

## *Transportation Committee Biographies*

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### **James Barton**

Jim is a resident in the Cathedral Hill Neighborhood. He is retired from the Metropolitan Council as a senior transportation planner. As a transportation planner he carried out a broad range of special projects and policy implementation assignments in commuter rail, freight movement planning, federal regional air quality compliance and the regional disbursement process of federal transportation funds. He has a strong interest coordinating the land use/transportation relationships in a manner that supports adopted city development strategies. While at the Metropolitan Council, Jim coordinated the publication of its Transit Oriented Development Guidebook, an advisory publication intended to promote transit supportive development along transit corridors. He has taught urban design courses at the U of M School design as an adjunct instructor. The courses explored the land use-transportation connections needed to promote more sustainable development.

### **Christopher Bineham**

Christopher R. Bineham is the Program Manager of HOURCAR, the Twin Cities' local, non-profit car sharing organization, a position he has held since May 2009. Prior to that he served in other positions at HOURCAR's parent organization, the Neighborhood Energy Connection. Christopher represents HOURCAR in the international Car Sharing Association and was part of the HOURCAR team that won the 2011 Mosaic Social Entrepreneur's Cup. He is an avid bicyclist and pedestrian, and a regular transit user.

### **Amber Dallman**

Amber has a Master's in Public Health from the University of Minnesota and specializes in physical activity promotion. She works with communities throughout Minnesota using evidence-based strategies to make the walking and bicycling the easy and healthy choice. In her free time, Amber ruminates over ways to integrate physical activity into her daily routine. Her latest strategy is to walk or bike her son nearly two miles to daycare while on her way to work in downtown Saint Paul.

### **Pat Duffy**

Pat Duffy is a New Truck Sales Manager at Rihm Kenworth on University Avenue. He has worked for Rihm Kenworth since 1984, serving in a number of different roles to include parts management and now sales management. He is also a member of the Minnesota Trucking Association's Board of Directors. Pat grew up in a railroad family, owns a bike and a motorized scooter, and enjoys transportation.

### **Ian Houmas**

Ian Houmas was born and raised in Philadelphia, attending high school on the South Shore of Lake Superior in Wisconsin. With a background in utilities, he now runs Midway Green and Granite with his partner, Kenyatta Arradondo. Ian is a proud father of three budding actors and musicians, and has lived on the East side for 21 years since attending the U of M. Because the stability and future of his neighborhood and of our planet are ultimately important, Ian organized the non-profit, Adonis Eco-Housing, with a mission to turn blighted buildings into affordable, sustainable homes using components such as solar power and urban wind.

### **William Lindeke**

Bill Lindeke is a PhD candidate at the University of Minnesota Department of Geography, working on bicycle transportation, urban planning, and public space. He has taught classes on the history of public

space in US cities, global cities, and biogeography. He works with Streets.mn (a local planning and urbanism website), Civic/Media-Minnesota (a local public affairs media organization), and KFAI radio. Bill has an avid interest in jazz and baroque music and baseball ritual, and is the sole proprietor of the Twin City Sidewalks website, named one of the Twin Cities' top 11 blogs by WCCO. He was born in Minneapolis and grew up in Mendota Heights. He has lived in St. Paul's North End since 2004.

### **Christopher Ochs**

Christopher Ochs is a twenty-one year resident of Ward 1 Saint Paul where he and his wife are raising their young family of four children. He is an award-winning landscape designer with Windsor Companies; holds a Bachelors degree in Environmental Design, two Master degrees from the University of Minnesota in Landscape Architecture and Urban & Regional Planning; and has served the Dist 8 Planning Council, Selby Area CDC, and the American Society of Landscape Architects. Chris is well traveled and draws a considerable amount of geographical and cultural experiences from visiting or residing in bustling cities and rural villages across the globe. He hopes his experience and sense of community will contribute to the wellbeing of the City of Saint Paul.

### **Bob Spaulding**

Bob Spaulding first became aware of the impact of urban planning decisions when I-394 was planned and built a block from his childhood home. As Executive Director of the Macalester-Groveland Community Council, he closely watched the successful resolution around the much-debated expansion of the University of St. Thomas along Summit Avenue, and was inspired by the potential in community-based planning. For the last dozen years he's lived in downtown St. Paul with his wife Becky, and now his young son Tate. He's served on the board of downtown's CapitolRiver District Council, and been part of the Riverfront Corporation Adjunct Team. He co-chaired a Planning Commission Task Force on the future of his Fitzgerald (aka Pedro) Park neighborhood on downtown St. Paul's northern perimeter. Bob currently chairs the Commission's Transportation Committee. He holds a Master's in Urban and Regional Planning, and works at Friends of the Mississippi River in St. Paul.

### **Barb Thoman**

Barb Thoman lives in Merriam Park and she has been a resident of Saint Paul for more than 25 years. Thoman co-founded Transit for Livable Communities in 1996 and has served in a number of capacities within the organization. She became TLC's executive director in 2010. Before starting TLC, Thoman worked for a decade the field of solid and hazardous waste management where she was employed by the State of Minnesota, the State of California, and Winona County, Minnesota. Thoman has a BA in finance from Michigan State University.

### **Jessica Treat**

Jessica is passionate about how transportation shapes the quality of life in St. Paul and the Twin Cities Region. Growing up in Bloomington and studying civil engineering as an undergraduate in Tempe, Arizona planted seeds of discontent with the sprawling nature of suburban development in America. Post undergrad travels in Europe and her time as a Peace Corps volunteer in West Africa taught her two valuable lessons: that suburban sprawl isn't the only option and that grassroots activism can effect change. Equipped with these lessons she earned a Master's in City and Regional Planning in Chapel Hill, North Carolina and then finally returned home to the Twin Cities to put her passion to work. She served as the director of the Lexington-Hamline Community Council when major development projects like the Wilder headquarters, Carty Heights and the Super Target were proposed. Lex-Ham was part of a broad coalition that fought to incorporate Transit Oriented Development principles into these developments. This work led her to the Midway Transportation Management Organization where she served as a program director. She later oversaw a merger between the Midway and downtown St. Paul TMOs to

become St. Paul Smart Trips where she has served as director since 2008. Jessica lives a car-free life in the Midway with her husband and young daughter.

### **Jun-Li Wang**

Jun-Li Wang is a connector of people, places and ideas. As Artist Community Organizer at Springboard for the Arts, she creates and delivers programs that organize and empower artists, build reciprocal relationships between communities and their artists, and train artists to address community interests – locally, regionally and nationally. Jun-Li has extensive local and international experience in asset-based community development, neighborhood leadership, and training. Jun-Li worked in China for 5 years for several international non-profits including The Asia Foundation and Project HOPE before returning to obtain a MPS in International Development from Cornell University. Prior to joining Springboard, she has worked for Farm in the City, Hamline Midway Coalition, Intermedia Arts, and Public Art Saint Paul. On occasion, she sells her textile craft art in local stores. Jun-Li also manages Paint the Pavement and is active on the board of Urban Boatbuilders, a metro non-profit serving at-risk youth.

### **Walter “Wally” Waranka**

Walter has been an Employment Consultant at Lifetrack Resources for fifteen years, and helps people with disabilities and recipients of welfare to find and keep employment. He has been a past member of the State Services for the Blind Rehabilitation Council, the Minnesota Chapter for the American Council of the Blind, the Minnesota Job Placement and Development, and the Minnesota Rehabilitation Association. Walter also served as past President and Board member of both the Mayor’s Advisory Council for People with Disabilities and the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council. Currently, Walter is serving as a member of the Task Force Committee for Indian Mounds Park and the Transportation Committee, and resides on the East Side.