Kingfield Bike + Pedestrian + Safe Streets Community Conversation
Saturday, Dec. 14
1:00-2:30pm: MLK Park

Welcome and intros: Name, connection to Kingfield

What brought you to this community conversation today?
- Vested interested in the safety of neighborhood
- Safer streets for pedestrians and bikers
- 1st Avenue
- Concerned about connections to schools, parks, greenway, downtown, east (crossing Nicollet & 35W) // west (Lyndale)
- Support the larger biking and walking movement
- Consistent and unified voice
- Influence reconstruction projects
- Concerned about kids’ safety

Background of why we called the meeting:
- Observe unsafe conditions in the neighborhood
- Several constructions projects happening in neighborhood and impacts of 35W construction
- Hoping this group can be solutions oriented and work on both the big picture vision as well as individual projects and create space and place to bring issues to
- Pet Peeve (1 person’s problem) vs. Problem (people on board ready to act) vs. Issue (solutions-based, focuses on positive community change, winnable, democratically chosen, builds power and base, creates unity among base)
- Issue example: “We want _____ (who) to _____ (demand/request) by _____ (date).”

Examples of Current/Potential Projects:
- Grand Avenue Reconstruction
- 1st Avenue Mill+Overly
- 38th Street Thrive Project
- Future/Potential Bike Lanes
- Safety/Crossings on Nicollet Avenue
- Safety/Crossings on Lyndale Avenue
- Wayfinding + Placemaking Projects
- General walking/pedestrian improvements
- “Paint the Pavement” program
- Transit access + improvements
Small group discussion:

Question 1: What’s your vision for this group? What do you want this group to be? What do you want this group to work on?

- Build coalition and relationships
  - Work with existing organizations on bike/ped issues
  - Build connections with other similar neighborhood groups
  - Work with other organizations/neighborhoods (Our Streets Minneapolis, Safe Streets Save Lives, Whittier Alliance, Lyndale Neighborhood Organization)
- Build power
  - Build critical mass to develop a culture of sustainable transportation
  - Build strength in numbers
  - Build power of this group
  - Build the leadership of people in this group
- Ways to Increase pedestrian and bike safety
  - Protected intersections
  - Parking protected lane on Nicolett/1st Ave.
  - Winter accessibility and maintenance of infrastructure: bike & pedestrian, bus stops, side streets
  - Define minimum safety standards
  - Reduce speed limits
  - Routes for vulnerable populations (kids, seniors, disabled)
  - Safer county roads and crossings
- How we will work:
  - Come up with issues to work on and bring to city
  - Identify goals
  - Use consensus building
  - Define limits: choose scope of projects and identify how much influence we can have
  - Provide guidance to community members on how to act/what issues to call attention to
  - Be best in class in terms of advocacy in engagement
  - Create real and meaningful changes in our neighborhood and city at large while setting the standard for other similar groups
  - Spread good ideas to other neighborhoods
  - Be a welcoming and inclusive group and honor the diverse perspectives and experiences in this group
- Encourage different kinds of transportation
- Communication: Help disseminate fragmented information

Question 2: What strategies do you have for getting this work done?

- Communication
Conduit for communication for all bike/ped initiatives/groups available
- Communicate how these issues affect us
- More transparent communication between planners and this group
- Pick a platform for communication

**Build relationships and coalition**
- Build coalitions
- Develop relationships
- Support other groups
- Identify who has the same goals and who is working on same kinds of projects
- Engage the people who are impacted
- Identify allies to maximize our voice
- Identify leaders on issue, support their efforts, join forces with others
- View public works and city as allies
- Find the right person to achieve solutions

**Education**
- Understand why current plans are in place (ex: road dividers, traffic diverters)
- Gain better sense of tools available

**Alignment**
- Align smaller asks under pillars of bigger initiatives (ex: Vision Zero, Climate Action Plans, etc.)
- Time issues to coincide with budgets

**Approach**
- Develop action steps and plan and engage stakeholders
- Use our voices and storytelling
- Use both qualitative and quantitative data (ex: counts)
- Sustain pressure
- Determining when to be patience and when to have sense of urgency and when confrontation is the right approach vs. strategic/partnering approach

**Question 3: What skills/knowledge/experience/connections do you want to bring to this table?**

**Technical**
- Urban planning
- Transportation planning
- Civil engineering
- Data analysis, statistics, and excel
- Bike mechanic
- School crossing guard
- Experience year-round commuting
- Ideating and brainstorming with purpose
- Fundraising and grant writing

**Relationships/connections:**
Safe Routes to School
Connections to Minneapolis Public Schools
Connections to youth and parents and knowledge of their concerns
Representative from City of Minneapolis: Bike Advisory Committee
Our Streets Minneapolis former board member and connections to current staff
KFNA board of directors

- Administrative
  - Note taking
  - Organization
  - Facilitation

- Communication
  - Web development and tech
  - Video editing
  - Social media
  - Telling story
  - Public speaking and presentation skills

- Advocacy/organizing:
  - Talking with city leaders 1:1
  - Making public comments and testifying
  - Showing up
  - Business engagement
  - Community organizing training
  - Doorknocking
  - Experience encouraging others to walk and bike
  - Writing/calling/meeting with elected officials

- Cookie baking skills!!!

What are our next steps?
- Send out notes and info on current neighborhood projects to attendees and those that expressed interest
- Send out availability poll for meeting after new year (consensus is that Saturdays at MLK Park work well)
- Begin list of potential projects for all to add to
- Try to create a map of all of the projects going on in Kingfield