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MEMORANDUM

TO: Alex Popp (Duluth)

FROM: Kristin Petersen (SEH), Matt Bolf (SEH)

RE: Summary of **Open House 4 – March 14, 2024**

This memo documents the details and comments received during the in-person open house for the West Superior Street Reconstruction Project that took place on Thursday, March 14, 2024.

Meeting Information

- Audience: Adjacent property owners, commuters, and residents surrounding the project area
- Date of event: Thursday, March 14, 2024
- Time of event: **4:30 to 6:30 pm**
 - **In-Person** Format: In addition to a brief presentation at 5 pm, the open house style meeting included feedback activities, presentation boards, and a large plot of the 1.65 mile project corridor. For the first activity, attendees were asked to place colored pins on the map to show where they live, work, and play or have areas of interest. Project staff were available to discuss the project and answer questions throughout the event. Presentation boards included information on project background, schedule, and funding, and summaries of feedback from Open Houses 1-3. Links to the presentation boards and layout are available at www.WestSuperiorStreet.com.

Meeting Notifications

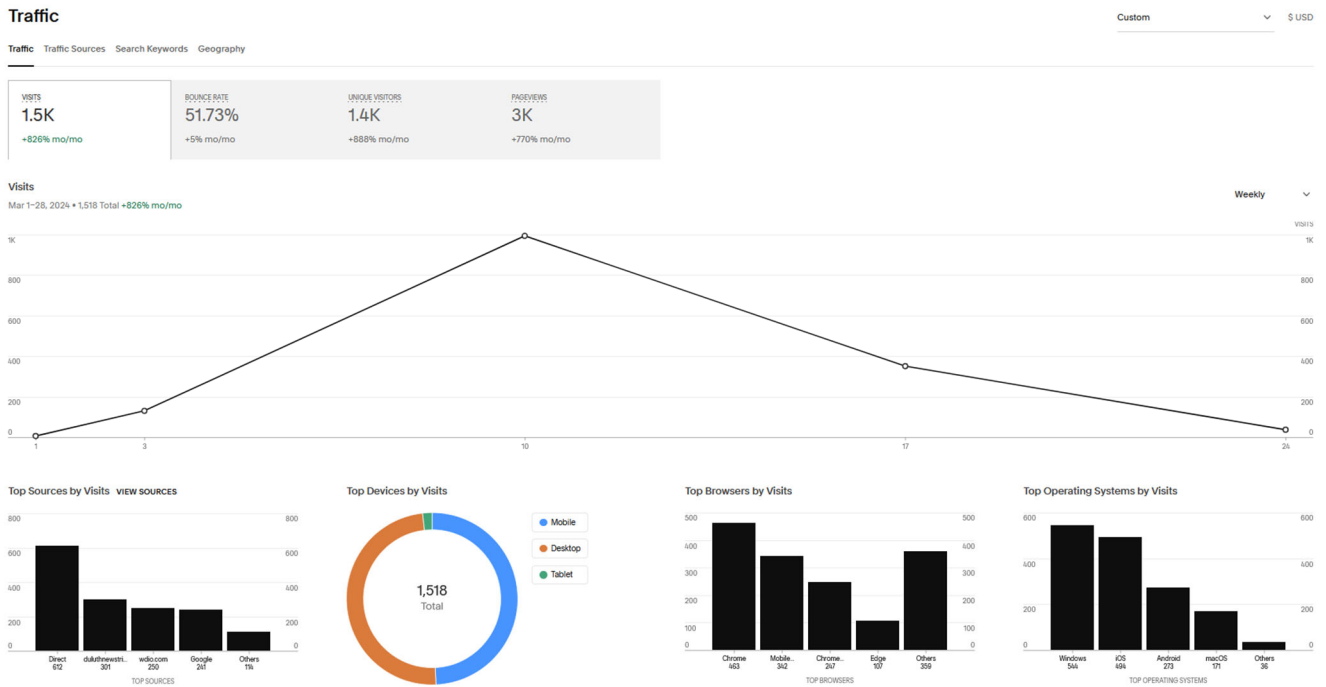
- Postcard invitations were mailed directly to an expanded area with approximately 2,500 properties
- Meeting information was posted on the City and Project website
- Posted on City Social Media
- Press Releases
- Email Blasts to project mailing list
- Partner email blasts: Eco3, Lincoln Park, Chamber of Commerce

