

Agenda
Transportation Commission
City Of Edina, Minnesota
City Hall - Community Room

Thursday, April 18, 2024
6:00 PM

- I. Call To Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval Of Meeting Agenda
- IV. Approval Of Meeting Minutes
 - A. Draft Minutes: March 28, 2024
- V. Special Recognitions And Presentations
 - A. Sidewalk Inspection Program
- VI. Community Comment

During "Community Comment," the Board/Commission will invite residents to share relevant issues or concerns. Individuals must limit their comments to three minutes. The Chair may limit the number of speakers on the same issue in the interest of time and topic. Generally speaking, items that are elsewhere on tonight's agenda may not be addressed during Community Comment. Individuals should not expect the Chair or Board/Commission Members to respond to their comments tonight. Instead, the Board/Commission might refer the matter to staff for consideration at a future meeting.

- VII. Reports/Recommendations
 - A. Traffic Safety Report of March 26, 2024
 - B. 2024 Work Plan Updates
- VIII. Chair And Member Comments
- IX. Staff Comments
 - A. Concord B/C Roadway Reconstruction Update
- X. Adjournment

The City of Edina wants all residents to be comfortable being part of the public process. If you need assistance in the way of hearing amplification, an interpreter, large-print documents or something else, please call 952-927-8861 72 hours in advance of the meeting.



CITY OF EDINA

4801 West 50th Street

Edina, MN 55424

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Date: April 18, 2024

Agenda Item #: IV.A.

To: Transportation Commission

Item Type:

Minutes

From: Andrew Scipioni, Transportation Planner

Item Activity:

Subject: Draft Minutes: March 28, 2024

Action

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve the minutes of the March 28, 2024 regular meeting.

INTRODUCTION:

See attached draft minutes.

ATTACHMENTS:

Draft Minutes: Mar. 28, 2024



Minutes
City Of Edina, Minnesota
Transportation Commission
City Hall Community Room
March 28, 2024

I. Call To Order

Vice Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Answering roll call: Commissioners Bildsten, Brown, McCarthy, Olson, Plumb-Smith, Rosen, Rubenstein, Donnelly

Absent: Commissioners Lewis, Wright, Karoussos

Staff present: Transportation Planner Andrew Scipioni

III. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Motion was made by Vice Chair Brown and seconded by Commissioner Bildsten to add Item VII.C to discuss the Concord B/C shared-use path. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rubenstein and seconded by Commissioner Bildsten to approve the amended agenda. All voted aye. Motion carried.

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Commissioner Plumb-Smith and seconded by Commissioner Rubenstein to approve the February 15, 2024 meeting minutes. All voted aye. Motion carried.

V. Special Recognition and Presentations

A. Special Recognition – Adam Rosen

Commissioner Rosen introduced himself to the Commission. Rosen was appointed to serve through March 1, 2027.

VI. Community Comment

None.

VII. Reports/Recommendations

A. Traffic Safety Report of February 27, 2024

The Commission reviewed and commented on the Traffic Safety Report of February 27, 2024.

B. 2024 Work Plan Updates

- **#1 Traffic Safety Infrastructure** – No update.
- **#2 Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Review** – Staff provided information on implementation progress.
- **#3 Parking** – No update.



CITY OF EDINA

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Date: April 18, 2024

Agenda Item #: V.A.

To: Transportation Commission

Item Type:

Other

From: Andrew Scipioni, Transportation Planner

Item Activity:

Subject: Sidewalk Inspection Program

Information

ACTION REQUESTED:

None.

INTRODUCTION:

Sidewalk Inspector Derek Leonard will present to the Commission on the City's Sidewalk Inspection program.



CITY OF EDINA

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Date: April 18, 2024

Agenda Item #: VII.A.

To: Transportation Commission

Item Type:
Report and Recommendation

From: Andrew Scipioni, Transportation Planner

Item Activity:

Subject: Traffic Safety Report of March 26, 2024

Discussion

ACTION REQUESTED:

Review and comment on the Traffic Safety Report of March 26, 2024.

INTRODUCTION:

See attached staff report.

Comments received by the Commission will be included in the staff report provided to City Council at their May 7 regular meeting.

