Date: Wednesday September 12, 2012,  
Time: 5pm - 7pm  
Location: City Hall, Larcom Building, Basement A Conference Room

Attendees:
Task force members present:  
Connie Brown, Darren McKinnon, David Santacroce, Elizabeth Riggs, Julie Grand, Mike Martin, Ray Detter, Sandi Smith, Tamara Burns

Task force members absent:  
Bonnie Bona, Cynthia Ives, Paul Ganz, Rita Combest

Staff Present: Sumedh Bahl

Public present:  
Kari Martin-MDOT-guest  
Mark Sweeney MDOT-guest  
Peter Allen  
Sabre Briere  
Dave Askins  
Ken Clein on behalf of planning commission for Bonnie Bona  
Emma Wendt

A. Call To Order
B. Roll Call
C. Approval of Agenda
Agenda approved

D. Approval of Minutes
Minor suggestions recommended and approved

E. Mark Sweeney and Kari Martin, Michigan Department of Transportation: N. Main Street
MDOT has moved Improvements beyond 2016, looking at 2018 at the earliest.  
Points discussed:
  • Sidewalk gaps would be filled in 2018 if the project makes the cut  
  • Scoped and ready to go once funding becomes available  
  • Some areas up for resurfacing, some for rework-scope is not final  
  • We are not part of the current discussion, would need extra funding.  
  • Budget $4.9M anticipated

Major questions and concerns:

NMFT questioned how do we become part of 2018?

  • NMFT can contribute to the MDOT plan, (as its scoped, repaving, fixing curbs and sidewalks, general), will need to work with the City on this.
**NMTF have complete street program - how do we make that voice heard?**

**NMTF recc to city - how do we implement?**

- City includes in their plan and then talks with MDOT. MDOT involved in the Right of Way (ROW). MDOT will determine the fixes for the concerns.

Spoke about danger of existing path for vehicular and non-vehicular traffic.

**How do we get another sidewalk on the west side?**
- Usually through the municipality, ROW acquiring often necessary.

**MDOT involvement with the rail - is there impact prior to 2018?**
- MDOT not aware of the high speed rail project.
- MDOT has asked about speed reduction in that area of the state police. Have not received a positive response at this point. City will be consulted on these studies.

- Discussion regarding the volume of traffic and whether or not a “road diet” would apply. Studies would need to be completed to determine what will improve and what will cause other problems. Intense study would have to be done and brought up to current standards. The whole interchanges would need to be addressed. Pedestrian solutions are typically easier to solve than addressing the whole interchange.

**Pedestrian conflict at highway:**

*Are there examples of good practice?*
- 23 washtenaw ramp may serve as an example.
- 23 exchange done through and enhancement grant.

**What is the process for the smaller changes?**
- Hard to get city to spend $$ on a state roadway.
- MDOT may have potential $$$ from maintenance or such.

**Crosswalkless Corner Depot/main**
- Can this be rectified prior to other work?
- Two signals very close so need to look at signals.
- Intersection improvements at Depot are being looked at right now by MDOT (turning radii, etc) signal is MDOT controlled and city maintained.

**Are small fixes currently in 2018 budget?**
- Not necessarily.
- May have some safety improvement money.

E2: MI placemaking TEC
• Sumedh needs help with the TEC - For fall 2012 and winter/spring 2013
• Unanimous approval to apply
• Riggs to assist Sumedh as well as Peter Allen

F. Addressing the Balance of the Taskforce Charge (30 mins.)
Burns discussed Agenda setting group

Where are we going and What is the deliverable?
We are creating a vision for those who are going to create the masterplan and vision

A. Background Information We Need to Know
B. Need to build knowledge at the same time
C. Look at info that is out there
D. Understand restraints, etc.
   Goal setting setting next meeting
   What group do we represent - take it to that group and report back
   Summarize reports

Extensive discussion regarding the specificity of our recommendations
There is general comfort with the process, but discussion still needs to be had on the product

Working groups will be determined

G. 1988 N. Main Land Use Plan (excerpt attached): Darren McKinnon (20 mins.)
Mckinnon reported on the 1988 plan and read email to NMTF
The report had some good connection ideas relating to keeping the multi-modal station where it is
DTE tour review and review of work on site was briefly discussed

I. Communications Received
Peter Allen sent piece for review. Concrete Items for promoting walkability, info will be posted on the website

J. Public Commentary (3 Minutes Per Speaker)
Peter Allen
• Sense of arrival at the riverfront needed
• Lots of high crossings would benefit both traffic patterns and experience.
  lots of $$- super expensive
• Create a business improvement zone aggressively
• DDA that captures taxes - can serve as a way to get the money
• Legislated and in place
• Corridor improvement zone
• Time to receive benefits

Questions as to how that would work by various individuals

Emma Wendt
Washtenaw Biking and Walking coalition indicated they would like to assist the NMTF as a resource

Final request to not publish draft minutes, only the approved minutes

K. Adjournment
7:00 pm