

Advisory Team Meeting #23

August 10, 2022

Location: Community Development Building
6:00 p.m.

Summary notes are below. An audio recording of this meeting is also available on the website at www.red-wing.org/1032/Policy-and-Practice-Project-Meetings

Team Members Present: Michael Lickness Holmes, Steve Blaine, Yaneth Santiago Huerta, Cholwe Hantuba Walker, Sara Kern, and Cory Koplín (arrived late)

Team Members Absent: Samantha Malcom, Alexis DeVries, Liz Magill, and Racheal Savage

Facilitator: Michelle Leise, City of Red Wing Community Engagement Facilitator

Others Present: Jay Owens, City Engineer / Director

Meeting Notes

Welcome

The meeting began at 6:00 p.m. Meeting attendees introduced themselves. Director Owens discussed the work of the Engineering Department and described recent projects. He also discussed ADA compliance and pedestrian ramps.

Idea Swaps between Team and Engineering Department

Ms. Leise discussed a street safety survey that was handed out to community members during recent events, including Night to Unite and River City Days. She stated that the community had previously identified five busy pedestrian traffic areas without sidewalk or trail connections. She noted that survey participants were asked to comment regarding these areas along with identifying other areas and safety concerns.

Ms. Leise stated that the survey results will be shared with the Advisory Planning Commission, with the City Council, and posted on *City Beat*.

Ms. Leise and Director Owens pointed out the high-priority areas on a map:

- Two areas along North Service Drive near Target and McDonalds.
- An area along Old West Main Street near Withers Harbor Drive.
- Areas between neighborhoods and Red Wing High School along Highway 58.
- An area along Pioneer Road near Pepin Woods.

Team Members were asked to identify their top two priority areas and comment regarding other safety issues.

Member Holmes asked about the potential location of a sidewalk or trail connection along Highway 58. Director Owens indicated that, although this has not been designed, the connection would likely be on the east side, the same side as Red Wing High School. He discussed changes that have been made at the intersection of Pioneer Road and Highway 58 by MnDOT to address some of the concerns, noting that more improvements are needed to protect pedestrians.

Director Owens described the history of sidewalk installations in Red Wing, noting the lack of sidewalks in some residential areas. Ms. Leise discussed the work of a task force that was convened a few years ago, during which a rating system was developed.

Director Owens discussed a Federal grant program known as Safe Streets and Roads for All (SSRA) and described the grant application process, including the importance of gathering data.

Ms. Leise referenced other areas that have been identified by survey participants, including along Highway 61 near the transit station and Perkins.

The area along Highway 58 was further discussed. Director Owens discussed the use of roundabouts at intersections.

Member Holmes suggested installing a stop sign at the intersection of 16th Street and Central Park.

Concerns regarding speeding were discussed. Director Owens discussed the use of speed control measures such as speed tables and fog lines, along with other ways to address speed. The option to reduce speed limits in residential areas was also discussed.

Member Holmes asked about revitalizing the area near Levee Pond and the skate park, stating that this would be beneficial to Red Wing youth. Director Owens discussed the next phase of the Upper Harbor project and potential future phases. Ms. Leise relayed suggestions from residents and artists for improvements in this area. Team Members commented that they see people walking along the train tracks in this area. It was suggested to explore a potential trail connection.

Director Owens reviewed preliminary plans for sidewalk and trail connections along North Service Drive.

A potential sidewalk or trail connection along Old West Main Street near Withers Harbor Drive was discussed.

Plans for a sidewalk or trail connection along Pioneer Road near Pepin Woods were also discussed. Speed limits in this area were described as concerning.

Team Members further discussed concerns about the intersection of Pioneer Road and Highway 58 near Red Wing High School. Director Owens reviewed potential options, including a pedestrian bridge or tunnel. Ms. Leise relayed concerns from Member Magill regarding a tunnel and suggestions for a more visible option. Team Members expressed agreement with these concerns. The significantly higher cost of a bridge as opposed to a tunnel was noted. Project funding was discussed. Director Owens also referenced discussion of improvements at the intersection of Guernsey Lane and Highway 58.

A former stairway down to Colvill Park was discussed. It was suggested to consider reinstatement of this connection.

Speeding concerns along East 7th Street were expressed.

Director Owens reviewed upcoming street improvement projects.

Team Members were encouraged to provide additional comments to Director Owens via email.

Team Members commented that there is motorist confusion at the pedestrian crossing along Highway 61 near Kwik Trip related to the flashing red lights.

Building Neighborhood Connections

Night to Unite activities were discussed.

Ms. Leise discussed a neighborhood survey that was conducted at Night to Unite gatherings and during River City Days. She suggested exploring the idea of asking residents to name their neighborhoods and provided examples from a historical perspective.

Team Members described the use of neighborhood names in other communities. Team Members discussed the pros and cons of neighborhood connection building initiatives. Ms. Leise indicated that she will conduct more research.

It was noted that some sidewalks are in need of repair.

Team Members suggested art installations and / or historical markers to recognize and honor people of color.

Adjourn

The meeting ended at 7:33 p.m.