



City of Saint Paul
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SAINT PAUL LONG-RANGE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, September 9, 2013 at 3:30 p.m.

Central Library Fourth Floor Conference Room

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:	Monica Bryand, Kellie Charles Connor, Jacob Dorer, Diane Gerth, Deb Jessen, Melanie McMahon, Gene Olson, Dave Pinto, Paul Sawyer, Michael Steward, Darren Tobolt, Gary Unger, D'Ann Urbaniak Lesch
Members Excused:	Carrie Pomeroy
Members Absent:	Jane Lyon Lee
Visitors and City Staff Present:	Daley Lehmann, John McCarthy – OFS Paul Kurtz – Public Works

1. Convene

The meeting convened at 3:33 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Charles Connor moved approval; Mr. Olson seconded; all approved

3. Approval of August 12, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Olson moved approval; Mr. Sawyer seconded; all approved

4. Chair's Comments

Ms. Gerth reminded the Committee that the task force appreciation party will be held on Thursday, September 12th.

5. Action Items

Public Works – Paul Kurtz

RES PH 13-244: Amending the financing and spending budgets in the Department of Public Works in order to accept additional Federal funds through the Non-Motorized Transportation Program for the Charles Avenue Bikeway Project.

Mr. Kurtz began by following up on a question that was asked at the Committee's previous meeting regarding the delay in the Montreal Ave. Reconstruction project. Mr. Kurtz explained that Public Works street design is still working with the community to finalize the design. Public Works had planned to leave the curbs the same as they currently are, but the community had a few issues with the original design. Mr. Kurtz further explained that the City is having ongoing meetings including a workshop to finalize the design and get community support.

Mr. Kurtz then explained that the action item on the agenda relates to the Charles Ave bikeway project. Mr. Kurtz stated that the construction bids for the Charles Ave. project came in higher than engineer's estimates. He further explained that there seems to be a statewide trend this year of bids coming in higher than estimated. Mr. Kurtz explained that there are two options to address the problem: one is to find more money, and the second is to throw the bids out and re-bid the project later. Mr. Kurtz explained that Public Works is proposing to identify additional funding for the project. He indicated that Public Works first is proposing to use some 2011 CIB Contingency funding. He also explained that Public Works received additional funding from Transit for Livable Communities (TLC), which is the organization that hosts non-motorized transportation grants through the federal government.

Mr. Kurtz explained that the current budget is 696,250 and the resolution would add another \$185,000 in Federal Non-Motorized Transportation Program (NMTP) funding, and \$141,000 of 2011 CIB Contingency.

Mr. Olson moved approval; Mr. Sawyer seconded.

Mr. Steward asked for background on where the project is located.

Mr. Kurtz explained that it extends from Park St. on the east, all the way to Aldine, a couple blocks west of Snelling. He further explained that Public Works will install traffic circles at various intersections along the stretch to promote a bike boulevard on a parallel route to University.

Mr. Steward asked if there was some place where he could see the project design.

Mr. Kurtz responded that he thought it is available on the City's website. He also explained that there was a great deal of community input on the design for this project. He stated that he follow up with a copy of the design for the project.

Mr. Pinto stated that the Charles project seemed like a northern version of the Jefferson Ave bike project. He further stated that it looked like the original project budget did not come through the normal CIB process, but rather was put together using various funding sources.

Mr. Kurtz responded the Mr. Pinto was right on both accounts, noting that the original project budget included STAR funding and NMTP funding from Transit for Livable Communities.

Mr. Steward asked if engineering and construction costs are part of same budget.

Mr. Kurtz responded that the total budget includes the engineering and construction costs.

Mr. Tolbolt stated that he is on the board of TLC, but indicated that there is no conflict of interest since the funding in question is coming from the federal government. Mr. Tolbolt indicated that he will still vote on this action item.

All approved.

Mr. Dorer asked if the City will run into problems with the projects in the 2014 proposed budget since projects bids are coming in above estimates.

Mr. Kurtz responded that part of the issue with Charles Ave. was due to timing. He further explained that when projects come in late in the year, the bids often come in high, since contractors are already busy. He stated that often when Public Works put out bids in the winter, contractors aren't as busy and may come back with more competitive bids. He stated that had TLC not come in with additional funds, Public Works may have gone back out to bid on Charles Ave for next year.

Mr. Tolbolt noted that it's important that the Charles Ave project be completed by the time LRT starts running.

Mr. Tolbolt asked the status of the Jefferson Ave. project.

Mr. Kurtz responded that bids came in high on the Jefferson project as well as the Griggs project. He stated that Public Works will put both out to bid again in the spring to see if they can get the price to come down.

6. Mayor's Proposed 2014-2015 Capital Improvement Budget

Ms. Gerth explained that the Mayor's proposed capital improvement budget included a lot of what the Committee wanted. She further stated that as always the Mayor made some changes. Ms. Gerth noted that City staff put together some comparisons between the Committee's recommendations and the Mayor's proposed budget.

Mr. McCarthy thanked Ms. Peterson, the OFS budget intern for putting together a summary of the changes included in the Mayor's proposed capital budget.

Ms. McMahon noted that the summary was particularly helpful and she would like something similar prepared in the future.

Mr. Dorer noted that the proposed budget includes a plan to push the renovation of the Palace rec center into 2016. He asked if that would decrease the funding in the 2016-2017 capital budget.

Mr. McCarthy responded that Palace is tentatively recommended for 2016. He further noted that the Committee will be able to reevaluate the Palace project along with all the other CIB proposals in the 2016-2017 cycle.

Mr. Dorer asked if the reduction in the Kellogg Bridge project would decrease the scope of the project.

Mr. McCarthy replied that the proposed budget still includes funding to do the most crucial work on the Kellogg Bridge project.

7. 2014-2015 Capital Maintenance Program
 - A. Review Program Guidelines
 - B. Request for sub-committee members

Ms. Gerth asked the Committee to review the capital maintenance guidelines, and to start thinking of volunteering for the sub-committee. She noted that she will appoint 3 members at the next committee meeting.

- C. Tentative sub-committee meeting schedule (two options)

Ms. Gerth asked the Committee to review the schedule options and decide on what works best with the Veterans' day holiday.

Mr. Lehmann explained the differences between the scheduling options.

Mr. Olson moved for option 1; Mr. Unger seconded. All approved.

Mr. Steward asked how the minimum amount for capital maintenance repairs was established. He further asked how City departments address small dollar repairs before they grow to be bigger problems.

Mr. McCarthy responded that most of the bigger City departments have some funding for smaller repairs within their operating budget, and that the capital budget is really for larger repairs.

8. Feedback from Mayor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities

Mr. McCarthy explained that he has been working with staff in the Mayor's Office to figure out a way for the Mayor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities to provide input on projects during the CIB task force process. He further stated that two possible options are: 1) to allow the Mayor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities to provide a rating on all Streets and Utilities project proposals; or 2) to have a standing task force member on the Streets and Utilities task force from the Mayor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities. Mr. McCarthy stated that the CIB Committee has until the next cycle to determine the best option.

Mr. Dorer stated that the Mayor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities could also review projects from the other task forces as well, not just Streets and Utilities.

9. Task Force Appreciation Party

Mr. Tobolt gave the date and other details for the task force appreciation party.

10. Adjourn

Adjourned at 4:21 p.m.