

Notes from T&LU meeting, June 7, 2023

Started at 6:30pm via zoom

Introductions until 6:40pm:

Jimmy Shoemaker, Bicycle Plan, City of St. Paul  
Paul Hardt, facilitator, Fort Road Fed board member  
Julia McColley, Exec Director, Fort Road Federation  
Sara Fleetham, Fort Road Fed board member  
Nathan Zacharias, resident  
John Yust, resident  
Grania \_\_\_\_\_, resident  
Ruthann Atkinson, Federation Secretary  
Jane McClure, press, Community Reporter

## Bicycle Plan

Heard presentation from Jimmy Shoemaker about city's long range bicycle plan.  
Here's a link with map. [PowerPoint presentation](#)

Comments were shared about specific areas along West 7<sup>th</sup> that need attention to help bicycle traffic.

## MnDOT Milling and Overlay Project and Riverview Corridor

Jimmy did an excellent job helping us segue from the bike plan to the MnDOT and Riverview

Corridor projects, since plans for bicycles played a significant element in the discussion of the MnDOT and River Corridor projects.

Here is a link to the MnDOT project. [Milling and Overlay for West 7<sup>th</sup>](#)

A significant element of this plan is the placement of bike lanes and "shared use" lanes (bikes and ped traffic). Discussion at this time is around adding bike lanes on segments of West 7<sup>th</sup>--- one lane of each side of the right of way or two lanes on one side of the right of way.

MnDOT is currently going through a community input process, asking for feedback on various alternative design ideas for the length of West 7<sup>th</sup> from Munster-St. Clair (construction 2027) and from Munster to Olive Street (construction 2028).

Paul H and Julia are being briefed regularly from MnDOT about the progress of the project. A community input session was conducted in April at Palace Community Center.

Paul H encouraged community members to take full advantage of the opportunities to give MnDOT feedback about the project.

Paul H reported that he had informal discussions with Commissioner Rafael Ortega about the Riverview Corridor. Two decisions right now....Street car is still the main option, but a smaller street car that goes slower is being actively discussed. The thinking is that this will promote more economic development and encourage more use. Second, the route by Xcel Center has been finalized between the city and county. The street car will go to the south of Xcel....on Kellogg Blvd.

#### High-level Overview of District Plan

Plan was revised in 2012, and it needs to be updated every 10 years. It is being updated now by a former board member.

Here is a link to the current plan. [Fort Road Federation District Plan](#)

Paul H emphasized the importance of the plan, as the transportation plans from MnDOT and the City progress. He cited the example of the Hiawatha Corridor in Minneapolis as an example of the impact light rail can have on the character of a community.

Paul H committed to follow-up and see what's happening with the plan.

#### Vacation of Leech Street

Leech Street is the short street in front of the Hope Breakfast Bar. It was temporarily closed off during the pandemic, to allow for more outdoor dining, probably through some temporary action by the City Council. Now, the street will be formally vacated (no longer used as a street), and the area will become a public space for dining and event.

#### Justus Ramsey House RFD update

Sara gave us an update on the JRH RFD process. An RFD has been published and proposals are being solicited. A public engagement meeting will be held on June 22, at which members of the public can comment on the proposals to relocate and rebuild the JRH.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:45pm

Paul Hardt, Board Member and facilitator