



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
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## Meeting Minutes - Approved NORTHPORT-WARNER PARK-SHERMAN NEIGHBORHOOD STEERING COMMITTEE

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Tuesday, October 7, 2008

6:30 PM

St. Paul Lutheran Church  
2126 North Sherman Avenue, Rear Entrance

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

**Present:** 14 -

Lydia S. Maurer; Pat Steele; Benjamin C. Cashin; Lorie A. Walker; Paul J. Van Rooy; Karen M. Thompson; Donald B. Bruns; Thomas C. Blake; Kathryn L. Rasmussen; Anita C. Herrera; Mary Schumacher; Betty L. Thompson; Julie A. Savidusky and Edward (Ted) T. Krez

**Excused:** 7 -

Jenifer L. Carter; Cynthia M. Wood; Jacqueline M. Wilson; Jolena K. Presti; Jamie P. Gratrix; Jeffrey E. Shokler and John M. Wheeler

**City Alderpersons and Staff:** Jule Stroick; Archie Nicolette; Linda Horvath; Dave Kress (Planning & Community & Economic Development).

**Others:** Dan McCormick; JoAnne Lehman; Dolores Kester; Julie Spears; Lisa Wiese; Lisa Bullard-Cawthorne.

### 2. APPROVAL OF September 25 MINUTES

**A motion was made by Van Rooy, seconded by Maurer, to Approve the September 25 Minutes. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**

### 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Free Home Maintenance Class by Project Home Thursday October 9 from 6-8pm, located at Project Home Office at 1966 S. Stoughton Road.

Fifteenth anniversary of Northside Planning Council on Friday October 10 at the Warner Park Community Recreation Center, 5-8pm.

**P. Van Rooy made a motion to end the meeting at 8:00pm due to the Presidential debate and to add time to the next meeting agenda. B. Cashin seconded the motion; the motion passed by voice vote.**

### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

**5. Introductions of New Steering Committee Members**

K. Rasmussen, A. Herrera, and T. Krez introduced themselves and identified the neighborhoods they will represent.

**6. [12090](#) Transportation Issues**

D. McCormick, Assistant City Traffic Engineer, and Planning staff explained that the transportation solutions discussion should focus on how to create a greater sense of place in coordination with the larger context of the neighborhood including the other top issues of economic development, water quality, neighborhood revitalization, gateway corridors, schools and more. D. McCormick distributed articles showcasing how to make streets more livable by rethinking the way they are designed in context with surrounding uses and community needs.

Two Northside transportation corridors were discussed: Packers/CTH CV/Northport and North Sherman Avenue. Transportation strategies were discussed for the following locations:

**PACKERS/CTH CV/NORTHPORT OPTIONS**

**Packers/CTH CV/Northport Intersection**

**Option A - Roundabout and Option B - "T" Intersection**

Question/Answer with SC and Dan McCormick

Q: Will a roundabout handle current and future traffic volume?

A: Yes.

Q: Is there enough funding for a roundabout?

A: Community should identify what's most important and then gather support and work with the City Engineer to present the case for a roundabout to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, District 1.

Q: What about driveways for businesses?

A: Driveway cuts can be included in the roundabout to some extent and its also possible to create a frontage road for business access.

Q: How will emergency vehicles be affected?

A: Not different than EMS using typical intersection.

Q: What about bicyclist and pedestrian use of roundabouts?

A: On all new projects with the WisDOT, the City works with the agency to include sidewalks. Could widen the sidewalks to accommodate bikes, or bikes could ride on the roundabout using an 8-10 foot bike lane.

Q: Will visitors know how to use roundabouts?

A: Signage will be used to orient drivers through roundabout. A number of Dane County communities have roundabouts including Sun Prairie and Mount Horeb and others. Roundabouts are becoming more common and people are becoming more savvy at using them.

Q: Anticipated speed in roundabout?

A: 25 miles per hour.

Q: Will Airport signage be added to this area?

A: Yes.

