

**Park Point Small Area Plan
Plan Committee Meeting
October 2, 2013 - 5:00 p.m.
Lafayette Community Recreation Center**

Participants

Keith Hamre, City of Duluth Planning
John Judd, City of Duluth Planning
Jan Karon, Resident
Dick Gould, Resident, MN Pt. Preservation Society
Dawn Buck, Resident
John Goldfine, Local Business Rep.
Heather Rand, Planning Commission Rep

Guests

Gerald Hadland
Shannon Stevens
Neil Dorr
Dr. Danae Dorr
Burke Edgerton
Mike Medlin
Travis Schwartz
Susan Schmidt

1. Call to Order / Introductions

Hamre called the meeting to order and recognized the meeting attendees.

2. Revisit Transportation Study (Lift bridge to 13th St.)

Judd provided answers to the two main questions from the previous meeting. M.S.A. funding could not be used on just part of the road. He also provided a new map/plan illustrating a 20 mph "S" curve at 8th Street resulting in less impact to 2 homes. Gould asked about funding sources for road construction and recalled that he heard that the road capacity should be good until 2025- Judd said the study looked out to 2035 with a full build-out on Park Point. Karon asked if the group had a quorum. Judd noted that 5 of the current members of the Committee were in attendance and there and 2 excused absent, 6 members is considered a quorum. Gould mentioned that with the Lake level rising additional water was going into and out of the sewer system. He also mentioned that the utilities (cloud/rusty water) in Park Point are worse than most other places in the city, yet they (Park Point residents) pay high taxes. Hamre said that these problems have been recognized but older systems (higher pipe breakage) are a higher priority right now. Karon asked if there were hand-out on these issues. Judd had extra copies of the material provided by SEH at the previous meeting. Karon remembered that the design for Minnesota Ave. made the road wider. Goldfine said that using more right of way and cuts into it adjacent landscaping. Rand likes the idea that single lane, one way pairs provides for wide sidewalks and bike lanes. However, this would mean retaining the "S": curve at 12th St. and building one at 8th St. with no net gain to Franklin Park. Hamre said M.S.A funds are the primary for source for City road construction but there might be other funds available. Judd provided information (hand out) on the

recent Bike count on Park Point. The numbers of bikes on Saturday 8/24 was 228, nearly the same as on the Lakewalk, 234.

3. Identify and define the public access and level of use of improved and unimproved Rights-of-Way and Street-Ends.

Judd presented and provided a map and hand out addressing the City Policy Proposal for the Park Point Street Ends. Karon asked about the difference in the meaning of vacation/ R-O-W's. Rand ask staff to explain ranking and rationale for the access point choices. Buck questioned the mayor's stance on recreation in the area when he promotes and says he is not limiting access but supports vacating these Street easements and wonders why the change in previous City policy. Rand mentioned there have been street end vacations in the east end. Buck talked about current "squatters" on the street ends and that allowing vacation of R-O-W's, where people have already built, is a reward for bad behavior. Judd explained the procedure for requesting a street easement /R-O-W vacation; including reserving parts of an easement for a "Public Purpose" He also noted that everyone with a structure in the located within a street easement /R-O-W must obtain a Concurrent use permit. Buck asked if the county was doing the same process with tax forfeit property currently.

4. Plan Committee Meeting and Public Meeting Schedule

Next two Plan Committee meetings to be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2013.

The tentative date for the next public "Open House" community meeting is set for Wednesday, October 30, 2013.

5. Review of any received written or electronic comments.