

**PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND ACCESS TASK FORCE
MEETING #15 – MEETING MINUTES**

Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2015

Time: 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Location: Basement Conference Room – Larcom City Hall

Attendees:

Task Force Members Present, 7; Scott Campbell; Kenneth Clark ; Linda Diane Feldt;
Owen Jansson; Anthony Pinnell; Jim Rees; Sarah Pressprich Gryniewicz

Task Force Members Absent, 2: Vivienne Armentrout; Neal Elyakin

Public Present, 4: Kathy Griswold; Seth Peterson; Quan Du; Larry Deck; refer to
Attachment B for sign-in sheet

City Staff Present, 1: Connie Pulcipher

Consultant Present (The Greenway Collaborative), 2: Norman Cox and Carolyn
Prudhomme

Re: Pedestrian Safety and Access Task Force Meeting

Meeting minutes were not recorded.

[Secretary note: for all of these meetings there will be two records of the meeting. These minutes are a record of official actions taken and public commentary. Ann Arbor City staff and/or the consultant on this project, the Greenway Collaborative, will produce a second record of the discussion points of the meeting, with more detail. Both of these records will be available on the Pedestrian Safety and Access Task Force Google Drive repository, available through the City of Ann Arbor website at www.a2gov.org/departments/systems-planning/Transportation/Pages/Pedestrian-Safety-and-Access-Task-Force.aspx]

**PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND ACCESS TASK FORCE
MEETING #15- DISCUSSION SUMMARY**

Note: This is not a direct transcription of the meeting discussion. The following summary has been developed from notes taken during the meeting; comments are paraphrased. Where staff and consultants provided information and responses they are shown in italics.

- Introductions
 - The chair noted V. Armentrout's intent to resign.
- Approval of Agenda:
 - A verbal overview of item #5 will not be given, as this was already provided in an email.
 - Add approval of draft letter to City Council regarding the snow and ice ordinance at item #5.
 - Add item #11, to discuss moratorium on crosswalk removal
 - Unanimous approval.
- Approval of Meeting # 14 Minutes and Discussion Summary:
 - Unanimous approval.
- Update on the Proposed Sidewalk Snow and Ice Ordinance:
 - There seems to be confusion among City Council members regarding portions of the snow and ice removal ordinance.
 - Is there any communication coming from staff to clarify these issues? *Staff was not called up to clarify anything at the meeting. Since the original communication was a letter from the Task Force, the communication should come from the Task Force.*
 - The second paragraph needs to be softened.
 - The term "ramps" may be confusing for some people; further explanation may be needed.
 - **Moved by A.Pinnell; Seconded by S. Pressprich Gryniewicz: Move that the Task Force respond to City Council using the letter drafted by O. Jansson with the following changes:**
 - **Soften the second paragraph to sound more affirmative and less like a rebuttal.**
 - **Provide a clearer description of "ramps".**

Motion Approved Unanimously

- Refine and Vote on Recommendations to include in Final Draft of Draft Recommendations
 - **Moved by S. Pressprich Gryniewicz; Seconded by O. Jansson: Move to expedite the consideration of the items to be incorporated into the final draft recommendations to be shared with the public in July a formal**

Attachment A: Discussion Summary

motion, second and vote will not be utilized for each item. After discussion of each item and the incorporation of proposed revisions, a show of hands will be used to approve the draft language as recorded in the presentation.

Motion Approved Unanimously

- Please refer to [Pedestrian Safety and Access Task Force recommendations for City Council, Working Draft, June 10](#) for an overview of recommendations that were approved for inclusion in the Final Draft Recommendations.
 - Please note that the following two items were voted down and are not included in the document:
 - **OBJECTIVE NO. 2: IMPROVE UNDERSTANDING OF TRAFFIC LAWS AND LOCAL EXPECTATIONS:**
 - D. Targeted Education – The City should utilize automated cameras to document instances where motor vehicles fail to stop for and yield to pedestrians at or within unsignalized marked mid-block crosswalks and/or fail to stop when another vehicle is stopped for a pedestrian at a marked crosswalk. Using the vehicle’s license plate, the vehicle’s owner should be contacted noting the time and location of the incident, a description of the behavior observed, and explanation of the potential danger to pedestrians due to the observed behavior and a summary of safe driving responsibilities and expectations. Locations for automated cameras would be temporary and determined based on safety concerns. Automated camera systems should be coordinated with other outreach and education efforts. Targeted locations should employ current best practices for crosswalk marking and signage. Statistics gathered from the camera should be used to evaluate the effectiveness of various outreach,*
 - **IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES: NO. 3. FUNDING**
 - D. Designated Annual Rental Fee – The City should investigate the feasibility and legality of imposing a modest annual fee on all rental properties based on the number of registered tenants. This fee would be designated towards non-motorized access and safety improvements.*
- **Moratorium on Crosswalk Removal:**
 - Would like to see a member of the Task Force draft a letter to City Council, that the chair will sign, requesting an immediate moratorium on closing crosswalks until a process has been established.
 - Is a moratorium at the City level even effective? Could the State by-pass it on a State Highway? *N.Cox noted that it is effective due to the complete streets law. Under complete streets, if a community has a complete streets plan, MDOT must consult with the local agency on any changes to the roadway.*
 - In the case on Huron, it appears that the City requested removal of the unmarked crosswalks.
 - If a crosswalk was moved 200 feet, would that be considered “closing” or “moving” the crosswalk?
 - Is there a City Map with a GIS layer that shows crosswalks that is accessible to the public? *That data was incorporated into the interactive web map that was used during the first round of public input.*
 - Recommend a one year moratorium on the removal of any crosswalk in Ann Arbor with an advance letter to follow in 30 days.