***SC Preferences and Additional Comments***

**Option A - Roundabout (13 Votes)**

**Option B - "T" Intersection (0) Votes)**

**Combination of A & B (1 Vote)**

- With Option A, bike lanes and sidewalks allow pedestrian use; are familiar with out-of-towners; future use of signaling Metro stops with crosswalks; medians allow refuge for pedestrians.
- Also with Option A, need to remember schoolchildren getting off of buses and crossing Packers Avenue; do driveways in roundabout cause confusion and defeat purpose? move crosswalks south of roundabout.

**Northport Drive Options**

**Option A - Bump-Outs/Street Parking & Bike Lanes and Option B - Wider Terraces & Bike Lanes**

Q: Does street parking combined with bike lanes create a hazard where car doors are opened into bikes?

A: Drivers need to become more accustomed to watching for bikes, and bikes for possible doors opening.

Q: Could adding parking and removing a lane in each direction negatively impact traffic congestion?

A: Yes, its possible.

Q: Looks like median fence has been removed? Is this true?

A: Intention is to replace existing chain link fence with a more attractive fence.

***SC Preferences and Additional Comments***

**Option A - Bump-Outs/Street Parking & Bike Lanes (1 Vote)**

**Option B - Wider Terraces & Bike Lanes (11 Votes)**

**Neither - We need 3 lanes in this area on both sides. (1 Vote)**

- Will parking on Northport Drive even be used? SC member responded that Northport Apartment residents and visitors would use the parking since apartment lot is often full.
- Including parking on Northport Drive may negatively impact snow removal.
- How about using Willy Street as a model where two southbound lanes are open before 8:30am and two northbound lanes between 4:30-5:30pm. One lane in each direction all other times with parking.
- Use bump-outs for buses only, not parking.
- What about abandoned cars, overnight and long-term parking, alternate street

parking conflicts with parking & commuters.

**Option A - Wider Terraces & Bike Lanes and Option B - Wider Terraces & Bio-Swale in Median**

Q: Could we add a cul-de-sac to Option A as shown in Option B at the northern end of the access road to the Woodland Park Apartments, Brennan's site and PDQ?

A: Yes.

Q: Is there a demonstrated need for a bioswale along Northport Drive in pictured location?

A: Need to study more closely and also note that the bioswale could be an option along entire length of Northport Drive and on other road medians.

***SC Preferences and Additional Comments***

**Option A - Wider Terraces & Bike Lanes (3 Votes)**

**Option B - Wider Terraces & Bio-Swale in Median (12 Votes)**

- Combine Options A & B so we get bike lanes and bike path.
- Public cul-de-sac and bioswale good with either option.
- Keep right-turn lane with no stop-sign off of Troy Drive.

**North Sherman Avenue Corridor**

**Option A - Two Travel Lanes & Median and Option B - Bike & Left-Turn lanes & Pedestrian Islands**

***SC Preferences and Additional Comments***

**Option A - Two Travel Lanes & Median (14 Votes)**

**Option B - Bike & Left-Turn Lanes & Ped. Islands (0 Votes)**

- Option A allows pedestrian refuge, attractive and median could be place for low-growing rain garden instead of trees to reduce maintenance.
- Option A removes greenspace from Warner Park (what does the Warner Park Committee think about this?)
- With Option A, taking 16 feet from the Park will not be noticed. The tradeoff is a big aesthetic improvement to the area, creating a gateway that may draw people.
- With Option A, need improved stormwater drainage system.
- Option B small islands are strange.
- Currently, traffic on N. Sherman flowing smoothly with one-lane in each direction during the re-surfacing project, but there is also a much lower traffic volume since many drivers have found other routes due to construction (a lot more traffic on Windom Way and Dryden Drive for example).

7. [12194](#)

Parks and Open Space

Referred to October 23 Steering Committee meeting.

8. [09720](#) Land Use

Referred to October 23 Steering Committee meeting.

9. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Reminder of upcoming Northside Planning Council 15th Anniversary celebration at Warner Park Community Recreation Center on Friday October 10 starting at 5:00pm.

10. [10062](#) **PLANNING PROCESS STATUS**

Referred to October 23 Steering Committee meeting.

11. **Next Steps**

Agenda for Steering Committee meeting, Thursday October 23 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 2126 N. Sherman Avenue, 6:30pm.

12. **Checkout**

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Maurer, seconded by Van Rooy, to Adjourn at 8:00pm.  
The motion passed by voice vote/other.**