Attendance

- Over 120 attendees signed in during the open house. The following staff members were also present to facilitate the event and address questions and comments:
 - 1) Alex Popp – City of Duluth
 - 2) James Gittemeier – City of Duluth
 - 3) Cari Pedersen – City of Duluth
 - 4) Joe Jurewicz – City of Duluth
 - 5) Matt Bolf – SEH
 - 6) Kristin Petersen – SEH
 - 7) Jordan Van Der Hagen – Damon Farber

Website Traffic

- Project **website analytics** between 3/1/2024 and 3/28/2024
 - www.WestSuperiorStreet.com
 - 1,442 Unique visitors
 - 1,518 Visits
 - 2,983 Pageviews
- Top sources** of website visits were:
 - 612 Direct
 - 301 Duluthnewstribune.com
 - 250 WDIO.com
 - 241 Google



COMMENTS

The comment cards received during the open house, mailed comments, and comments submitted via the website are listed below.

Open House Comment Cards (10)

- 4-way stops throughout so as to slow traffic down and help safety for crossings on bike, foot and vehicle. The constrains of lane width that you say you cannot change will induce speeding. Plus 30 mph is way too fast. 20 mph! See the studies out there. The data are clear.
- Thanks for the ongoing sessions and making public access priority in the process! So great to see broad input and outreach. Encourage connecting to Denfeld and to LP Middle School, ISD 709 and all schools and youth in this. Thanks.
- I really appreciate the bump outs along and at the intersections. No parking between 18th & 20th on Superior.
- Please do not add more parking, especially to the Zone 2 craft core.
- I appreciate all the work staff has put into this work. As someone who bikes, walks, and buses in the neighborhood, I would love to see as much focus on pedestrian scale infrastructure as possible. The

parking studies show we don't need more parking. Don't let loud voices and monarchist mayors take away all the hard work put into this. Let's make this the best street in the city.

- I have little to no faith in the City to execute this without substantial damage to businesses in the area and extreme inconvenience to the community. The highway reconstruction has forced bottlenecks at intersections, through traffic congesting residential roads, and has not adequately communicated closures, delays, and changes. Will there be ongoing public meetings to hear these public concerns as the project is underway? What does the City plan to do to make this project as easy as possible for the people who actually live and work here?
- Please do not repeat same mistakes as Superior Street reconstruction by listening and abiding just to businesses' agendas. Look how sad and deserted and cement looking Superior Street is now. Please make this a beautification project – not a business improvement project.
- I think the bump outs at each corner are terrible idea. Bike lane on one side okay, not both. Where does all snow go – gravel eating areas? How to clean parking?
- Please do not continue to add more parking – there is already too much!
- Love all the green space and walkability. I live in the neighborhood and walk to the craft district often.

Website Comments (5 respondents)

