



City of Saint Paul
Mayor Melvin Carter

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SAINT PAUL LONG-RANGE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, September 14, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.

Meeting held remotely

The chair has determined, due to the emergency declared by the Governor of Minnesota and the Mayor regarding the COVID-19 health pandemic, that it is not practical nor prudent for the Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) Committee to meet in-person or pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 13D.02. In light of the COVID-19 health pandemic, it is not feasible for any member of CIB Committee to be present at the regular location, and all members of the CIB Committee will attend this meeting by telephone.

It is also not feasible for members of the public to attend the meeting at its regular location due to the health pandemic and emergency. Accordingly, no meeting will be held in the 4th Floor Conference Room of the George Latimer Central Library at 90 West 4th Street in the City of Saint Paul.

Members of the public are able to monitor this meeting via phone. Public comment and materials can be submitted to madeline.mitchell@ci.stpaul.mn.us Any comments and materials submitted by 3:30pm of the meeting day will be provided to the CIB Committee for their review.

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:	Devin Driscoll, Jack Fei, Raymond Hess, Amy Huerta, Mary Morse Marti, Darren Tobolt, Elsa Vega Perez	
Members Excused:	Patrick McQuillan, Rebecca Airmet	
Members Absent:	Samakab Hussein	
Visitors and City Staff Present:	Madeline Mitchell Anne Weber Ellen Stewart Mike Solomon Jane McClure Scott Berger Jim Cox Jens Werner	Bryan Whitaker Eric Salinas Lindsey Lyford Cathy Maes Kim Frair Tosh Anderson Catherine Murray Eric Weiss



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1. Call to order – The meeting was called to order by at 3:35 p.m.
2. Approval of September agenda and August meeting minutes. Vega Perez moved to approve the agenda for the September 14, 2020 meeting and the minutes from the August 10, 2020 meeting. Hess seconded. The agenda and minutes were approved.
3. Action Items

Public Works

RES PH 20-175: Amending the financing and spending plans in the Department of Public Works Capital Budget by transferring \$444,582 in revenues to the 2020 Randolph Bridge Project.

- Anne Weber presented the resolution to the committee, explaining that the MNDOT 2012 Lafayette bridge project is complete and there is CIB money available to transfer into Randolph project, which will be starting design in 2020 and construction in 2022.
- Driscoll moved to approve the resolution. Hess seconded. The resolution was approved.

RES PH 20-181: Amending the financing and spending plans in the Department of Public Works Capital Budget to add Saint Paul Sewer Utility, Saint Paul Regional Water Services, Ramsey County and assessment funding into various 2020 Public Works projects.

- Anne Weber presented the resolution to the committee. The resolution adds funding into various projects: water funding into Como Trail project, sewer funding into Johnson Trail Project, sewer, water, and assessment funding into the Tedesco project, sewer funding into Ayd Mill, sewer and water funding into Fairview/Western Mill and Overlay, and county funding into Minnehaha at Western.
- Driscoll asked where the funding is coming from. Weber responded that there is funding from the Water Utility, Sewer Utility, and Ramsey County. Driscoll asked whether any of it was coming out of unspent projects. Weber confirmed it is not.
- Hess moved to approve the resolution. Fei seconded. The resolution was approved.

OFS

RES PH 20-185: Approving an amendment to the spending and financing budget for the Ford Site Redevelopment Capital project to reflect a grant from the Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD), and acceptance of the CRWD grant, for stormwater management and enhancements including the Hidden Falls Headwater connection and to fund project oversight.

- Mike Solomon presented the resolution to the committee. The resolution adds grant funding from the Capitol Region Watershed District to the project to enhance infrastructure on the site. A new connection across Mississippi River Boulevard to Hidden Falls Park will allow stormwater to flow underneath. The City also had to find internal resources to get the project done including some Legacy Parks funding, parkland dedication funds specific to this ward, capital improvement funds, and TIF transferred from HRA as part of the larger TIF portion of the project.
- Tobolt asked how much TIF is involved. Solomon said \$200,000.
- Fei asked for clarification on how we identify the City's contribution to this project. Solomon walked the committee through the sources and uses document.

