



Agenda Item IX. Transportation Committee Recommendations to the Board

Recommendation for MGCC Involvement in Stop for Me

The Transportation Committee recommends pausing involvement in the Stop for Me Campaign until the Macalester-Groveland Community Council can receive clarification from the City of Saint Paul on how the program can be implemented equitably and in a way that does not put POC at increased risk.

Resolution Re: Reducing Motor-Vehicle Traffic and Increasing Pedestrian and Bicyclist Access to Mississippi River Boulevard

Whereas, even before the Covid-19 pandemic, there were consistently large volumes of bicyclists and pedestrians on Mississippi River Boulevard-- some of the largest in the city as is evidenced by the City's annual pedestrian and bicycle count reports;

Whereas the trails along the west side of Mississippi River Boulevard (between the roadway and the river) have a combined width of 6 feet or less in many places;

Whereas the inadequate width of the trails and lack of a northbound bike lane results in conflicts between pedestrians, bicyclists, skaters and automobiles, which have been documented in city reports for decades, such as the Grand Round report from 2000;

Whereas this situation has worsened during the pandemic, given the need for social distancing of at least 6 feet;

Whereas this situation will become even worse with the development of the Ford site, because the volume of bicyclists and pedestrians will greatly increase;

Whereas the volume of motor vehicles is much smaller, which leads to frequent speeding by cars, which is both a nuisance and a danger to all users of the boulevard including home owners;

Whereas a temporary lane closure for southbound vehicular traffic was put in place on April 22 to create additional outdoor space for pedestrians and bicyclists to social distance along the roadway;

Whereas, the City of Saint Paul, in their Grand Round report, states that reconstructing and modernizing old streets creates a better experience for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists;

Whereas, on June 15, the City started some Mississippi River Boulevard improvements with variety of scheduled construction and repair projects in preparation for a mill and overlay in early September, but the improvements do not include widening the trails or equivalent measures to create a better experience for pedestrians and bicyclists;

Whereas making the April 22 lane closure permanent is an immediate solution to increase the space for bicyclists and pedestrians on Mississippi River Boulevard, until a more fitting solution can be found;

Be it resolved that the city should make the Mississippi River Boulevard lane closure permanent, thus making it a one-way, northbound one-lane roadway, and make additional improvements to enable pedestrians and bicyclists to better access the Boulevard from the bridges on Ford parkway and Marshall Avenue.

All MGCC meetings are online through Zoom at this time; email alexa@macgrove.org to receive the Meeting ID # for this meeting. All times are approximate. Agenda is subject to change due to additions or deletions. Meetings of the Macalester-Groveland Community Council are open to the public. Community members are encouraged to attend. For more information about the Macalester-Groveland Community Council or its committees, please call 651-695-4000 or visit www.macgrove.org.