at Frats (Spencer Ludtke)

Deferred to October meeting. Spencer will present first on October agenda.

VIII. Adjournment (7:55 PM)

Meeting adjourned. Next Transportation Committee meeting scheduled for October 26th.

Summary of Action Items

Priority	Action Item	Owner	Target Date
HIGH	Revise Grand Ave resolution draft	Ann/Mimi/John/Higo	October meeting
HIGH	Follow up on bylaw/procedure clarification	Mimi Gingold	October meeting
HIGH	Observe Grand & Snelling intersection; prepare response	Spencer/Chris	October meeting
HIGH	Sidewalk infringement update	Spencer Ludtke	October meeting
MEDIUM	Follow up on speed trailer request	Hugo Bruggeman	October meeting