

Community Leaders Meeting

Rethinking I-94 Phase 2

April 27, 2021

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Policy Advisory Committee Recap
3. Updates
4. Future Community Leaders Reporting
5. Next Steps

Policy Advisory Committee Recap

Policy Advisory Committee April 9, 2021

- What is Rethinking I-94
 - What does Rethinking I-94 mean to you?
 - What does Rethinking I-94 mean to your constituents?
 - What are the top three priorities?
 - How would you/your constituents characterize the challenges along the facility?
 - How should the economic needs, people's need for movement and Livability be addressed?

Policy Advisory Committee Recap

Policy Advisory Committee April 9, 2021

- Discussion
 - Engagement
 - Larger community
 - Alternatives
 - Construction opportunity
 - Economic

Study Status Update and Look Ahead

Status Update: Policy Advisory Committee

Study Status Update and Look Ahead

Status Update: Livability

What is Livability?

- ***Livability*** is using the quality, location, and type of transportation facilities and services available to help achieve broader community goals.

Why Livability is a matter for MnDOT

People in communities:

- 🌳 Are interested in issues beyond the highway.
- 🌳 Value involvement early and continuously and need accurate, timely information.
- 🌳 Want their values and visions to be reflected in MnDOT project designs and decisions.

Why Livability is a matter for MnDOT

- ✓ MnDOT Goals statement calls for meeting the needs of businesses and residents of Minnesota through transportation
- ✓ Transportation moves people and the economy. It contributes to folks' ability to enjoy, prosper and use the resources that make Minnesota a place for folks to come.
- ✓ Partnerships with stakeholders is how MnDOT achieves successful outcomes. MnDOT sees success as a two way flow. MnDOT can also contribute to the success of its partners and stakeholders.

Livability Workshops

- Workshops are organized around the pillars of Livability Framework
 - Connections
 - Economic Vitality
 - Equity
 - Public Health and the Environment
 - Safety
 - Sense of Place
 - Trust

Uses of Livability Workshops and Papers

- Serve as resource for project managers and engagement folks
- Continues or fosters discusses among stakeholders on how to collaborate for achieving the shared vision
- Supports MnDOT role as a facilitator
- Provides recommendations for stakeholders, government partners, and community.

Workshops conducted through March

- Workshop # 1 Overview – Review concept, gain an understanding of Community Leaders point of view, set the stage for the rest of the workshops
- Workshop #2 Economic Vitality – Reviewed concept, conducted polling exercise to obtain data on what Community Leaders viewed as part of the concept, discussions in small groups about how to achieve, how to measure and what is evidence of Economic Vitality
- Workshop #3 Sense of Place – Reviewed concept, conducted Mentimeter exercise on What is Sense of Place, where have you experienced sense of place, small group discussions around how to achieve, examples and what could the paper include.

- Highlights from discussions
 - Need to continue emphasis on reduction of vehicular trips
 - Not only for people related travel but also consideration of the role of freight traffic on the corridor
 - Dissatisfied with MnDOT to separate environmental process and Livability
 - Increase invest in transit
 - Community based organizations focus in on specific local matters associated with restorative actions

- Highlights from discussions
 - Clarity is needed on how input from the community will influence decisions.
 - Commuters should be able to see the neighborhood from the roadway (Similar to less populated areas)
 - Need to use language that is consistent with the neighborhood's norms and standards
 - MnDOT needs to improve project selections while enhancing community's information sharing and education

Economic Vitality Workshop Summary

- Highlights of breakout sessions
 - Healthy sustainable economy is where there are small businesses owned by and serving the local community
 - Use of the 15 minute City model for planning decisions
 - People over profit
 - Keep wealth in the community
 - Integrate climate action into economic growth to ensure no further harm

Key Takeaways of “Sense of Place” Workshop

- Improving a community’s visual quality and aesthetic appearance
- Assuring and embracing multi-cultural aspects of a community through “sense of place” measures
- Restoring the community’s “economic engines” through creating small business opportunities
- Use the right a way by acknowledging and describing a community for its’ visitors

Key Takeaways of “Sense of Place” Workshop

- Reducing emissions to improve air quality and which will improve physical and mental health
- Improving the community’s walkability and other multimodal use
- Figuring how to use right-of-way to build towards a more sustainable future

Workshops timeline

- Conducted on a monthly basis thru September 2021
 - Summary that informs the draft Livability Paper on the topic
 - Draft Papers to be presented to the Rethinking I-94 Committees
 - Provide information for consideration in alternatives development activities

Timeline

Livability Workshop Schedule

- 1 Jan 2021: Workshop #1, Livability Overview
- 2 February 25, 2021: Workshop #2, Economic Vitality 
- 3 March 2021: Workshop #3, Sense of Place 
- 4 April 2021: Workshop #4, Equity 
- 5 May 2021: Workshop #5, Connectivity 
- 6 June 2021: Workshop #6, Public Health and Environment 
- 7 July/August 2021: Workshop #7, Trust 
- 8 August/September 2021: Workshop #8, Safety
- 9 Livability Papers Help Guide I-94 Project Scoping Fall, 2021

Rethinking I94 Engagement Schedule

2021 Engagement

- Q1 Public document review
- Public document review Q2
- Q3 Public document review
- Public document review and hearing Q4

2022 Engagement

- Q1 Public document review and hearing
- Public document review and hearing (Tier 1 Final Environmental Impact Statement / Record of Decision) Q2
- Q3 Public document review and hearing (Tier 1 Final Environmental Impact Statement / Record of Decision)
- Public document review and hearing (Tier 1 Final Environmental Impact Statement / Record of Decision) Q4

2023 Engagement

Final approval and transition to phased projects

- April 29, 2021 workshop – Safety
- Continue to prepare draft documents
- Continue to provide updates to the Planning and Policy Committee, the Technical Advisory Committee, MnDOT internal groups and the Policy Advisory Committee

Discussion!

