

GPA Meeting Minutes

Meeting #: G-02 Date: 11/17/24 Time: 4 pm
Location: Room 209, Eastman School of Music

Type of Meeting: General Scheduled

Participants: (see attached)

Speaker and Discussion: David Riley, City of Rochester Principal Transportation Specialist
Topic: Inner Loop North Project (ILN)

Mr. Riley has provided us with his power point presentation which is attached to these minutes.

A question-and-answer session followed Mr. Riley's presentation:

- A) Judy Loeb asked if planners for ILN would avoid the mistakes made by the developers of Inner Loop East by not requiring prospective developers to provide green space in their developments. They'll be looking for ways via Mobility and Development to incorporate and then require developers to provide green space and landscaping.
- B) Jill Orbach brought up the point of wheelchair/electric wheelchair/walker safety. Will there be considerations for pedestrians with disabilities? Mr. Riley stated that the pedestrian pathways would be ADA compliant and that Lutichia Doucette, who is a disability justice expert with Catalyst Consulting Associates, is working with the project planners. There will be retrofitting of ADA mandates on existing streets in the project.
- C) Roz Goldman asked about the inclusion of public art in the project. The response was that 1% of the budget will be devoted to public art. The planning includes the Sisters City Bridge having a major art exhibition and there are designs in the project that acknowledge Rochester's history.
- D) Sandy Mayer asked about restricting the height of buildings on land to be developed. Mr. Riley stated that East of North St., based on public input, they are looking for smaller, residential scale development that matches the existing buildings; West of North St. they will be looking for public input on building size. Overall, the number of stories on buildings will be limited.
- E) John Goldman noted that Mr. Riley has stated that the ILN has become outdated. The mayor indicated that there are currently 11,000 people living in the city center with a projection of expansion in the future. Is planning for a larger city population being taken into account? Mr. Riley said the project is taking into account future traffic growth. He also stated that the trend has been population decline, with downtown being the exception. Factors that will influence traffic downtown include people now working remotely, a decline in the number of downtown offices, the improvement of and making multi-modal transportation more efficient and desirable without the use of a car.

Commuting for business people who do and will live downtown is different in that they are not commuting in the same direction as has been traditional and with the same time frames as has been traditional. There are more residents who don't own cars. Mr. Riley assured people that the ILN will not be removed with nothing to replace it.

- F) Richard Rosen stated that the traffic on the ILN is three times as great as that on University Ave. University is now partially residential and will be more residential in the future. The concern is with the potential increased traffic on University and Union Streets. Richard would like the methodology for the projections of how these streets will handle traffic to be shared publicly.
- G) Suzanne Mayer asked about a contingency plan for the federal money expected for this project given the change in federal administration. The answer was that the several projects are funded with different pots of money. There's a commitment from NYS for one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000). The city has applied for a grant from the US Department of Transportation Reconnecting Communities Grant. Senator Schumer is pushing for funding approval before the change in federal administration. There has also been a change in leadership in the city's transportation department with Rich Perrin leaving, but given the excellence of the team and the familiarity of the Acting Commissioner, Kabutey Ocansey, no change to the fluidity of the project is anticipated. Regarding the silos that exist between the city government offices, Mr. Riley feels this will be improved with various communication strategies that have been implemented.
- H) Suzanne Mayer asked about the parking lot for School #58. The City School District has not been able to secure the parking lot currently used by school staff and therefore it worries neighbors that the green space projected in the ILN plan will be used by the school district for parking vs. green space. Suzanne asked how Mr. Riley's department can assure that the green space remains green space. Mr. Riley shared that there is an attempt by the City to meet the school's parking need without affecting the green space.
- I) Brenda Porter asked what percentage of this project is funded by federal money vs. NYS money. The initial one hundred million is 60% federal (through NYS), 40% NYS. The second one hundred million is all federal.
- J) Bob DiPaola asked if the prospect of closing down the ILN for a month and documenting where traffic goes is possible. Mr. Riley said the idea had been discussed but it was decided that the traffic analysis would not be accurate since streets will be added by the project that do not exist today and therefore the study wouldn't be accurate. Bob pointed out that the FOIL request indicated that traffic data was from 2020, during the pandemic, which was not representative of traffic. Mr. Riley stated that no data from 2020 has been used to project traffic data.