Attachment A: Discussion Summary

- *If this letter is delivered to Mayor and City Council it will probably appear in a council packet as a clerk's communication. Then it will be scheduled for a City Council meeting. A Task Force member should be present at that meeting to address any questions City Council has.*
- **Moved by K.Clark; Seconded by T.Pinnell: Given the recent removal of two crosswalks on Huron Street, The Pedestrian Safety and Access Task Force requests that the City impose an immediate moratorium on closing existing crosswalks (marked or unmarked) until the City adopts policies and/or procedures that take into consideration the recommendations of The Pedestrian Safety and Access Task Force and other public input.**

Motion Approved Unanimously

- Next Steps:
 - The Task Force will receive an email regarding homework for the July 1st Meeting.
- Public Comments:
 - Seth Peterson - Garbage and recycle bins could be used as a "Drive 25" marketing campaign. On many of the traffic island the gutter pan aligns with the edge of the lane and not the curb, so the effect width of the island is 30" narrower than it could be and more space is given to the cars.
 - Quan Du - Impressed by thoroughness of Task Force.
 - Larry Deck – With the Washtenaw Bicycle and Walking Coalition, hopes there will be recommendations on funding. Both private and public funding needs to be addressed, especially for sidewalk gaps. What is the procedure for transferring recommendations into task and schedules for individuals? If this is approved by City Council will it be handed to the City to allocate tasks? If an ongoing commission is recommended, may be worth making a non-motorized commission instead of just pedestrian focused.
 - Kathy Griswold – Extremely optimistic about addressing vision zero and mentioning vegetation. Curious how the Task Force stands on the vegetation ordinance at City Council. Based on an example in Boulder Colorado, having a state crosswalk law in Michigan would in no way negate or prevent Ann Arbor from having a local ordinance. Almost no enforcement of sightlines; A2 Fixit categorizes it as a noxious weed.

Attachment C: Approved Agenda



CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN
Public Services Area/Systems Planning
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**APPROVED AGENDA - PEDESTRIAN SAFETY & ACCESS TASK FORCE
TASK FORCE MEETING #15**

Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2015

Time: 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Location: Basement Conference Room – Larcom City Hall (301 E Huron Street)

Chair: Linda Diane Feldt

Secretary: Ken Clark

1. Introductions 5:00 – 5:05 pm
2. Approval of Agenda 5:05 – 5:10 pm
3. Public Commentary (3 minutes/speaker, limit three speakers) 5:10 – 5:20 pm
4. Approval of Meeting #14 Minutes and Discussion Summary 5:20 – 5:25 pm
5. Update of the Proposed Sidewalk Snow & Ice Ordinance 5:25 – 5:35 pm
 - a) Approval of Draft Letter to City Council
6. Draft Outline Agendas and Work Plan 5:35 – 5:40 pm
7. Round 3 Public Engagement 5:40 – 5:45 pm
 - a) A2 Open City Hall Survey
 - b) Community Wide Meeting on July 8th
8. Refine and Vote on Recommendations to Include in Final Draft 5:45 – 6:55 pm
 - a) Consensus issues ready for a vote
 - b) Proposed amendments ready to discuss and vote
 - c) Areas that need further attention
9. Next Steps 6:55 – 7:00 pm
 - a) July 1st Task Force Meeting
10. Public Commentary (3 minutes/speaker)
11. Moratorium on Crosswalk Removal

The meeting time was extended to 8 pm to address item #8.