



Meeting Minutes: Dakota County Planning Commission Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 05/26/2022

Minutes prepared by: Liz Hansen

Location: Western Service Center, Conference Room L139

Attendance

Members Present

- Jerry Rich
- John Ross
- Lori Hansen
- Jill Smith
- Greg Oxley
- Amy Hunting
- Barry Graham
- Nate Reitz
- Jim Guttman
- Don Post
- Tony Nelson

Staff Present

- Kurt Chatfield
- Liz Hansen
- Kristi Sebastian
- Jeanine Briol

Others Present

- JoNette Kuhnau, Kimley-Horn, and Associates

Meeting Called to Order

- Time: 7:03 p.m.

- By: Chair Oxley

Audience items not on the agenda

- Comments/Notes: No one was present in the audience.

Approval of Agenda

- Motion by: Commissioner Hunting
- Second: Commissioner Hansen
- Vote: Unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes (from March 24, 2022)

- Motion by: Commissioner Reitz
- Second: Commissioner Graham
- Vote: unanimously approved.

Item #1 Update on 2022 Transportation Capital Improvement Construction Projects (Information)

Jeannine Briol, Construction Engineer, presented this item and responded to questions.

Comments/Notes:

Questions and comments by Commissioners along with responses from staff (italics):

- Commissioners asked questions about the design and success of the wildlife/turtle tunnels under the CSAH 32 project next to Holland Lake. *Staff responded that the turtle tunnels are wide and bright. Turtle tunnels have been used in Washington County with good success.*
- A Commissioner asked for an explanation about the use of concrete vs. asphalt on County road projects. *Staff responded that cost, durability, and construction time are the determining factors when choosing to reconstruct with concrete or asphalt.*
- A Commissioner asked whether trail bridges or underpasses are incorporated into any of the 2022 road projects. *Staff responded that there are no pedestrian bridges or underpasses in this set of road projects.*

Item #2 Roadway Visioning Study (Information)

Kristi Sebastian, Traffic Engineer, and JoNette Kuhnau, Kimley-Horn, and Associates presented this item and responded to questions. The discussion presented included study background, study process, and draft recommendations.

Comments/Notes:

Questions and comments by Commissioners along with responses from staff (italics):

- Commissioners asked whether the study recommends that County Road 26 be designed with a center turn lane? *Staff responded that County Road 26 is planned to be four lanes with a center median.*
- Commissioners inquired about coordination with MNDOT. *Staff responded that MNDOT was part of the study as well as the cities of Eagan and Inver Grove Heights. Dakota County is also working with MNDOT in the study area on design improvements for Highway 3.*
- Commissioners discussed the new 494 interchange and asked whether it would primarily be oriented toward the south. *Staff responded that the interchange is oriented toward the south and will allow the growing area of northeast Eagan and northwest Inver Grove Heights to access 494 efficiently.*
- A question was asked about whether the study offers a solution to the current indirect connection between Hwy 55 to 494. *Staff responded that the study did not address this issue.*
- A question was asked about whether traffic has increased on County Road 63 (Delaware) north toward Hwy 62 because of new development at Viking Lakes. *Staff responded that at certain times of day, traffic uses County Road 63 (Delaware) to travel to 62. A new interchange at 494 is anticipated to reduce this movement because people would have more immediate access to regional roadways.*
- A Commissioner asked about the timeframe for the new interchange on 494. *Staff responded that MNDOT will need to study the issue further and that there is no immediate timeframe for the interchange.*
- A Commissioner asked about how truck traffic would be accommodated in the study area and whether truck traffic would be on residential neighborhood streets. *Staff responded that the land use plans for this area include a mix of commercial, industrial, and residential use. The County highways and state highways will be designed to accommodate the truck traffic.*
- A Commissioner asked whether some priorities or dependencies would be identified in the study. *Staff responded that the proposed 494 interchange is a critical assumption of the study recommendations. Without new interchange trips, those trips would need to use State Hwy 149 and State Hwy 3, and those facilities would require major capacity improvements.*

Planning Manager Update and County Board Actions at Physical Development Committee

Kurt Chatfield, Planning Manager, provided the Planning Commission with an update on the following County Board Actions:

Comments/Notes:

- Authorized acquisition of the Ferguson property in Lake Byllesby Regional Park
- Approved submission of grant applications for greenways and trails

Upcoming Public Meetings – Community Outreach

- County Road 11/Burnsville Parkway Roundabout Open House: July 21st, 4pm – 8pm Nicollet Plaza, Party on the Plaza, Pop-up tent
- County Road 26 (Lone Oak) Open House: Tuesday, June 28th, 4pm – 6pm Eagan Community Center
- Regional Roadway System Visioning Study Virtual Open House May 31 – June 24, In-person open house June 1, 5pm – 7pm at Veterans Memorial Community Center

Topics for next meeting (Thursday, June 23, 2022)

- Agricultural Chemical Reduction Effort (ACRE)
- Two Natural Resource Plans-North Creek and Lake Marion

Planning Commissioner Announcements/Updates:

- A commissioner asked for an update on the Parks Ordinance item. *Staff responded that the Parks Ordinance would be returning to the Planning Commission in July.*
- Commissioners discussed redistricting. *Staff responded that the Commissioners would be serving in their current capacity until the end of the year. Staff will also provide the commission with a better map of the new boundaries at the next meeting.*
- Commissioners stated that it is helpful during staff presentations when the road number and the name are included on slides.
- A Commissioner asked if there is an app for the bike trails in Dakota county so people can navigate them? *Staff responded that Dakota County does not have an app, but there are a number of private apps that provide walking and biking routes.*

Adjourn

- The chair sought unanimous consent to adjourn.
- Vote: unanimously approved.
- Time: 8:01 p.m.

**Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, June 23, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., Dakota County
Western Service Center, Apple Valley**