PPA Transportation & Safety Committee Agenda
Tuesday, 21 July 2020
7:00pm, Luxton Park, in front of the recreation center.

Attending: Korey Anderson, Vicky Mercer, Allison Bell, Kyra Nygaard, Dan Cross, Malik Yusuf, Dan Bryant, Ben Tuthill, Maddie Deutsch, JoAnne Kurhage, Anna Andresen, Sarah Pfeiffer, Laurel Neufeld, Ami Naff, Richard Adams, Ross Kyllo, Danielle Gordanier, Jenna Hoge, Julia Tabbut, Paul Ellison, Linda Rust, Katie Houlihan, Alexis Daniel, Jere Purple, Madeline Wagner-Sherer, Eric Amel, David Frank, Lynn Von Korff, Evan Roberts (Chair)

1. Quick-build safety improvements in Glendale neighborhood

Matthew Dyrhdahl (City of Minneapolis) attended the meeting, and showed people attending in-person proposed changes to the intersections at 27th and Delaware, and the Williams/Delaware/St Mary's three-way intersection. No actions were taken, the city will be in touch with MPHA and PPA as the project proceeds.

2. Motion to support movement of Charter Amendment to November ballot, and recommend PPA plan public meetings for residents to learn about public safety

Ben Tuthill moved the following motion, and attached a proposed draft letter from the Board (following)

Motion
The Transportation & Safety Committee recommends that

1. PPA sends a letter (draft below) to the charter commission in support of a speedy resolution to allow the proposed public safety charter amendment on the November 2020 ballot (deadline: August 5)
2. That PPA makes plans to engage in neighborhood conversations about community-based safety
3. That the PPA promptly follows up on those plans with a concrete plan for neighborhood-wide workshops/dialogues on the topic of community-based safety regardless of the charter referendum's clearance.

After discussion voting proceeded on each clause (motion) separately with the clauses passing
Clause 1: 23 for, 4 against, 2 abstentions
Clause 2: 20 for, 4 against, 2 abstentions
Clause 3: 23 for, 3 against, 2 abstentions.

3. Letter to City of Minneapolis in response to Bedford/Franklin analysis
The meeting endorsed sending the letter to the Board, and recommended it be sent to the city.

4. Approval of June 16 meeting minutes

Minutes from the June meeting were approved.

Proposed letter from PPA Board to Minneapolis Charter Commission

Dear members of the Charter Commission

Neighborhood organizations play a unique and important role in Minneapolis’s democracy, helping to organize residents on practical matters of local concern, and providing a politically diverse and non-partisan forum for discussion of political issues. They are a conduit between the elected city council and residents. Since the death of George Floyd in May 2020 policing in Minneapolis has become an urgent political issue. Council members passed a unanimous proposal for reform of the governance of police in Minneapolis. Neighborhood organizations have the capacity to quickly organize public meetings for citizens to learn more about the amendment and discuss it prior to the November ballot.

The Prospect Park Association supports the inclusion of the City Council’s public safety charter amendment on the November 2020 Minneapolis ballot. We urge the Commission to reach an opinion on the amendment by the August 5 meeting, thereby allowing City Council to submit ballot language before the August 21 statutory deadline. Timely action by the Charter Commission will ensure a citywide conversation and vote on this urgent issue that is so deeply tied to the hearts and minds of the people of Minneapolis.

Members of the Charter Commission have stated the need for further conversations about community safety with neighborhood associations. The Prospect Park Association hereby states our contribution: we are having those conversations as a neighborhood, and we are ready to support public engagement in the referendum. The citywide conversation will continue; our understanding of community safety will evolve. We urge the Commission to perform its civic duty with clarity, honesty, in promptness. We are ready to dig into the hard work of discussing and reimagining community safety. Please do not delay on our account.