



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
www.cityofmadison.com

## Meeting Minutes - Approved NORTHPORT-WARNER PARK-SHERMAN NEIGHBORHOOD STEERING COMMITTEE

---

Thursday, February 26, 2009

6:30 PM

Lakeview Lutheran Church  
4001 Mandrake

---

### 1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

**Present:** 12 -

Lydia S. Maurer; Pat Steele; Benjamin C. Cashin; Lorie A. Walker; Cynthia M. Wood; Paul J. Van Rooy; Donald B. Bruns; Thomas C. Blake; Jolena K. Presti; Jeffrey E. Shokler; Mary Schumacher and Julie A. Savidusky

**Excused:** 4 -

Karen M. Thompson; Jacqueline M. Wilson; Anita C. Herrera and Betty L. Thompson

**City Alderpersons and Staff:** Michael Schumacher (District 18). Larry Nelson (City Engineering). Archie Nicolette; Linda Horvath; Dave Kress (Planning & Community & Economic Development).

### 2. APPROVAL OF December 4 & January 22 MINUTES

**A motion was made by Van Rooy, seconded by Shokler, to Approve the December 4 and January 22 Minutes. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**

### 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Several members have been removed from the Steering Committee because they did not complete a "Statement of Interest" form for 2009. Once completed, they may be reinstated.

### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ken Rotar, Oak Park Terrace Mobile Home Community: Future plans for Oak Park Terrace should consider keeping this area as a mobile home community. It is difficult for residents here to simply "pack up" their manufactured homes and move. Also, rent increases and lack of maintenance is a growing concern at Oak Park Terrace.

Kristen Zehner, Wisconsin MHOA Inc.: As is the case in many manufactured home communities, lack of maintenance is a major concern at Oak Park Terrace. Property owners are often unwilling to invest money in site, water, and sewer improvements.

Terrie Anderson, 1409 Iowa Drive: Recommends that some form of urban agriculture be incorporated in schemes for the Raemisch property. A large increase in housing on this site may cause increased traffic concerns.

Ellen Barnard, 925 Burning Wood Way: Asks that a wider variety of possibilities be considered for the future of the Raemisch property. Ellen is currently working with two individuals that are interested in developing this site in a similar fashion to Troy Gardens - this

would include a mix of residential and urban agriculture.

Lisa Wiese, 913 Northland Drive: A focus on enhancing and increasing bicycle connections between surrounding municipalities should be added to the language of the transportation section.

5. [12090](#)

Transportation Issues

L. Nelson, City Engineer, discussed potential opportunities for the STH 113 Improvements Project and its relation to the NWS Neighborhood Plan. Below are several comments Mr. Nelson made in regards to the project:

- At this time, City Engineering is committed to (1) getting pavement fixed and (2) addressing pedestrian crossing issues:
  - The road went in between 1964-65 and has been improved two times since then. It has reached a point where it is beyond patching, and has therefore been scheduled by WisDOT for a resurfacing in 2013; however, the City is suggesting that this project be moved to 2010 and may recommend using asphalt rather than concrete in some segments.
  - Efforts should be made to improve pedestrian safety without reducing the road's traffic capacity.
- There may be some interest in making improvements near the intersection of Packers-International-Melrose because of the potential for a rail station near the Dane County Regional Airport.
- It is important that the NWS Neighborhood Plan focus more on explaining what it is the community would like to see in this area, in terms of performance and function, rather than focusing on the actual design.

Below are several questions and answers that were a part of the transportation discussion:

- Question: What would the rail station look like?
  - Answer: One possibility may include something similar to an extended bus shelter. Another possibility may include an enclosed structure. The potential station location will be provided to the Steering Committee.
- Question: Could an East Washington Avenue type design be included in the NWS Neighborhood Plan given its 5-15 year timeframe?
  - Answer: That type of redesign would have its own process; however, the neighborhood plan and its recommendations can serve as a dataset that may be looked upon in the future. It is important not to lose ideas that the Steering Committee has explored.
- Question: Where is the road at in terms of capacity right now?
  - Answer: Engineering would have to look into that in greater detail, but federal funds won't be expended on reducing capacity.
- Question: What is the environmental impact of high-speed rail?
  - Answer: That information can be found on the DOT website.
- Question: Would it be possible to consider reducing traffic speed on this road?
  - Answer: May not be able to change the designed and posted speed, but it may be possible to improve/increase traffic speed enforcement.
- Question: Would it be possible to remove the "skimmer" lane at the intersection of Northport-Sherman as a part of this project?
  - Answer: It could be one of the projects that the City is responsible for.
- Question: What would be the difference between State and City projects on this road?
  - Answer: The State's main concern is simply repaving the road. The City could possibly take on smaller projects such as bike lanes, intersection improvements, landscaping, etc.
- Question: How does Northport-Packers rank in terms of unsafe intersections?
  - Answer: City staff could look that up for you. Also, evaluating the capacity of this intersection may be useful in determining potential improvements.
- Question: Why would City Engineering suggest the use of asphalt instead of concrete?
  - Answer: Asphalt is less expensive, requires less future maintenance, and allows for easier changes in lane designation.

Additional Public Comment:

William Holden, 3505 Eliot Lane: It is important to really consider the addition of bike lanes and other pedestrian improvements - is it really necessary, and whom does it benefit? Also, William supports the previous comments regarding Oak Park Terrace.

6. [10062](#)

Planning Process Status

Schedule & Public Outreach:

- Plan timeline flowchart and summary of public input handouts.
- Public Input "Coffees":
  - Steering Committee should identify which groups should be brought together to participate.
  - Possible dates/times - April 1 and 2 at 6:00 or 7:00pm.
- Public Open House:
  - Possible date/location - April 18 at the Northside Town Center.

Loose Ends:

*Northgate*

- City staff met with Brad Elmer, Alexander Company to discuss future plans for the Northgate Shopping Center area.
  - Alexander Company plans to add one acre of greenspace through parking islands, expand the storefront terrace to include space for outdoor dining, and develop a daycare facility.
  - Alexander Company was receptive to the potential future land use schemes created by the Steering Committee; however, their preference would be that street connections through the existing building are not shown.
- Questions/Comments:
  - Steering Committee would like to see drawings of Alexander Company's future plans.
  - Does the Alexander Company have a proposed timeline for the completion of these improvements?

*Trailsway*

- City staff met with various city agencies, such as Police and Building Inspection, to discuss safety and housing issues in the Trailsway Street area.

*Oscar-Hartmeyer*

- City staff is in the process of setting up a meeting with various city agencies and representatives from Oscar Mayer.

*Airport*

- City staff is in the process of setting up a meeting with city staff and representatives from the Dane County Regional Airport.

Additional Public Comment:

Terrie Anderson, 1409 Iowa Drive: Adopted Lakeview Hill Park master plan recommends a land bridge over Northport Drive.

Lisa Wiese, 913 Northland Drive: Would like to see bike lanes on Sherman Avenue, North of Northport Drive continuing up to Cherokee Marsh.

7. **Next Steps**

- Agenda items for next Steering Committee Meeting to take place March 12, 6:30 p.m. at the Northport Community Learning Center, 1740 Northport Drive:
  - Follow up on this evening's talk about transportation with Larry Nelson (pedestrian crossings, medians, lighting, signage, etc.)
  - Draft Plan
  - Raemisich Property

- Oak Park Terrace
- Bike Connections to other Municipalities
- Multi-modal Transportation
- Follow-up on Upcoming Outreach Dates

**8. Checkout**

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Van Rooy, seconded by Shokler, to Adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**