



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

**Date:** March 18, 2014

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

**Subject:** **Public Hearing: Ordinance Changes: Amend Title 17, Chapter 427 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Streets and Sidewalks: Boulevards**

### Recommendation:

Consider ordinance amending Title 17, Chapter 427 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Streets and Sidewalks: In General, amend Section 427.10 to allow certain types of vegetation to be grown within boulevards, incorporating safety parameters, and granting the Department of Regulatory Services authority to enforce violations pursuant to established administrative processes.

### Department Information

Prepared by: Douglas C. Gregerson, Sr. Management Analyst, Public Works Admin.

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Steven A. Kotke, Director of Public Works

Presenters in Committee: Douglas C. Gregerson

### Financial

The proposed changes have no financial impact.

**Neighborhood Impact:** Public input will be sought.

**City Goals:** Maintain the physical infrastructure to ensure a healthy, vital and safe city.

### Background / Supporting Information:

Public Works and Regulatory Services have reviewed ordinances that pertain to boulevard ordinances. As a result, Public Works recommends ordinance changes to both clarify the kinds of vegetation allowed in a boulevard and allow the Department of Regulatory Services to enforce violations in the boulevard (Right-Of-Way) using the "safety" portion of the city code (i.e. vegetation that blocks traffic signs). Enforcement will focus on road and boulevard safety rather than on the types of vegetation grown.

Action amends Chapter 427.10 Boulevards:

- (b) clarifies the definition of a boulevard;

- (c) clarifies what types of vegetation are allowed in the boulevard and refers to the existing Code in sections 227.90 and 244.1580. Also, clarifies the boulevard planting of trees by referring to Chapter 10 of the Park and Recreation Board Code of Ordinances.
- (f) Specifically states that the City Engineer is designating that the Department of Regulatory Services shall enforce compliance or any violations in the boulevards in the same procedural manner provided in section 227.100.