



**CITY OF SAINT PAUL**  
Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor

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Saint Paul, MN 55102

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## TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Monday, December 7, 2015, 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
*All meetings are held in the City Hall Annex 13<sup>th</sup> floor  
Conference room at 25 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Saint Paul*

1. Grotto & Mackubin Pedestrian Bridges – Dale Gade (MnDOT) 10 minutes
2. River Balcony – Lucy Thompson (PED) 25 minutes
3. Grand Round – Kathleen Anglo (Parks) 50 minutes

### *Upcoming Transportation Committee Meetings*

- January 11
- January 25

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*Meetings are open to the public. The Chair may allow five minutes for informal public comment (from non-committee members) at the beginning of each agenda as needed. Additional time may be allocated for comments or further discussion at the discretion of the Chair. Meetings will be cancelled if there is not a quorum expected, or if there are no agenda items. For additional information on the Transportation Committee of the Planning Commission, please visit our website at [bit.ly/StPaulTC](http://bit.ly/StPaulTC) or contact Bill Dermody at [Bill.Dermody@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Bill.Dermody@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or 651-266-6617.*

## Transportation Committee Staff Report

Committee date: December 7, 2015

<b>Project Name</b>	<b><i>MnDOT Grotto &amp; Mackubin Ped Bridges</i></b>
Geographic Scope	<i>Over I-94</i>
Ward(s)	<i>1</i>
District Council(s)	<i>8 Summit University</i>
Project Description	<i>Replacement of the Grotto and Mackubin Ped Bridges over I-94</i>
Project Contact	<i>Dale Gade</i>
Contact email/phone	<i>651-234-7713</i>
Lead Agency/Department	<i>MnDOT</i>
Purpose of Project/Plan	<i>Long term maintenance.</i>
Planning References	<i>MnDOT Standards</i>
Project stage	<i>Planning</i>
General Timeline	<i>Construction: 2016</i>
District Council position (if applicable)	
Level of Committee Involvement	<i>Inform</i>
Previous Committee action	<i>None</i>
Level of Public Involvement	<i>Inform and seek input</i>
Public Hearing	<i>No</i>
Public Hearing Location	<i>NA</i>
Primary Funding Source(s)	<i>NA</i>
Cost	<i>NA</i>

Staff recommendation	<i>NA</i>
Action item requested of the Committee	<i>Provide input.</i>
Committee recommendation	<i>NA</i>
Committee vote	<i>NA</i>

### Level of Committee Involvement

<p><b>INFORM:</b> Informational briefings</p>	<p>Projects that are in implementation phase; projects from other jurisdictions; policy documents from other agencies/jurisdictions</p>
<p><b>ADVISE AND CONSENT:</b> Informational briefings with policy discussion, general directives to staff for follow-through</p>	<p>Project and program reviews primarily initiated by staff; or involvement with program development by others</p>
<p><b>INVOLVE:</b> Discussions to develop directions for projects &amp; programs</p>	<p>Policy involvement from inception through design, inc. policy development; environmental documentation,</p>
<p><b>DEVELOPMENT OF PROJECT/PROGRAM:</b> Discussion to form process; screening of ideas; development of recommendations; and managing outreach to the community</p>	<p>Committee has primary responsibility for concept development, and/or overseeing participation process, and/or making specific recommendations to Planning Commission, Mayor and/or City Council</p>

# New MacKubin AND Grotto pedestrian AND bike bridges

*Construction begins spring 2016*

## About the projects

We're building two new pedestrian and bike bridges crossing I-94 at MacKubin and Grotto. The current bridges are used daily by people who want a reliable way to cross the busy interstate.

The new MacKubin and Grotto bridges will be an improvement from the current bridges. The bridges will have ramps that are accessible to people with disabilities and they will be wider and safer.

## How construction will impact pedestrians, bicyclists and travelers?

The existing pedestrian and bike bridges at MacKubin Street and Grotto Street will remain open during construction of the new bridges. Once the new bridges are finished, the old bridges will be demolished. During the demolition, I-94 will close for one weekend.

