
U.S. HIGHWAY 169

PRELIMINARY HIGHWAY AND LANDSCAPE DESIGN

PAC MEETING NOTES

Meeting Number 4
May 11, 2006
1:00 to 3:00 PM

Attendees: See attached sign-in sheet

Introductions

Summary of action items:

- Meetings minutes called approved and will be posted on website as is.
- Peter to contact Bob Podhradsky about representing Nicollet County at PAC meetings.
- Mike McGarvey will develop cost per block for each alternative.
- Paul and Lew to review the VQM and comment on what elements may be sensitive to residents so PAC is aware.
- Lew to look into what it would take to turn the alley's around to travel other direction or be two-way.
- Peter and Lew to set up meetings with business owners at Ruttles, BP, Country Kitchen and Arrow Ace before the May 25th Open House.
- Renae to send March 9th workshop invitee and attendee list to Peter, John and Lew
- Rebecca to send meeting notice tomorrow (May 12th)

Item #1 – Review of Minutes

Discussion:

- No changes to minutes for PAC Meeting #3 held on April 20th, 2006.

Action:

- Meetings minutes called approved and will be posted on website as is.

Item #2 – PAC Attendance

Discussion:

- PAC attendance has been low, has everyone been notified of meeting times? Some discussion, but in the end, no change in approach was recommended.
- Some confusion on Nicollet County's PAC representative.

Action:

- Peter to contact Bob Podhradsky about representing Nicollet County at PAC meetings.

Item # 3 – Area B Discussion

Discussion:

- Goal is to have a final recommended alternative from the TAC and PAC by the June 8th meeting.
- May 30th and June 5th are normal workshop days for the City of Saint Peter. Start at 5:30pm and last approximately three hours. We should try to fit into one of these meetings.
- Landscape Options overview:
 - Option One:
 - Fence with Stone columns
 - Planters in center of intersections (without fence)
 - Fence and low plantings in sections between planters at intersections.
 - Three foot high fence
 - 18 inch high planter
 - Different fence options are available
 - Concepts do not reflect existing tree and lighting locations or driveway access points
 - Option Two:
 - Continuous planter
 - 18 inch high planter (height of planter plus plants is about three feet)
 - Median edge is four feet back from planter
 - Planter is ten feet wide, with four feet of edge on each side
 - Only negative impact of four foot edging is that pedestrians may walk on them
 - Depth of four foot edge is to appease SHPO's request for "non-permanent" looking treatments.
 - The section of median adjacent to the left-turn lane is concrete
 - Option Three:
 - 14 foot wide planter with two foot maintenance stripes on each side
 - Low plants, no raised planter
 - Continuous plants along median
- Discussion of Options
 - SHPO is ok with having lights in the median, but not trees
 - Mike McGarvey will develop cost per block for each alternative.
 - Plant material that will be selected for the medians will be something that has character for the winter
 - Raised planter would give a better winter presence
 - Fences give character in the winter as well
 - Option three isn't desirable due to low planting – lack luster
 - Something that is low maintenance is desirable
 - Would like a combination of option one, with the four foot maintenance strips from Option two.

- SHPO dislikes trees in the median because they block the view of the buildings from across the street. What if the trees are placed in the center of the intersections where there aren't buildings on the other side?
- Plaques/street name signs could be imbedded in the columns in Option one.
- Since there will be five cross-streets between Walnut and Broadway that will have a median through them, could make each crossing a "gateway" that represents each of the five Governors of St. Peter.
- Are spear-top fences an option? Is there a "historic" fence that can be used?
- Medians in the north and south ends will have trees (outside the historic district).
- Removing parking in these areas needs to be approved by the council

Action:

- Mike McGarvey will develop cost per block for each alternative.

Item # 4 – Visual Quality Manual

Discussion:

- Mike McGarvey reviewed the contents of the draft Visual Quality Manual (VQM)
- Manual describes individual elements recommended to be included in the landscape plan
- Mike discussed the inconsistencies between what was recommended in the 1998 report, what was actually built and what we propose, in addition to things that were not included in the original report.
- When ordering new tree grates, "St. Peter" stamp can be added to the grates at no extra cost.
- City residents donated money to pay for elements out there now (post-tornado) so they may be sensitive to changing styles.
- Not all trash receptacles were bought originally, so current ones in downtown could be moved to other areas that are lacking and the new receptacles be placed downtown to match other elements.
- Currently the light poles are a dark green. The cement base needs to be re-stained due to fading. These can be re-stained black and the poles powder-coated in black to match proposed elements.
- Paul and Lew to review the VQM and comment on what elements may be sensitive to residents so PAC is aware.
- If gateways are an option in the downtown area, they could be placed at the ends of the historic district as "bookends" (Walnut and Broadway).
- Fences around the parking lots should match the ones in the median. Parking lot fencing is for safety and aesthetics.
- Paul – bike racks noted are ok, all other elements in the VQM are ok and there is no concern of upsetting residents with changes.

