



Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Public Works

Date: February 26, 2013

To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

Subject: **Mississippi River Trail**

Recommendation:

Passage of a resolution to express approval and support for the development of the Mississippi River Trail (USBR 45).

Previous Directives:

No previous directives

Prepared by: Simon Blenski, Traffic and Parking Services, 612-333-1274

Approved by:

Steven A. Kotke, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

Presenters: None

Reviews:	Permanent Review Committee (PRC):	Not Applicable
	Civil Rights Affirmative Action Plan:	Not Applicable
	Policy Review Group (PRG):	Not Applicable

Financial Impact

No budget impact

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification: No

City Goals:

- Livable Communities, Healthy Lives – Active lifestyles, walkable, bikeable, swimmable
- A City that Works – Streets, bridges, sidewalks, sewers, bike lanes & paths – well managed and well maintained

Comprehensive Plan: NA

Zoning Code: NA

Background

Project Background

When complete, the Mississippi River Trail, or United States Bike Route 45 (USBR 45), will be a 600 mile route running from the headwaters of the Mississippi River to the Gulf of Mexico. The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT) is the local agency leading the implementation of USBR 45 in Minnesota. MNDOT has convened several public meetings since 2011 both locally and throughout the corridor to gather information, review route alternatives and to provide local planning assistance.

The proposed Minneapolis section of USBR 45 will follow existing on and off-street bikeways and Mississippi River Trail wayfinding signage will be used to bridge short gaps and guide bicyclists along the route. A map of USBR 45 and the proposed Minneapolis route can be found in Attachment A.

As part of the development of the trail, MNDOT has requested local agencies adopt resolutions expressing approval and support for the trail. Resolutions are being passed by other local agencies such as Hennepin County and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. Public Works has reviewed the proposed route and determined it to be a suitable route through Minneapolis. With passage of this resolution, the City of Minneapolis will commit to responsibility for maintaining signs located along the Minneapolis portion of the route. Once appropriately mapped and signed, USBR 45 has the potential to promote bicycle tourism locally and throughout Minnesota along the Mississippi River.

Recommended Action

The recommended Council action is to pass a resolution to express approval and support for the development of the Mississippi River Trail (USBR 45). The resolution can be found in Attachment B.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Map of USBR 45

Attachment B – MN USBR Resolution