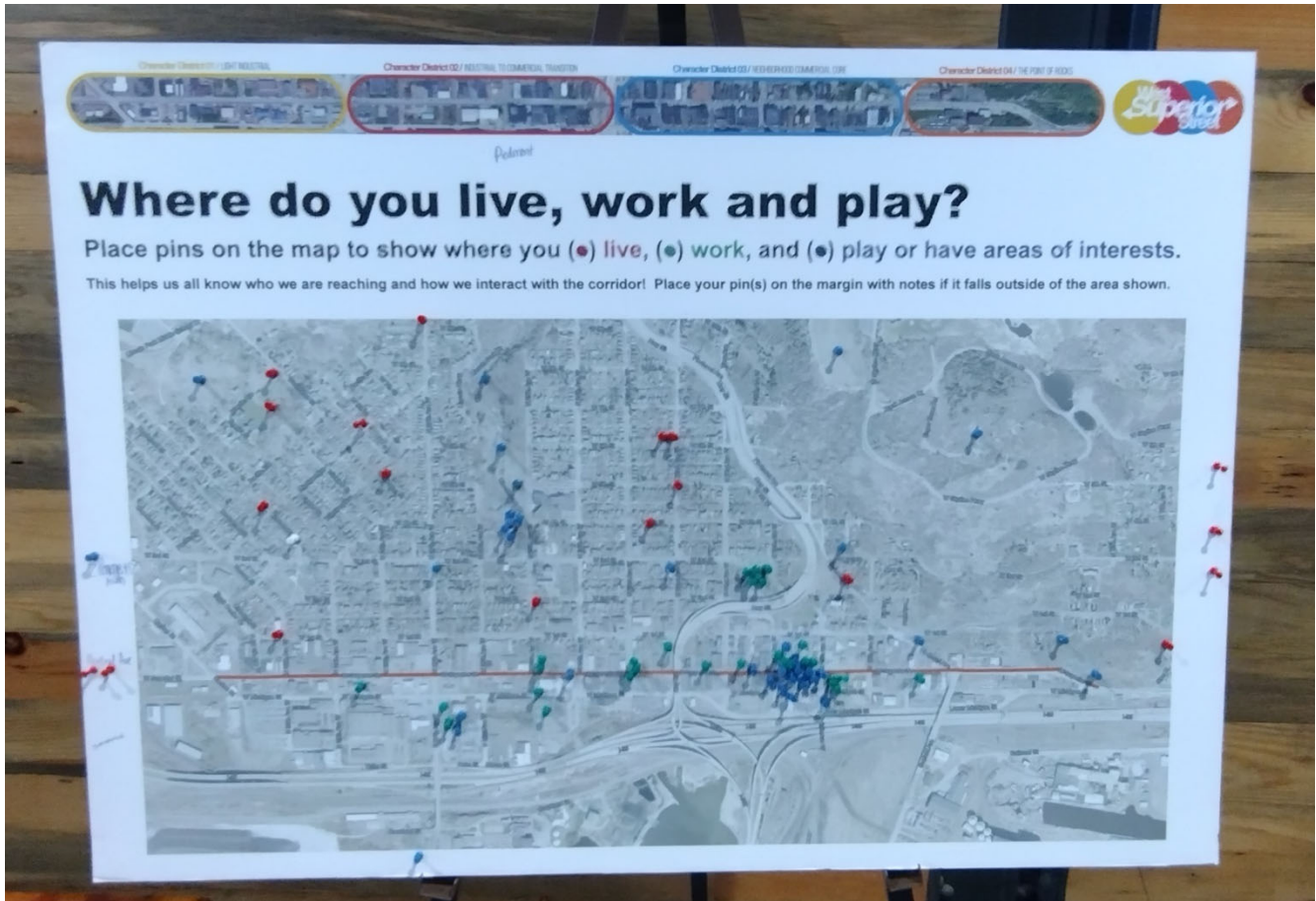
- We are purchasing property located at XXXX W. Superior St and as part of the purchase process we are reviewing all documentation related to the property. The building will be used for offices and working with members of the community that have health and/or mobility challenges. According to the plan I saw online, this block will be losing 9 parking spaces. more than any other block in the project. I would like to discuss how the streetscape can be revised to allow for additional parking and also whether we could add some handicapped designated parking on 23rd Ave W between Superior St and Michigan St. Thank you
- Will fiber internet be included in the utilities encapsulated within the street redesign? If it hasn't been considered yet - can it be?
- Please include dedicated pull-off spaces out of the driving lane for busses to avoid creating traffic backups! The current design as of 2024-03-15 looks like it has busses stopping in the drive lanes.
- I would like a drawing when available....tnx L
- This is a much needed project. The bike and outdoor facilities look good. But all I have contacted are hoping there is improved parking also. This is an important district and many come from far west and also east duluth and need to drive. Especially when shopping. And many cannot bike or walk. Please include better and more parking along with the other good additions. Thank you

Mailed Comment (1 respondent)

- Fab work! Please ensure the street lights are at first story level (similar to current street lights) and that the wash of light and other light pollution is not illuminating 2nd, 3rd floor building structures. All to ensure a good nights sleep for guests and any residents of the Lincoln Park Craft District. Thank you!

Dot Exercise Results (~120) Participants

Attendees were asked to place colored pins on the map to show where they live (red), work (green), and play or have areas of interest (blue).



Layout Comments (~70)

Attendees were encouraged to place sticky notes and comments on the plot of proposed layout.

