

**Saint Paul Planning Commission
City Hall Conference Center
15 Kellogg Boulevard West**

Minutes June 14, 2019

A meeting of the Planning Commission of the City of Saint Paul was held Friday, June 14, 2019, at 8:30 a.m. in the Conference Center of City Hall.

Commissioners Present: Mmes. Anderson, Grill, Lee, Mouacheupao, Reveal, Underwood; and Messrs. Baker, Edgerton, Khaled, Ochs, Risberg, Rodriguez, and Vang.

Commissioners Absent: Ms. *DeJoy, and Messrs. *Lindeke, *Oliver, Perryman, and *Rangel Morales.
*Excused

Also Present: Luis Pereira, Planning Director; Allan Torstenson, Bill Dermody, Kady Dadlez, Michael Wade, Emma Siegworth, Addison Vang, and Sonja Butler, Department of Planning and Economic Development staff.

I. Swearing in a New Commissioner.

New Planning Commission member Antonio Rodriguez was sworn in by Noel Nix, Mayor's Office.

II. Approval of minutes April 19, 2019.

MOTION: *Commissioner Baker moved approval of the minutes of April 19, 2019. Commissioner Grill seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.*

III. Chair's Announcements

Chair Reveal announced that Cedrick Baker informed her that he is not going to continue as the First Vice Chair into the next year. Typically, he would move up to the Chairmanship when she was done in January 2020, and Commissioner Luis Rangel Morales is being recommended that he move up into that position, which he is currently Second Vice Chair. The motion will be made under New Business.

IV. Planning Director's Announcements

Luis Pereira at City Council next Wednesday, June 19th they have invited staff to a policy session on Planning Commission studies and he has been busy working on a presentation for that. He will take the opportunity to talk about everything they are working on the staff team. The focus that they are interested in is Zoning studies and Planning Commission studies, so it will focus more on some of the things that have already been seen at the Comprehensive and Neighborhood Planning Committee but also a few things you haven't seen. That is the same day City Council will have the 2040 Comprehensive Plan for final vote to approve subject to Metropolitan Council

Stryker Avenue Zoning Study – Review, and recommend release for public review and set public hearing for July 26, 2019. (*Michael Wade, 651/266-8703*)

Michael Wade, PED staff gave a Power Point presentation, which can be viewed on the web page at: <http://www.stpaul.gov/planningcommission>

Commissioner Baker said during the presentation a slide with the final recommendation says, “moderate increase in housing opportunity” and at the second of two community meetings there was a request for more density and more housing. Commissioner Baker said he is trying to reconcile those requests with the more moderate increase in housing opportunity in staff’s current recommendation, and to understand what came out of the request of the community for more housing and greater density.

Michael Wade, PED staff, referring to the slide with the map of staff recommendations, said that staff had originally recommended rezoning the R4 One-Family in the southern portion of the study area to either T1 or RT2, both of which dramatically increase housing opportunity. The call for housing opportunity was the message that that staff had already heard from the community up to that point, so hearing the call for greater opportunity at the second community meeting was not new to them. What was new to staff was the call to preserve the R4 One-Family zoning in the study area voiced at the first community meeting, and the passionate neighbors who attended.

MOTION: Commissioner Mouacheupao moved on behalf of the Comprehensive and Neighborhood Planning Committee to release the draft for public review and set a public hearing on July 26, 2019. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

VII. Transportation Committee

Commissioner Ochs reported that at their last meeting they had three items on the agenda, the Shared Transportation Systems update, B Line Arterial Bus Rapid Transit, and Climate Action & Resilience Plan from the Chief Resilience Officer, Russ Stark.

The Shared Transportation System consisted of information about the number of riders or number of trips currently by scooter, with some information on bikes but mainly about scooters. August through November of 2018, ridership was 18,300 for August, 28,500 for September, 25,000 in October, 8,000 in November. The City currently contracts with two companies for 2019, per city contractor a capacity of 500 units per vendor, currently there are 1,000 on the street.

The B Line Arterial Bus Rapid Transit which is the sixth arterial route in the Metro area that’s planned. This is to replace Route 21 that comes from uptown Minneapolis to Downtown Saint Paul and it will increase transit time with the intent and covers fewer stops. That may be an issue in terms of is it providing enough coverage for everyone along that route, but Metro Transit goal is to have a faster system. Enhanced stations all along the route, currently it spends more than half the time idling either stopped at one of the stations or at stop lights. It’s the second busiest route in the Metro area but also the slowest.

The Climate Action & Resilience Plan regarding transportation chief Resiliency Officer Russ Stark provided a lot of information on climate change and one of the main goals is to change the