- Driscoll asked if these are existing CIB bonds being reallocated or new bonds. Solomon responded that they are existing bonds allocated from the pedestrian safety program, as part of the list approved annually.
- Ellen Stewart, landscape architect and department lead for Highland Bridge showed photos of the project and explained the benefits.
- Tobolt expressed support for the project.
- Hess asked if there is going to be work done further down the stream for flood control. Stewart said that will be an important next step.
- Tobolt moved to approve the resolution. Driscoll seconded. The resolution was approved.

AO 20-34: Seventh amendment to the 2019 Capital Improvement Budget to allocate funding for the Green Energy Loan Program to the appropriate department projects.

- Mitchell presented the administrative order for committee awareness only. No vote was required. The order is the seventh installment of the Green Energy Loan Program and allocates out funding for air handling unit work at Como Lakeside Pavilion.

4. Public Hearing

- Scott Berger spoke in support of the bike and pedestrian safety at Selby and Saratoga project, noting it is an extremely dangerous, difficult to navigate, high traffic volume intersection. Berger noted many violations of pedestrian crossing and bad lighting and expressed a desire to see improvements, starting with bump outs.
- Jim Cox (785 Butternut) spoke in support of the Butternut Ave project. Cox is part of the Butternut Neighborhood group and requested that, at the least, the speed limit be lowered. Cox would also like to see flashing lights on the speed limit sign and rubberized asphalt starting at Otto. Cox noted that someone had been killed at this place since the last meeting.
- Bryan Whitaker, Crime Prevention Chair for Ramsey Hill Association, spoke in favor of the Ramsey Hill parks project. Whitaker noted an uptick in reported crimes in Ramsey Hill and would like CIB help to invest in lighting and security in parks to provide better visibility where crimes have occurred.
- Eric Salinas spoke in support of the Eastside Skatepark project. Salinas is part of a group formed to utilize unused space for skatepark. Salinas wishes to see it become a destination skatepark and encouraged the committee to visit the Facebook page. Lindsey Lyford also spoke in support of the skatepark.
- Catherine Murray spoke in support of the pedestrian infrastructure at Raymond Station project, noting there are 144 units of public housing at the Seal Hi-Rise. Murray also noted an interest in any amount of funding – even if less than the amount requested.
- Kim Frair also spoke in support of the Raymond Station/Seal Hi-Rise project, noting that many people do not follow the speed limit in this area, creating unsafe crossings for pedestrians, including those in wheelchairs.
- Jens Werner from the Summit University Planning Council spoke in support of allocating funding to the Central Village lighting project. Werner noted this project is half a decade in the making and is a unique park that connects to a pedestrian bridge leading to schools and Hallie Q Brown. This is a highly used place in the neighborhood, which doesn't have any lighting. Neighbors have been to find funding opportunities. The initial request was large, but the community is excited at any funding that can be allocated.
- Eric Weiss from the Trust for Public Land spoke in support of the Central Village project. Weiss was brought to table by residents seeking help in creating a safer space for neighbors. Weiss noted that due to the design of this unique space, it's important for these trails to be well lit as they are somewhat isolated.
- Tosha Anderson spoke in support of a destination skatepark built on Payne Ave. The target location is an unused lot that has been vacant for 21 years. Anderson would like to see a cement style park and community space with BBQs. The neighborhood is dense, culturally diverse, and one of the poorest areas of St Paul. Anderson noted this project would deter crime and give kids chance to grow up in healthy/safe place. Anderson and team have been working with Urban Roots to help with landscaping and gardening
- Cathy Maes thanked the committee for this process and encouraged them to think about funding across the City, making certain that money isn't just funded in certain pockets. Maes

noted that many think Ramsey Hill is an exclusively wealthy area which is not true. Maes said it is a neighborhood with a diverse population that needs CIB help.

- Huerta thanked all the testifiers.

5. Additional business

- Huerta noted she would like to hold an election at the October meeting.
- Morse Marti stated she is terming out and not interested in continuing.
- Tobolt expressed interested in being chair.
- Driscoll thanked Huerta for navigating the new process.
- Fei thanked the chair for the great experience and asked for a list of active members.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by general consent.

Staff:

Madeline Mitchell (651-266-8803), madeline.mitchell@ci.stpaul.mn.us