



## Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Public Works

**Date:** January 28, 2014

**To:** Kevin Reich, Chair, Transportation & Public Works Committee

**Subject:** **Temporary Construction Agreement with University of Minnesota for Bridge No. 9 Pier 3 Repairs**

### Recommendation:

Authorize the proper City officials to enter into an agreement with the University of Minnesota regarding construction activities and easements on and in the vicinity of "Bridge Number 9" (a bridge over the Mississippi River).

### Previous Directives:

- December 6, 2013: Temporary Construction Agreement with the University of Minnesota.
- May 22, 2009: Federal fund application submitted (SAFETEA\_LU)

### Department Information:

Prepared by: Meseret Wolana, P.E. Project Engineer 673-3527

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Presenters in Committee: Jack Yuzna, P.E. Bridge Engineer 673-2415

### Financial Impact

No financial impact

### Community Impact

City Goals- Maintain infrastructure

### Supporting Information

Bridge No. 9 is a converted railroad bridge which carries pedestrian and bicycle traffic over the Mississippi River and West River Parkway between the University of Minnesota East and West Bank campuses in Minneapolis.

The bridge was originally constructed as a Northern Pacific Railroad crossing in the late 1880's. Portions of the current bridge date back to this original construction. It was reconstructed by the railroad in 1922. In 1999, the bridge was renovated for pedestrian use, opening for traffic in 2000. The City is the current owner.

The City is currently making repairs to Bridge No. 9 that will require a temporary construction easement from the University of Minnesota.

City staff has been working with the University of Minnesota regarding language for the Temporary Construction Easement. Negotiated language includes accepting liability for causing release of potential pre-existing environmental contamination and indemnification of the University of Minnesota for potential expenses related to the use of the easements area including loss, damage and liability. The vast majority of the excavation will be around pier 3, which is within the city's right of way. City staff does not anticipate contamination, but has a contingency plan in place in the event that existing contamination is found.

City staff further negotiated a series of items with the University of Minnesota that would assist the City and its contractor to facilitate the repair work of Bridge 9, and future repair work to Bridge No. 9.

The City and University agree to finalize, within 12 months, the parties' boundaries and long-term rights in and adjacent to the Bridge #9 right-of-way. This includes the University's rights to continue to use Bridge #9 for their steam line and possibly other future utilities.

The project is federally funded and bridge repair is scheduled for summer 2014. The purpose of this letter is to request proper City officials be authorized to enter an agreement with the University of Minnesota regarding construction activities and easements on and in the vicinity of Bridge 9. There is no cost to either party for the easements.

Attachment: Draft contract with exhibits, Project location map

Cc: CM Cam Gordon, Ward 2

**Reich**

T&PW – Your committee recommends authorizing the proper City officials to enter into an agreement with the University of Minnesota regarding construction activities and easements on and in the vicinity of “Bridge Number 9” (a bridge over the Mississippi River).