ATTACHMENTS:

Traffic Safety Report of March 26, 2024

STAFF REPORT



Date: April 18, 2024

To: Transportation Commission

From: Nick Bauler, Traffic Safety Coordinator

Subject: Traffic Safety Report of March 26, 2024

Information / Background:

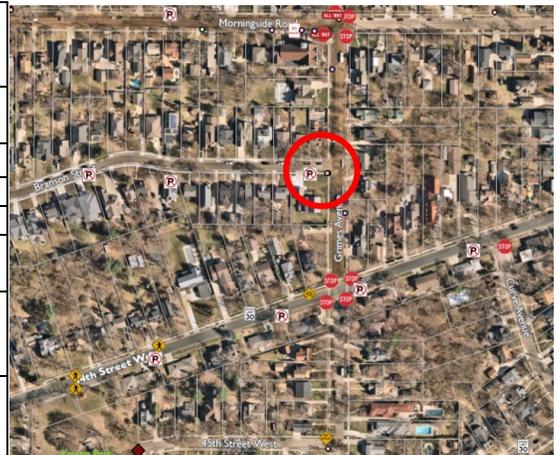
The Traffic Safety Committee (TSC) review of traffic safety matters occurred on March 26. The Traffic Safety Coordinator, City Engineer, Streets Public Service Worker, Transportation Planner, Police Sergeant, Public Works Director and Assistant City Planner provided comments on each item. The comments were compiled for the recommendations below.

On each of the items, persons involved have been contacted and the staff recommendation has been discussed with them. They were informed that if they disagree with the recommendation or have additional facts to present, they can submit correspondence to the Transportation Commission and/or to City Council prior to the May 7 regular meeting.

Section A: Items on which the Traffic Safety Committee recommends action

AI. Request for a stop sign to control eastbound traffic on Branson St at Grimes Ave

Description	Resident believes Branson should be stop controlled as it ends at Grimes (three-leg intersection).
AADT	Branson – 210 (2016) Grimes – 826 (2021)
85% Speed	N/A
Crashes	None reported at intersection in past ten years.
Sight Lines	Adequate
Previous Request	Cars parking along Branson illegally- added restriction sign.
Unique Circumstances	Resident at southwest corner of intersection installed trees along property line which may lead to future sight line impairment.
Recommendation	With volumes 4x greater on Grimes, Branson should receive stop controls to establish intersection major-approach right-of-way.



Branson St at Grimes Ave

Staff recommends installing a stop sign to control right-of-way for Branson St.

A2. Request for “Keep Back 30 Feet” sign at Eden Ave and W 50th St

Description	Recent construction led to street parking demand on Eden approaching W 50 th St.
ADT	243 afternoon peak hour (100% right turns) 2021
85% Speed	Eastbound W 50 th St – 37.3 MPH
Crashes	None at intersection in past ten years.
Sight Lines	Adequate
Previous Request	Crossing concerns over W 50 th St.
Road Work	Nearby Maison Green and roundabout construction completed in past year. More road work anticipated beginning in summer 2024.
Discussion	Such signs aren’t necessary at most intersections. This location can receive more parked vehicles for City Hall or upcoming street projects.



Eden Ave at W 50th St

Staff recommends restricting parking along the curve of Eden.

Section B: Items on which the Traffic Safety Committee recommends no action

B1. Request to improve sight lines at Brookside Ave and Eden Ave

Description	Public Works staff is concerned with site lines looking east from Brookside and is requesting a mirror or any way to improve issue.
ADT	5,250
85% Speed	32.5 MPH
Crashes	Southbound left-turning vehicle hit a westbound bus (February 2016).
Sight Lines	Impacted by rail bridge deck
Previous Requests	Similar request leading to trimming of vegetation and review options for improving bridge decking. Previous complaints of high speeds on Eden.
Previous Work	Eden was reconstructed in 2021. Sidewalk installed on north side of Eden in 2022 (east of Brookside).



Brookside Ave at Eden Ave



Brookside sight line facing east

Staff recommends no action. Railroad bridge pier is the main obstruction and is not scheduled for improvements in the near future.