Treasurer's Report: Rick McGrath

We've had two new members in the past month which brought in sixty dollars (\$60.00). There was one expenditure of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) to the Eastman School of Music, our donation for the use of meeting space. Current balance is eleven thousand seven hundred sixty-five dollars (\$11,765.00).

Approval of Minutes:

Sandy Mayer moved to approve the Minutes of the October 20, 2024 General Meeting and John Goldman seconded. Acceptance was unanimous. Minutes will now be posted on the GPA website.

Committee Reports:

Beautification: No report; Bob DiPaola noted that the planters have been cleaned out and spring bulbs have been planted.

Membership: Roz Goldman. No report.

Public Safety: Pam DiPaola reported that the information on the GIVE (Gun Involved Violence Elimination) program has been prepared and will be sent to members this week. She encouraged members to read the document as it has data on the effectiveness of the program.

Historical: Sally Millick reported that she and Bob DiPaola had a meeting about the responsibilities under this committee. Currently it is to archive historic GPA information including meeting minutes and other GPA business. Their meeting focused on the expansion of the role of this committee to include presentations, hosting talks, hosting tours, etc., on the historical aspects of the neighborhood. Sally is working on the archiving aspects of the role and she & Bob will be meeting to discuss the role expansion. Sally noted that she has met with the Landmark Society.

Action Items/Decisions Log:

- Information on the Give initiative will go out this week. This item is now 'Closed'.
- Follow-up on code violations: Steve Smith provided an update. There has been limited change. At 57 University Ave. the barber shop is still operating. It has been ticketed. At 135 University Ave. the sign for free pregnancy tests has been removed. This property was also ticketed. Attempts to call and email the compliance officer have not heard anything back. Historically once ticketed, people are given thirty (30) days to respond and then begin to accrue fines. There's a section on the website for fines and neither property shows that they've been fined. This item continues on this log and is 'In Process'.
- The petition for traffic calming was not addressed.

New Business:

- Bob DiPaola announced that we are getting closer to establishing electronic fund transfer with Zelle. This action item is #G02-01 and is 'In Process'.
- Sandy Mayer announced that two months ago the mayor convened a task force called ROC Vision Zero to reduce the number of deaths and accidents between cars, bikes, motorcycles, etc. and pedestrians. There has been one meeting. The task force is scheduled to meet quarterly; however, Sandy feels this is inadequate and won't be effective if it only meets quarterly. Sandy plans to talk to the mayor about meeting more

frequently. Also, the leader of the group is Rich Perrin who has recently left city administration. Mitch Gruber is on the task force. Sandy will report any progress at our next meeting. This will go on the Action Items/Decisions Log as 'In Process'.

- Bob DiPaola reported that our neighborhood benches need repair/refurbishment. He had contacted Rich Perrin about the city doing this but since Rich Perrin is no longer in his position as Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Services, this will have to wait, or we could do it ourselves. This item will go on the Action Items/Decisions Log as 'Open'.
- Our donation to the Eastman School of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) was approved by the Executive Committee. Our meeting with the new dean, Kate Sheeran, was scheduled but was cancelled. Dean Sheeran would like to attend a General Meeting and we will give her the check at that time. This item is 'Closed' and will be removed from the list.
- The GPA Holiday Party was announced by Brenda Porter. She promises a great time on Dec. 15, 2024, at Sally Millick's home. There will be entertainment by our neighbors. A flyer will go out early this coming week.
- No one volunteered to work on and coordinate the 'Welcome to the Neighborhood' gift baskets when Bob DiPaola asked. This will go on the Action Items/Decisions Log as 'Open'.
- Bob DiPaola announced the need for someone to host the after-meeting social following our January meeting.

