



OPEN COUNCIL WORK SESSION

MUNICIPAL CENTER LOBBY CONFERENCE ROOM

1616 HUMBOLDT AVENUE, WEST ST. PAUL, MN 55118

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

5:30 P.M.

1. Roll Call
2. Review and Approve the OCWS Agenda
3. Review the Regular Meeting Consent Agenda
4. Agenda Item(s)

A. Public Safety Committee Recommendations

Documents:

[REPORT - PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS](#)

[021020.PDF](#)

[02-04-20 PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES - DRAFT.PDF](#)

5. Adjourn

If you need an accommodation to participate in the meeting, please contact the ADA Coordinator at 651-552-4108 or email ADA@wspmn.gov at least 5 business days prior to the meeting
www.wspmn.gov EOE/AA

To: **Mayor and City Council**
 From: **Ryan Schroeder, City Manager**
 Date: **February 10, 2020**

Report from Public Safety Committee

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Recently, the Public Safety standing committee of the Council has met on October 22 and December 3, 2019 and most recently on February 4, 2020. At this most recent meeting, the committee:

- Provides specific recommendations on which sidewalk and crosswalks should be of greatest priorities. Absent contrary Council direction, it is anticipated that each of these recommendations would be included in future budget and CIP discussions.
- Suggests that the Engineer provide a recommendation for a No Parking designation on a portion of Kathleen Drive near Marie Avenue.
- Suggests that no action be taken regarding traffic calming related to Carrie Street north of Thompson Avenue but that the future Thompson/Oakdale roundabout project be continued to be pursued and that ped facilities continue to be pushed as a priority for this area.
- Made specific recommendations to expand housing rehab program efforts.
- Affirmed the suggestion on how best to narrow committee scope.

The Committee also had a brief discussion that a future OCWS should be targeted to review the Rental Density Ordinance and that the City should research allowance of Accessory apartments.

The draft February 2, 2020 committee meeting minutes are enclosed which include a bit more information on the above. Each of the above items are proposed for further Council consideration.

FISCAL IMPACT:

		Amount
Fund:		
Department:		
Account:		

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Based on discussion

City of West St. Paul
Public Safety Committee
February 4, 2020

In attendance:

Chair Fernandez
Member Berry
Member Eng-Sarne (left the meeting around 7:45)
City Manager Ryan Schroeder
City Engineer/PW Director Ross Beckwith
Community Development Director Jim Hartshorn
Police Lieutenant Matt Swenke

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 AM
2. The Chair asked for approval of minutes from December 3, 2019. Motion by Berry, second by Eng-Sarne. All voted aye.
3. The Chair opened the first New Business item of Crosswalk signage/stripping/pedestrian walkway gaps. After discussion the consensus of the committee was:
 - Place a priority on Emerson from Charlton to Robert
 - Place a priority on park and school locations (walkways near these facilities)
 - Place a priority on Smith Avenue south of Moreland
 - Review Metro Bus routes and ensure there are walkways adjacent to these routes
 - Ensure that any gaps adjacent to Signal Hills are addressed concurrent with development
 - Budget for ped ramps at Charlton/Butler near Heritage and Harmon Park
 - Budget for a crossing from Garlough to Dodge Nature Center
 - Budget for ped ramps/crossing across Thompson at Carrie or concurrent with development or roadway project
 - Proceed with a Regional Solicitation application for Thompson/Oakdale corridor which is currently in a feasibility study
 - Existing sidewalks gaps are not immediate priority unless they fall under school/park access.
4. The Chair opened discussion for no parking restrictions at Kathleen/Westview. Consensus was to take the recommendation to limit parking due to turning obstructions of Fire apparatus and other large vehicles on Kathleen Drive from Marie Avenue to Westview Drive. Engineering staff will review in the field and make a recommendation whether it is just the stretch closest to Marie that should be posted No Parking or the entire length (of south side) from Marie to Westview Drive.
5. The Chair opened discussion on traffic calming on Carrie Street that had been received from resident testimony during the Oppidan/Thompson Oaks site plan discussions. Staff presented that traffic volumes on Carrie were extremely low and would not be expected to change significantly post nearby commercial and multi-family development. The committee concluded that further discussion could occur after completion of these

developments and improvements to the Thompson Oakdale roundabout projected in 2022. However, the committee did make the recommendation for a pedestrian crossing of Thompson at Carrie.

6. The Chair opened discussion on the proposed housing rehab program. Consensus of the group is that we create a 1-3 year Pilot program targeting the area bounded by Annapolis, Robert, Butler and Waterloo. It was acknowledged that this district is entirely within Ward 1 but that it is also the area of perceived most concentrated need and that targeting this area during the Pilot program would be most likely to have a visible impact. Further, that the program would be expected to see expansion in the future as additional resources and experience occur. Additional recommendations include:
 - Focus on single family homesteads only
 - Do not have a homestead market value cap
 - Limit eligible homesteads to those between 80% and 120% AMI given that the CDBG rehab program currently operated by the Dakota CDA targets below 80%
 - Improvements eligible for loans would be code deficiencies, exterior structure improvements, and system improvements (HVAC, electrical, plumbing)
 - Interest rate at 3.5% (loan term was not discussed)
 - Charge borrower a \$150 application fee with the caveat that the application fee would be returned if the borrower is not approved for a loan
 - Loan minimum is \$5,000 and maximum is \$15,000 due to funding limits
 - Contract with NeighborWorks should limit the amount of administrative duties and expense to NeighborWorks
7. The Chair opened the discussion on the Committee scope. By consensus the committee agreed with the proposed scope of:
 - Street and sidewalk/pedestrian project reviews
 - Neighborhood scale traffic calming/signage request reviews and policy
 - Code enforcement/rental housing/problem properties
 - Review of public safety neighborhood hot spot issues
8. The Chair brought forward a few additional items for future discussion either at this committee or other committee/OCWS discussion
 - Status of 1010 Dodd (staff will follow up with a response)
 - Request for review of the rental density ordinance
 - Request for discussion about allowing for accessory apartments
9. The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:33 AM

Submitted,

Ryan Schroeder