



**City of Saint Paul**  
*Mayor Melvin Carter*

700 City Hall  
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## **SAINT PAUL LONG-RANGE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Monday, February 8, 2021 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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, Amy Huerta, Darren Tobolt, Raymond Hess
Members Excused:	Elsa Vega Perez
Members Absent:	Mary Morse Marti, Patrick McQuillan
Visitors and City Staff Present:	Madeline Mitchell Mark Strom Noel Nix Alice Messer Holly Huston



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1. Call to order – The meeting was called to order by at 3:35 p.m. by Chair Tobolt.
2. Approval of February agenda and December meeting minutes. Hess moved to approve the agenda for the February 8, 2021 meeting. Driscoll seconded. Huerta moved to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2020 meeting. Hess seconded. The agenda and minutes were approved.
3. Action Items

### Parks

RES PH 21-7: Amending the financing and spending plan in the Department of Parks and Recreation in the amount of \$175,440.65 to utilize Parkland Dedication funds for the Westgate Park creation project.

- Alice Messer presented the resolution to the committee on behalf of Liz Hixson, the project manager. There have been numerous planning studies around providing green space for this area (between 280, I-94, and University Avenue). The 1.5 acres identified for Westgate Park were a staging area for the Millberry Apartments, meaning it is essentially a blank slate for park space. Land and a small amount of funding was donated by the developers of the apartment buildings for a park at this site.
- The resolution would use Parkland Dedication funds to support this project. These funds would become a match for a Department of Natural Resources grant related to a trail at the site. There has been engagement with the St. Anthony Park Community Council to get feedback on designs for Westgate. Hixson reviewed the history of this site, served industrial rail lines for a long time. Hixson is looking at integrating reclaimed lumber and salvaged rail lines into the designs. The trail proposed for the site would connect this area across 280 to other city trails. The MN DNR funding is a trail connection grant and requires a 50% match.
- Additional developments in the area will replenish Parkland Dedication funds in this area.
- Fei moved to approve the resolution. Hess seconded.
- The motion passed and the resolution was approved.

RES PH 21-19: Accepting a Competitive Equity Grant from the Metropolitan Council, amending the financing and spending plan in the Department of Parks and Recreation in the amount of \$154,255 for environmental services, exhibits, public art, and architect services for the Wakan Tipi Center project at the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary, and entering into a grant agreement, which includes an indemnification clause.

- Alice Messer presented the resolution to the committee, explaining that it will allow the department to accept grant funds from the Metropolitan Council for the Wakan Tipi Center project.
- Hess asked if this was new money that we had been expecting. Messer confirmed.
- Driscoll asked about the development timeline. Messer told the committee that the Lower Phalen Creek group is striving to have construction begin this year but will need to coordinate with the Kellogg Bridge project and needs to finalize additional funding so the timeline may be adjusted a bit.
- Huerta moved to approve the resolution. Driscoll seconded.
- The motion passed and the resolution was approved.

#### 4. 2021 CIB Process

- Mitchell presented the timeline for the 2021 process and asked for volunteers to join the Capital Planning Team. Nix further explained portions of the timeline and the goals of the redesigned process. Nix noted that the team is excited for the opportunities to open doors that holding virtual community conversations may create.
- Fei asked for clarification around the CIB Committee's role in the early parts of the process. Tobolt noted that it is important for the committee to spread this information back to their respective communities, especially around the community conversations. CIB Committee members should be actively encouraging neighbors to attend and participate in these discussions. Nix added that there is an opportunity for two members of the committee to serve on the Capital Planning Team alongside City staff. The way that the process was redesigned focuses this year on the City submitted projects.
- Fei asked what the CIB Committee should be doing in March. Nix stated that the role of the committee at this point is to encourage engagement and community voice by spreading the word to their networks. Fei asked when the Capital Planning Team is formed. Nix told the committee it will be formed in April. Fei encouraged Mitchell to add the CIB Committee to the list of groups involved in the March meetings.
- Tobolt will send out a call for volunteers and alternates. The committee will make final decisions on who will represent the committee at the March meeting. Fei volunteered to be one of the representatives. Hess volunteered to be an alternate.

#### 5. 2021 CDBG Process

- Mark Strom presented the 2021 CDBG process to the committee.
- Strom explained that the funding comes from the federal government (Housing and Urban Development). The City receives \$4 million in both 2022 and 2023. The applicants are community development organizations and a few City departments.
- Tobolt provided additional context around which organizations have received funding in the past and noted that many apply every cycle.
- Driscoll asked for a comprehensive timeline of CIB dates for 2021. Mitchell will send to the committee.

#### 6. Other business

- Tobolt reminded members to reply to his email if they would like to be considered for the Capital Planning Team.

#### 7. 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](mailto:madeline.mitchell@ci.stpaul.mn.us)