B2. Request to restrict right turns on red for westbound vehicles at W 65th St and Valley View Rd

Description	Requestor has many close calls of westbound right turns not yielding to eastbound left turning vehicles onto northbound Valley View (Under HWY 62 bridge).
ADT	W 65 th St- 5,500 Valley View Rd- 17,200
85% Speed	N/A
Crashes	One reported crash of this instance in 2019.
Sight Lines	Adequate
Previous Requests	None at intersection.
Unique Circumstances	Traffic signal timing maintained by MnDOT.
MN-MUTCD	2B.54 mentions issues review- sight distances, excessive pedestrian conflicts, three accidents in past 12 months.
Recommendation	No action. Vehicles are required to yield at red signals. Adding restriction could lead to cuing east towards driveways and worsen LOS.



W 65th St at Valley View Rd & HWY 62 eastbound exit

Staff recommends no action based on crash history and existing traffic operations.

Section D: Other traffic safety items handled

D1. A resident noted a parking restriction sign was missing on Sunnyside Rd west of Townes Rd. The sign was reinstalled by Public Works.

D2. Two complaints made regarding signal timing at France Ave and W 58th St. Hennepin County was informed of the issue and the timing was fixed.

D3. A request for an additional parking restriction sign on the south side of Branson St. After review, an additional sign was installed by Public Works for adequate visibility and Police enforcement efforts.

D4. A resident on the 5200 block of Kellogg Ave requested to replace temporary parking restriction signs adjacent to their home due to a neighbor’s home remodeling project. Signs had blown away and were replaced.

D5. A request was made for added speed limit signs along France Ave between W 44th St and HWY 62 citing excessive vehicle speeds. Hennepin County staff was informed of this request and the Police Department notified of speeding concerns.



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Date: April 18, 2024

Agenda Item #: VII.B.

To: Transportation Commission

Item Type:

Other

From: Andrew Scipioni, Transportation Planner

Item Activity:

Subject: 2024 Work Plan Updates

Information

ACTION REQUESTED:

None.

INTRODUCTION:

Commissioners will provide updates on the status of 2024 Work Plan initiatives (unless an item is elsewhere on the current agenda). See attached work plan.

ATTACHMENTS:

2024 Work Plan Progress Report



Transportation Commission 2024 Work Plan

1

Initiative Type: Project	Target Completion Date: Q4	Lead(s): Grant Wright, Bethany Olson
Initiative Title: Traffic Safety Infrastructure Research and Recommendations		
Initiative Description: Residents have been vocal with the Transportation Commission about how dangerously fast drivers drive on Edina’s residential streets – even after speed limits were lowered to 25 mph. This, paired with a lack of focus on traffic enforcement capacity due to understaffing of patrol officers and a slower-than-desired implementation of traffic calming measures they suggest to the Commission, leaves some residents feeling frustrated with the City’s perceived inaction. To improve safety for all users of Edina’s transportation network, this initiative will support an educational campaign (such as “Drive 25”) and recommend improved processes to implement traffic calming improvements more quickly.		
Deliverable: Complete case study research of cities that leverage quick build solutions to implement traffic calming changes to roadways. Recommend improvements at priority locations (e.g., schools, parks, bus stops, places of worship, etc.) and identify grant programs for city staff consideration to pursue for project implementation of best practices.		
Council Charge: <input type="checkbox"/> 1: Study & Report <input type="checkbox"/> 2: Review & Comment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3: Review & Recommend <input type="checkbox"/> 4: Review & Decide		
Budget Required: No funds available.		
Staff Support Required: ~2 hours per month from Staff Liaison. Police and Public Works would likely be asked to provide their perspective on various traffic calming techniques and infrastructure.		
Jan: No update		
Feb: Staff will provide contacts for other cities, information on grant opportunities.		
Mar: No update.		

2

Initiative Type: Project	Target Completion Date: Q4	Lead(s): Roger Bildsten, Bethany Olson, Tricia Rubenstein
Initiative Title: Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Review		
Initiative Description: The Commission will assess progress to-date on implementation of the plan; prioritize implementation of recommendations within the plan that have not been yet implemented; identify appropriate updates, revisions, deletions or additions to the plan; and develop a community communication strategy related to the plan.		
Deliverable: Report to Council		
Council Charge: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1: Study & Report <input type="checkbox"/> 2: Review & Comment <input type="checkbox"/> 3: Review & Recommend <input type="checkbox"/> 4: Review & Decide		
Budget Required: No funds available.		
Staff Support Required: ~3 hours per month from Staff Liaison.		
Jan: No update.		
Feb: Staff will provide information on implementation progress.		
Mar: Staff provided information on implementation progress.		