Study Status Update and Look Ahead

Status Update: NEPA/MEPA

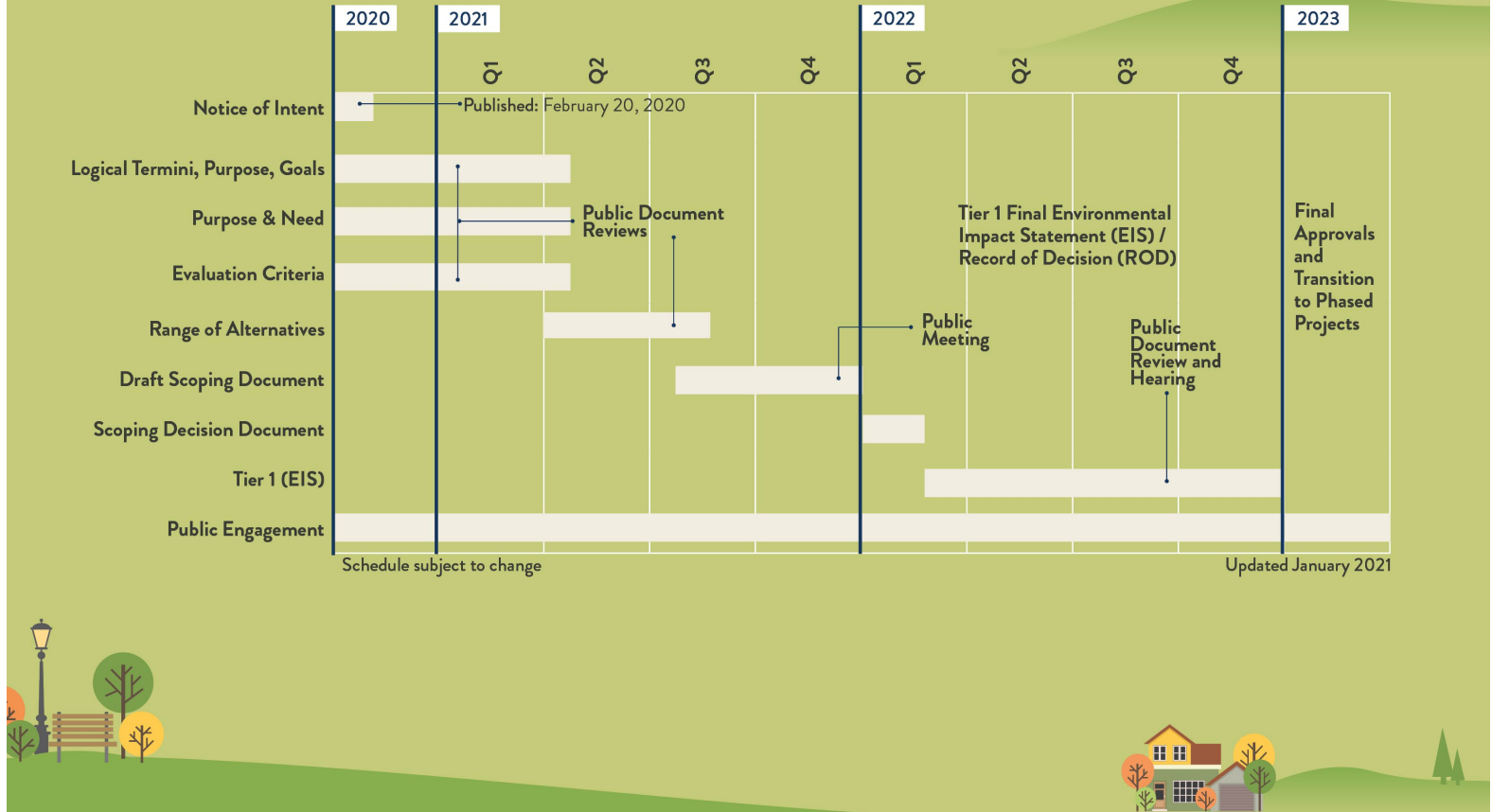
Study Status Update and Look Ahead

Status Update: Public Involvement

Study Status Update and Look Ahead

Schedule

RETHINKING I-94 PHASE 2



Future Community Leader Reporting

- PAC discussion – engagement goes beyond MnDOT
- Proposal: written update to PAC on both project engagement and I-94 related engagement by community leaders

Future Community Leader Reporting

- Community Leader roles
 - Exchange of information among group
 - Assist MnDOT in identifying engagement and communication opportunities
 - Beta test engagement and communications materials
 - Provide feedback to MnDOT

Future Community Leader Reporting

- Objective
 - Provide PAC members information on what is occurring along the project corridor
 - MnDOT's public engagement efforts
 - Community Leader's organizational efforts re: Rethinking I-94

Next Steps

Next Community Leaders Meeting: 05/25/2021

Time: 10:00 AM