Open Discussion and Announcements:

- 1) Trish Bhattacharya told the group that she has set up a GPA Facebook page, **groveplacerc**. This is a private Facebook group wherein members can chat as a community, post event updates, recreation ideas, ask each other for vendors, etc., announce new members, notify neighbors of vandalism or strangers in the neighborhood, etc. Trish offered that if anyone wants help with joining, she would be happy to help. Groveplacerc is also the name of our Instagram group. If someone goes on Facebook and enters 'groveplacerc', our site will come up.
- 2) Suzanne Mayer informed us of the AARP NY Walk Audits on intersections. The audit is online. Hinge neighbors are doing it on Scio St.; Suzanne suggested doing it on University Ave. also. It involves walking a street, takes about 20 minutes and looks at items such as how long it takes to cross the street, car speeds, etc. Suzanne is looking for volunteers to walk the neighborhood and for people to fill out the audit. She will send out times and if anyone wants to join, please do so.
- 3) Suzanne Mayer announced that Rochester is a 'Bloomberg City' and there is money available Suzanne has been asked to join and she will try to represent Grove Place. The money is for improvements to the city. They have resident consultants that live in the city for three years who do projects that improve the city. Suzanne is learning about the program and will share more in the future.
- 4) James Tabbi has gotten feedback that the calendar announcements for the General Meetings has been helpful to members. He stated that a response to the invitation regarding whether you are attending or not is not necessary.

- 5) Due to difficulty getting into room 209 before the 4 pm meeting to ‘set up’ and the fact that the AV cabinet was locked, members asked Bob DiPaola to contact the Eastman School rep to reserve the room at 3:45 and perhaps to get a key to the AV cabinet. This has been added to the Action Items/Decisions List and is ‘Open’.

Action Items/Decisions:

<u>What</u>	<u>Who</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Status</u>
G01-02 Follow-up on code violations	SSmith	ongoing	In Process
G02-01 Set up Zelle for electronic transfers	RMcGrath	12/15/24	In Process
G02-02 ROC Vision Zero Update	SMayer	1/19/25	In Process
G02-03 Neighborhood bench refurbishment	BDiPaola	-----	Open
G02-05 Welcome Gift Baskets	PDiPaola/JTabbi	-----	Open
G02-06 Reserve Mtg. Rm earlier/Key to AV	BDiPaola	12/2/24	Open

Adjournment: 5:40 pm

Next Meeting: Sunday, January 19, 2025 at 4 pm, Room 209, Eastman School of Music

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam DiPaola
 Secretary

GPA Sign-In

Nov. 17, 2024

- | | | |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bhattacharya, Tricia | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kuo, Dennis | <input type="checkbox"/> Staropoli, Tiffany |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Briggs, Farran | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kuo, Kat | <input type="checkbox"/> Sudak, Joyce |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buckpitt, Charles | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Loeb, Judy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tabbi, James |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carretta, Christopher | <input type="checkbox"/> Marvin, Bill | <input type="checkbox"/> VanGrol, Rory |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carroll, JoAnn | <input type="checkbox"/> Massie, Kate | <input type="checkbox"/> Wager, Barbara |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chafik, Jake | <input type="checkbox"/> Massie, Rick | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weyerts, Gloria Marie |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chafik, Liz | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayer, Sanford | <input type="checkbox"/> Wilson, Mark |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conquest, Deborah | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayer, Suzanne | <input type="checkbox"/> Woodring, Suzanne |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cooney, Diane | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> McGrath, Rick | <input type="checkbox"/> Wright, Dennis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cooney, Jeremy | <input type="checkbox"/> McLaughlin, Brian | <input type="checkbox"/> Wright, Sandy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DiPaola, Bob | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Millick, Sally | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DiPaola, Pam | <input type="checkbox"/> Naurocki, Gloria | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doolittle, Nicki | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Orbach, Jill | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doolittle, Tex | <input type="checkbox"/> Papaj, Rick | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eisenberg, Jack | <input type="checkbox"/> Paris, John | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eisenberg, Sue | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Petersen, Mark | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fink, Janet | <input type="checkbox"/> Pond, Chris | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fink, Tom | <input type="checkbox"/> Pond, Kim | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frame, Kathy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Porter, Brenda | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frame, Scott | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reilly, Linda LR | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frank, Dex | <input type="checkbox"/> Rosen, Margery | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Goldman, John | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rosen, Richard | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Goldman, Roz | <input type="checkbox"/> Saphar, Ed | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guo, Chunlei | <input type="checkbox"/> Saphar, Gabriel | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Keck, Bob | <input type="checkbox"/> Shapiro, Sandy (+aide) | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kellogg, Carol | <input type="checkbox"/> Smith, Julie | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kolbe, Elizabeth | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smith, Stephen | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kolbe, Jim | <input type="checkbox"/> Staropoli, Rick | |

David Ribay
Amanda Santacoco