3

Initiative Type: Project	Target Completion Date: Q4	Lead(s): Jill Plumb-Smith, Kirk Johnson
Initiative Title: Parking (Planning Commission Lead)		
Initiative Description: Consideration of the future of parking in Edina to identify parking initiatives to pursue in the next 10-15 years, in what order and what commissions/resources should be assigned to each. The Planning Commission will be the lead.		
Deliverable: ETC will review and comment on the final report and recommendation from Planning Commission.		
Council Charge: <input type="checkbox"/> 1: Study & Report <input type="checkbox"/> 2: Review & Comment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3: Review & Recommend <input type="checkbox"/> 4: Review & Decide		
Budget Required: No budget available.		
Staff Support Required: ~1 hour per month from Staff Liaison. Community Development staff will be primary contacts.		
Jan: No update from Planning. Jan. 9 meeting was cancelled.		
Feb: No update.		
Mar: No update.		

4

Initiative Type: Event	Target Completion Date: Q1	Lead(s): Andy Lewis, Grant Wright
Initiative Title: Edina Transportation Commission 20 th Anniversary Recognition & Celebration		
Initiative Description: The Commission will work with staff to create a proclamation recognizing the Commission’s 20 th anniversary and celebrating their contributions and achievements since 2004.		
Deliverable: Proclamation for adoption by City Council.		
Council Charge: <input type="checkbox"/> 1: Study & Report <input type="checkbox"/> 2: Review & Comment <input type="checkbox"/> 3: Review & Recommend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4: Review & Decide		
Budget Required: No budget available.		
Staff Support Required: ~5 hours from Staff Liaison. Administration would be involved in reviewing the proclamation, Communications may be involved in producing and distributing articles or social media posts on the City’s various media channels.		
Jan: Commission reviewed draft proclamation.		
Feb: Commission approved draft proclamation.		
Mar: Proclamation will be presented to City Council May 7.		

Parking Lot

Organized trash collection, transit service advocacy and expansion, boulevard tree planting



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Date: April 18, 2024

Agenda Item #: IX.A.

To: Transportation Commission

Item Type:

Other

From: Andrew Scipioni, Transportation Planner

Item Activity:

Subject: Concord B/C Roadway Reconstruction Update

Discussion

ACTION REQUESTED:

None.

INTRODUCTION:

Staff will provide an update on the status of proposed pedestrian and bicycle facilities in the Concord B/C roadway reconstruction project.

ATTACHMENTS:

Staff Report: Concord Petition Response

Staff Report: Concord Petition Response (Fire Department)



Date: *Revised April 12, 2024*
April 2, 2024

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Chad A. Millner, Director of Engineering

Subject: Petition Response: Concord B & C Street Reconstruction Project
Sidewalk Location and Fire Code Follow-Up from April 2 City Council Meeting

Action Requested:

Staff recommends a 5-ft wide sidewalk with a 5-ft wide boulevard along the west side of Concord Avenue. A memo from the Fire Department supports the Living Street Plan recommendations as they relate to Fire Department Operations and Fire Code. The sidewalk location is at the discretion of the Council and not related to the fire code.

Information / Background:

Staff and the City Council have had many discussions about the design of Concord Avenue between Valley View Road and 64th Street within the 2024 Concord B & C Street Reconstruction Project. Residents submitted a petition that was officially received by the City Council at the April 2, 2024 City Council Meeting. Staff and Council discussed the petition at the April 2, 2024 City Council Meeting.

The petition requests Council consider the following 4 things:

1. Direct City Staff to modify plans to refrain from:
 - a. Installation of a shared use path, or
 - b. Any facility at all.
2. If a facility is determined necessary for the broader community's benefit, direct staff to:
 - a. Install a 5-ft elevated sidewalk, directly adjacent to the roadway, with no boulevard.
 - b. Maintain the facility.
3. Confirm whether one-sided parking is necessary, and if so, consider the east side of Concord Ave.
4. For the sake of due process, direct staff to share design plans with residents, send letters to this acutely impacted, and halt construction until resident concerns are resolved.

Staff Response based on the April 2 City Council Discussion and Fire Code Review

Staff has provided updates on each request of the petition below for Council consideration.

