



MOBILITY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

August 21, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Council Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm.

ROLL CALL

Present: Brian Smith (Chair), Justin Fischer, Ericka Thomas, Ed Roney, Jay Dooley, Mike Lynch (for Gary Becker)

Absent: Joe Tolkacz (excused)

Staff Present: Jeff Herczeg, Director of Public Works, DPW
Rebecca Runkel, Project Engineer, DPW
Barb McBeth, City Planner, Community Development
Lindsay Bell, Senior Planner, Community Development

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm and made a motion to approve the agenda and minutes from June 26, 2025, both of which were supported and passed 6-0.

DISCUSSION

Chair Smith opened the discussion with the first agenda item, the Safe Streets for All Safety Action Plan. Engineer Runkel said the draft Safety Action Plan was in the packet that was emailed. OHM, who put it together, is still working on the draft, so information is missing. The current draft contains a lot of background information that OHM went over at the last Mobility Committee meeting. Engineer Runkel pointed out the last pages of the draft to be of interest as it contains a list of recommended improvements for each study location. However, being in draft form, there is still information that needs to be completed, such as cost estimates and renderings. The Committee was directed to provide any feedback on the draft plan at the next meeting, after which a final draft will be shared.

Next, Engineer Runkel gave an update on the Sidewalk Survey. The survey was completed and the data processed. There is a lot of data to go through, but overall, sidewalk conditions don't seem too bad. Engineer Runkel said staff were given a tutorial on how to use the online viewer, and that the data can be shared to any interested committee members. Engineer Runkel also said that Keri Blough (GIS Manager) would create an interactive map that will help identify areas with severe deflections, greater than 2-inches. A discussion followed regarding development of the initial phase of the sidewalk repair program.

The discussion moved to the next agenda item, the 9Line Update. Planner Bell went over what she knows of the project as a member of the task force. The first phase of the

project, the feasibility study, started in Hazel Park and went all the way to Farmington. So that first report covered all those communities along the 9 Mile Corridor, which was finished July 23rd. Planner Bell reported that section has moved forward, some of those communities have gotten grants or had some work done already. The second phase continued the study from Novi to the western border of Oakland County, so the goal is to have a 12-mile stretch of pathway that would be a destination for pedestrians and bikers that would be done using a variety of different treatments, shared use pathway, six foot sidewalk with bike lane in the road, or other configurations. Planner Bell briefly described the content of the report, and said Oakland County is hoping for the involved communities in phase two to sign a memorandum of understanding, which states it's a nonbinding agreement that we will continue to work together, implementing the vision for the 9Line. Planner Bell described the branding behind the 9Line and how it can help us pursue grants or other opportunities for some of these projects. Mayor Fischer explained why this is being put in front of the committee – it was about to be put on a council agenda for approval of the memorandum of understanding with projects in the report that he wanted the committee to have a chance to review. Mayor Fischer gave the example of the 9 Mile Rd pathway between Haggerty Rd and Meadowbrook Rd, which is six feet wide, but this report calls for it to be a 10-foot wide shared use pathway, but we just put in the 6-ft sidewalk and caught a lot of slack. Mayor Fischer asked the committee to take a very critical look at the report before the next meeting and come back ready to suggest Council sign off on it or not. The committee continued to discuss specific locations along 9 Mile Rd, how the report would be used, and how it correlates to the Active Mobility Plan.

The discussion moved the next agenda item, the 11Mile/I-275 connector update. Engineer Runkel explained that we wanted to connect the existing sidewalk on 11 Mile Rd to the I-275 trail, as it is a short distance to connect, but it was rejected by MDOT and the Federal Highway Administration, which stated that the sidewalk gap on 11 Mile Rd would need to be constructed also, all the way up to Seeley Rd, which the City wasn't prepared to do. However, Seeley Rd rehabilitation is in the CIP for FY 2027-28 with plans to add sidewalk on one side of Seeley Rd, so we could combine the I-275 connection with that project. The committee continued discussing the details of the connection and other pathways in the vicinity.

For the next item on the agenda, communications, Mayor Fischer brought up a resident request for sidewalks on the east side of Taft Road (between 10 and 11 Mile Roads) and asked staff to write a memo outlining the difficulties, since there are a lot of people on that side of the road that might use a sidewalk to get to the schools in the area. The committee discussed future meeting topics and dates, with the next meeting date set to Thursday, October 9th.

REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items to review.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn. The motion was seconded. The meeting adjourned at 6:43pm.