

Roeland Park Ad Hoc Sidewalk Committee

Minutes for 9-8-09 Meeting

I. Call to order – 6:10 PM

Present: Chair -Bill Art, Megan England, Betsy Mellor, Bob Meyers, Linus Orth, Brian Weese, John Carter.

II. Old Business

- a. **Review of Article 3: General Street and Sidewalk Regulations** – The committee did not discuss this item. Continue this discussion to the next meeting.
- b. **Review of Roesland Elementary School Signing and Pavement Marking Study** - The committee did not discuss this item. Continue this discussion to the next meeting.
- c. **Review draft of sidewalk criteria-(MARC and edited by Councilmember England)** – We discussed some additions and subtractions to the draft of the sidewalk criteria. This is the committee’s working document. We are using this as our starting point. Under the heading ***“Equilibrium” on page 1*** we want to include bike routes as one of the transportation modes. Under the heading ***“Comfort” pg 1*** consider increasing the amount of time to cross a street. Consider also having contrasting materials for sidewalks in terms of color, texture, and material types. Under the heading for ***Sociability pg 1*** add something that would not discourage young people from playing on the sidewalk. On page 3 under the heading ***Sidewalk Requirements*** section 1. Consider not have a sidewalk required on both sides of all streets. Think in terms of the traffic and it was suggested coming up with a minimum number of average cars would trigger the need for sidewalks on both sides. Under the section 2 where is describes the width as 6 foot wide requirement. This is thought to be excessive and many examples were given where this was not the case. ***Note: City staff will secure an electronic version of draft that the committee is working on, so that the committee can make changes directly to the document as we discuss.***

Other discussion centered on the use of materials that are permeable especially near trees. This would reduce the need to take down trees to build sidewalks; therefore, support our status as Tree City. There was talk about the 55th and Roe crossing being so short to cross. Other discussion included state law makes it illegal to ride a bike and skate board on a sidewalk. Talking about the needs to modify or exempt out of this law for our city.

Adrienne Foster provided a book that she got from a conference that she attended. The book title "Encouraging Bicycling and Walking The State Legislative Role".

Review of map of current sidewalks and proposed sidewalks. - The committee looked at the current map of sidewalks and asked questions about the average car count on Neosho and 55th street. For Neosho it is 829 per day and 55th street is 1,742 per day. The thought is that CARS streets need to have sidewalks on both sides of those streets. The current width of sidewalks on these streets range from 3 to 6 foot. In reviewing the map it was found that this map is not accurate. ***City staff will provide an update of the map for the next meeting's discussion. Color codes the streets according to CARS streets and traffic counts for the heavy traffic streets.***

III. New Business

- a. **Budget/ Revenue source to maintain sidewalks.** The committee did not discuss this item. Keep on the agenda for the October meeting
- b. **Linear feet of sidewalks needed and an estimate of cost per linear foot** - The committee did not discuss this item. Keep on the agenda for the October meeting.

IV. Adjourn – 6:51 PM The next meeting is October 5, 2009 and begins at 5:45 PM