Action:

- Paul and Lew to review the VQM and comment on what elements may be sensitive to residents so PAC is aware.

Item # 5 – Upcoming meetings

Discussion:

- How do we get business owners to attend the meetings/open houses?
- Offer free food, luncheon meeting.
- Business owner meeting luncheon is scheduled for May 25th at noon.
- Governors room is reserved from 9-5 for Luncheon

- Senior Room is reserved from 4-7 for the Open House. Open House is scheduled 4:30-6:30pm
- Luncheon will be a combination of boards/open house format with a mini-presentation.
- We should advertise concept as a “recommended” alternative so that people think its final and are motivated to attended to they can react.
- A meeting should be set up with Dennis (SHPO) and Kristin (MnDOT CRU) to discuss landscape alternatives.
- Possible meeting dates:
 - May 18th at 2pm
 - May 16th in morning
 - May 19th anytime
 - May 22nd
 - May 23rd
- Lew to look into what it would take to turn the alley’s around to travel other direction or be two-way.
- Peter and Lew should meet with business owners at Ruttles, BP, Country Kitchen and Arrow Ace before the May 25th Open House.
- After next meetings, provide boards to MnDOT and the city to display in the city somewhere.
- Renae to send March 9th workshop invitee and attendee list to Peter, John and Lew
- Rebecca to send meeting notice tomorrow (May 12th)
- Maybe flyers should be passed out to all residents that live in Hwy 169 notifying them of information about the project and inviting them to the open house.

Action:

- Lew to look into what it would take to turn the alley’s around to travel other direction or be two-way.
- Peter and Lew to set up meetings with business owners at Ruttles, BP, Country Kitchen and Arrow Ace before the May 25th Open House.
- Renae to send March 9th workshop invitee and attendee list to Peter, John and Lew
- Rebecca to send meeting notice tomorrow (May 12th)

Item #6 – Next PAC Meetings (held at the St. Peter Community Center):

- Open House #2: Thursday, May 25th, 2006 4:30-6:30 (Senior Center)
- PAC Meeting #5: Thursday, June 8th, 2006, 1:00 to 3:00pm
- PAC Meeting #6: Thursday, July 13th, 2006, 1:00 to 3:00pm
- Final Open House: Thursday, July 27th 2006 (tentative)

TH 169/St. Peter Project Advisory Committee Meeting SIGN-IN SHEET

**April 20th, 2006 1:00- 3:00 PM
St. Peter's Community Center – Governor's Room**

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>CONTACT PHONE #</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Victoria Vogel	City Council	507-931-3818
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mark Bjelland	St. Peter Planning & Zoning	W 507-933-6283 H 507-931-0122
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ben Leonard	St. Peter Heritage Preservation Committee	507-934-2160
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scott Dobie	Chamber of Commerce	W 507-931-4340 H 507-931-6995
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Paul Tanis	St. Peter Development Corp.	507-934-3430
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ken Westphal	Gustavus Adolphus College	507-933-7499
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike Mc Garvey	SRF Consulting Group, Inc.	763-475-0010
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dennis Gimmetstad	SHPO	651-205-4205
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kristen Zschomler	Mn/DOT Cultural Resources	651-296-3243
<input type="checkbox"/>	David Larson	Mn/DOT Landscape Unit	651-284-3774
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lisa Bigham	Mn/DOT D7 Planning	507-389-6888
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Peter Harff	Mn/DOT	507-389-6877
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lew Giesking	City of Saint Peter	507-934-0670
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Russ Wille	City of Saint Peter	507-934-0661
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike Wagner	Nicollet County	507-931-6800
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dave Montebello	SRF Consulting Group, Inc.	763-475-0010 612-269-4999 (cell)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jon Huseby	Bolton & Menk, Inc.	507-625-4171 507-380-4180 (cell)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renae Cornelius	SRF Consulting Group, Inc.	763-475-0010
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rebecca Arndt	Mn/DOT D7	507-389-6883
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nick Haggemiller	City of Saint Peter	507-934-0663