

## Meeting Summary: Station Area Working Group Round 2 - Cook Avenue

**Meeting Number:** 2  
**Date:** 2/29/2024 6pm-8pm  
**Location:** Hmong Village, 1001 Johnson Pkwy, St. Paul, MN 55106

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### Attendance

- 10 participants
  - 5 staff
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### Agenda

- Welcome + Dinner
  - Intro + Agenda
  - Review Goals, Themes, Glossary
  - Review Draft Actions
  - Brainstorm Physical Improvements
  - Brainstorm Programs/Policy
  - Closing Comments
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### Feedback by Goal

#### Make Vibrant Public Places

- Emphasis on the importance of maintaining green spaces, with concerns about current upkeep and trash management practices.
- Questions about the incorporation and effects of the Phalen Creek Daylighting plan within the current design.
- Calls for a more integrated approach to community feedback within the planning process, particularly in relation to stormwater management and trail designs.

## Connect People and Places

- Concerns about the addition of two dedicated bus lanes on Phalen Boulevard, citing negative impacts on green spaces, tree preservation, and pedestrian safety.
- Questions regarding the need and future utility of the proposed transit line, including ridership trends and overall goals.
- Suggestions for revisiting certain design elements, such as the Duluth bike lane alignment and the approach to reducing traffic speeds.
- Discussions on enhancing public transportation appeal, including making bus rides more enjoyable and extending service hours.
- Support for free bus access for children.

## Prioritize Safety and Security

- Safety concerns included poor vehicular safety, inadequate lighting, and dangerous crossings along Phalen.
- Mixed opinions on the proposed bike lane placements, with suggestions for calming measures to enhance safety.
- Support for the implementation of pedestrian-activated crossing signals and improved lighting to address safety issues.

## Create Neighborhoods for Living

- Proposal for dark sky lighting standards.
- The necessity of connected habitats for wildlife through initiatives like the daylighting of Phalen Creek.
- Requests for independent analyses on tree impacts and the exploration of innovative solutions to preserve green spaces amid urban development.
- Advocate for more resources for the unhoused.

## Build Businesses and Community Services

- Interest in creating a cultural grant and career pathways programs to support community engagement and economic upliftment.