Comment	Location Description
General	
No cars, no parking, bus rapid transit.	
Need overhead signage here. Vehicle, bike and pedestrians too.	By M&H
Speakers with local music to provide ambiance vibes!	
Listen to public - DO NOT - repeat Superior St. mistakes	
Why does private non-public meet change design - why ask public if this keeps happening	
FRUSTRATED Secret meetings w/cherry picked businesses who only want parking <u>not</u> community. +1	
Check on Caddy Shack driveway - do we need to help?	
Ensure *green spaces* better than Superior St.	
Plse add "activated" or "seating" area here - the "room" concept.	Between Duluth Stove and Ursa Minor
Necking taper further east. Wider cut east entry to FS#2. Less parking adjacent 26th/27th hillside.	26th/27th
Signage directing traffic <u>off 27th</u> exit to 24th Ave W. up to 53.	
Needs hard metal bollards to protect bike/mess.	Between 28th and 29th
Light rail from Gary New Duluth to London back and forth all day long. (I know that isn't part of this.) I can dream.	
Need streetcars.	
Overview map and signage needed at each end and N/S streets.	
Pedestrian	
I support maximizing space for pedestrians and bikes on Superior St. and <u>slow</u> cars. Make nearby nice parking, car parking areas with parking on Superior St. for ADA and <15 minutes.	
Raised crossings.	
Crosswalks.	
Can driveway at 19th and 20th leave sidewalk and paths at same level as either side?	19th and 20th
Crosswalks at intersection not jumping out between cars.	20th
Would like to see more signalized pedestrian crossings.	
Raised crosswalk for Cross City Trail.	23rd
Raised mid-block crossing is needed. +2	1900 block
Straight sidewalk on lower side with curvilinear walk on upper considered?	24th
Raise crosswalks to a curb height.	25th
Love all the green spaces.	
Raised crosswalks to curb level.	27th

Bicycles	
Prioritize bikes and pedestrians - not cars and parking.	
Trolley bus system, no pollution, less wear on roads.	
Expanded bike lanes.	
It is difficult to cross here as a cyclist - would love biking/walking priority.	Garfield Ave
Signs for Coggs Trail from Enger.	
Craft Connector Connection and Signage (bike) DT	
Bike lanes are always needed. Thanks!	
Especially separated bike lanes.	
I live on W. 5th St. and ride a bike. Piedmont is my friend. Piedmont/Garfield and Superior is a CHALLENGE!	
Bike parking and café/bench seating area for event/biz activation.	Corner of Superior and 19th
27th Avenue is a bikeway also.	27th
Special bike light to cross?	27th
Agree on bike light and special pedestrian crossing signs? +1	27th
Don't use the CCT for bike storage? People bicycle all year. +1	29th
Where's the westbound bike track? Cross-City Trail does not count.	30th
Vehicles	
Move transit. Routes to zig-zag W. Michigan and 1st St - Superior St. is not great.	
What lessons were taken from traffic analysis post/pre Superior St.?	
Consider lowering speed to 20 mph through section.	
Please realign so that Michigan St. has to yield to Superior St.	
20 mph speed limits?	
20 mph speed limit with <u>many</u> 4-way stops.	
Transit blocks 3 of 4 routes located here. Priority transit?	Garfield Ave
Bus turn up/down 19th to ease traffic through area.	19th
RRFB please 4-way stop is better.	21st
4-way stop please. +1	24th
Can we add a stop sign (or 2)	19th
24th & Superior needs either a 4-way stop or a roundabout. Present visibility is very bad at this intersection.	24th
Parking	
Should keep "on street" parking to minimum. On the busiest section of Superior. No parking on Superior.	
Why 1900 block much on street parking. Make all street parking handicap.	1900 block
Yeah, we definitely don't need all that new parking in the craft district section.	
Handicapped parking in this area?	20th

40 apartments and retail - no parking?	20th
More parking please.	
Do not add more parking, please. +1	
Add more parking	24th
Businesses need parking.	20th
Help our business and our community - <u>no</u> parking spots please. +1	19th block
Yes, to no parking. +1	19th and 20th block
Safety	
Better turn lane protection?	27th



Additional Event Photos