## The new MacKubin and Grotto bridges will be complete before winter 2016.

For additional information and to sign up for e-mail updates, please contact Kevin Walker at 651-234-7509 or visit the website at [mndot.gov/metro/projects/i94mackubinstpaul](http://mndot.gov/metro/projects/i94mackubinstpaul)



photo rendition



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photo rendition



## Transportation Committee Staff Report

Committee date: December 7, 2015

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>River Balcony</b>
Geographic Scope	<i>Downtown river bluff, Science Museum to Union Depot</i>
Ward(s)	<i>2</i>
District Council(s)	<i>17 – Capitol River Council (CRC)</i>
Project Description	<i>The River Balcony is an elevated, publicly-accessible pedestrian pathway that will run from the Science Museum to Union Depot. It will also have “elevated boardwalks” that connect from the top of the bluff to the Upper and Lower landings, as well as a “land bridge” cascading from Kellogg Mall Park to the river’s edge (over Shepard Road and the railroad tracks).</i>
Project Contact	<i>Lucy Thompson</i>
Contact email/phone	<i>Lucy.Thompson@ci.stpaul.mn.us/651.266.6578</i>
Lead Agency/Department	<i>PED</i>
Purpose of Project/Plan	<i>The River Balcony will give the public visual and physical access to the Mississippi River, better connect downtown to the river, and catalyze and add value to private development along the bluff (at Custom House, Ramsey County West and Ramsey County East).</i>
Planning References	<i>The River Balcony is specifically called for in the Great River Passage Master Plan (2013), but the goal of reconnecting to the Mississippi River in downtown has been in every downtown plan/vision document/development framework since 1997.</i>
Project stage	<i>Master plan and schematic design for Phase 1 (Robert Street to Union Depot)</i>
General Timeline	<i>Phase 1: schematic design completed by end of 2015, final design completed by end of 2016, funding secured by 2018-2019. Timeline for full completion unknown at this time.</i>
District Council position (if applicable)	<i>Support</i>
Level of Committee Involvement	<i>Inform</i>
Previous Committee action	<i>None</i>
Level of Public Involvement	<i>Project Review Team has a CRC representative on it; public open house held in September 2015; second public open house will be held on schematic design for Phase 1</i>
Public Hearing	<i>NA</i>
Public Hearing Location	<i>NA</i>
Primary Funding Source(s)	<i>Public/private partnership – likely to involve federal, state, City funds as well as private investment related to individual development projects</i>
Cost	<i>Not determined yet</i>

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Staff recommendation	NA
Action item requested of the Committee	<i>Informational item only.</i>
Committee recommendation	NA
Committee vote	NA

## Transportation Committee Staff Report

Committee date: December 7, 2015

<b>Project Name</b>	<b><i>Saint Paul Grand Round</i></b>
Geographic Scope	<i>Extent of the work, bounding streets identified</i>
Ward(s)	<i>2,3,4,5,6,7</i>
District Council(s)	<i>1,2,4,5,9,10,12,13,14,15,17</i>
Project Description	<i>Concept level planning for the Grand Round northern half, wayfinding and branding for the full Grand Round. Final design for 2016-2017 construction on Pelham Blvd, Wheelock Pkwy, and Johnson Pkwy</i>
Project Contact	<i>Kathleen Anglo</i>
Contact email/phone	<i>Kathleen.Anglo@ci.stpaul.mn.us</i>
Lead Agency/Department	<i>Parks and Recreation</i>
Purpose of Project/Plan	<i>Establish a citywide network of parkways encircling the city.</i>
Planning References	<i>Comprehensive Plan; Grand Round Master Plan, Bicycle Plan</i>
Project stage	<i>Planning stage for full Grand Round northern half; Final Design for 2016-2017 implementation segments.</i>
General Timeline	<i>Draft plan late December, Final Planning Early 2016. Construction begins summer 2016.</i>
District Council position (if applicable)	<i>N/A</i>
Level of Committee Involvement	<i>Involve</i>
Previous Committee action	<i>none</i>
Level of Public Involvement	<i>Involve</i>
Public Hearing	<i>none</i>
Public Hearing Location	<i>N/A</i>
Primary Funding Source(s)	<i>8-80. SPS arterial paving program.</i>
Cost	<i>unknown</i>

Staff recommendation	<i>N/A</i>
Action item requested of the Committee	<i>Advise staff on opportunities to improve planning and public engagement efforts.</i>