- 1. Direct City Staff to modify plans to refrain from:**
 - a. Installation of a shared use path, or**
 - b. Any facility at all.**

Council directed staff to installation a 5-ft wide sidewalk instead of the staff recommended 8-ft wide concrete shared-use pedestrian and bicycle facility along the west side of Concord Avenue from Valley View Road to 64th Street with boulevard varying between 0 and 3 feet wide.

- 2. If a facility is determined necessary for the broader community's benefit, direct staff to:**
 - a. Install a 5-ft elevated sidewalk, directly adjacent to the roadway, with no boulevard.**
 - b. Maintain the facility.**

The fire code related to street width and sidewalk location was discussed. No decision was made on April 2. Staff needed more time to review the fire code in context to Concord Avenue between Valley View Road and 64th Street.

Engineering, fire, and legal staff reviewed the fire code in this project's context. The fire department has provided a memo attached. The Fire Department supports the living street plan recommendations as they relate to Fire Department Operations and Fire Code.

Staff recommends a 5-ft wide sidewalk with a 5-ft wide boulevard. A 5-ft boulevard provides snow storage, space for landscaping that reduces the watershed permitting needs of the project, separation from the roadway and better integration with driveways.

Council agreed to wait until later this year to answer the request for maintenance of the sidewalk. Staff are working on a sidewalk maintenance policy. The topic will be discussed with Council later this year. This will ensure there is a total understanding on what it means for city operations to maintain more sidewalks. Previous discussions on the topic provided the financial impacts related to increased staffing and equipment. For reference, the City maintains approximately 76 miles of sidewalk and the residents maintain 25 miles.

- 3. Confirm whether one-sided parking is necessary, and if so, consider the east side of Concord Ave.**

The Council directed staff to move parking to the east side of Concord Avenue between Valley View Road and 64th Street.

- 4. For the sake of due process, direct staff to share design plans with residents, send letters to this acutely impacted, and halt construction until resident concerns are resolved.**

The Council did not halt construction and awarded a contract as recommended by staff. Staff continues to be available to discuss the project with anyone interested.

Attachments

Fire Code and Living Streets Plan Memo from the Fire Department



Date: April 12, 2024

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Andrew Slama, Fire Chief

Subject: Petition Response: Concord B & C Street Reconstruction Project
Fire Code and Living Street Plan

Action Requested:

Staff supports the living street plan recommendations as they relate to Fire Department Operations and Fire Code.

Information / Background:

At the April 2, 2024 regular meeting, City Council received a petition regarding the Concord B and C Street Reconstruction Project. At that meeting, staff were presented with concerns regarding the reconstruction of the road and the width required by Fire Code.

Fire Apparatus utilize roadways, both public and private, to respond and operate on during emergencies. The Fire Code defines Fire Apparatus Access Roads and their widths typically applied to multiple dwelling units, commercial buildings, and other structures that have long setbacks or challenges that prevent or delay fire operations, suppression, and aerial truck operations. More specifically, the Fire Code referenced in section 503 (20 Feet Wide access road) is required in new projects and developments and is applied on certain occupancy types, however, the Authority Having Jurisdiction (Edina Fire Department) reviews each project individually to ensure the fire department vehicles can setup and operate during in an emergency and makes considerations on each application which may reduce or increase requirements based on department need during a response.

Staff from the Fire Department consulted with the Engineering Department on the Concord project ahead of the April 2nd Council Meeting and had no concerns about the project as designed, however, the communication provided to a resident regarding fire code, from staff at Edina Fire, which didn't directly apply to a single-family home created confusion for residents and council members.

The width of the roadway is most important when considering aerial operations. This is due to the size of the outriggers which support the vehicle during aerial operations. These outriggers are commonly placed on the roadway as the road surface and sub-surface is designed to meet the load and weight requirements of the vehicle. Although the design of the sidewalk could be rated to support the ladder truck, Edina Fire Department would not recommend utilizing the sidewalk for fire department operations. Designing the

sidewalk to support outriggers would be an atypical design and not consistent with the rest of the community. The roadway width as designed is sufficient for aerial operations at a single-family home.

The Edina Fire Department has no concerns with the proposed project in relation to Fire Code or fire department operations. The design guidelines from the Living Street Plan 2015 continue to meet and or exceed the requirements for the fire department to operate during an emergency in the neighborhoods for which the street is designed.