



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

Date: September 23, 2014

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

Referrals to: Honorable John Quincy, Chair Ways and Means/Budget Committee

Honorable Cam Gordon, Chair Health, Environment & Community Engagement

Subject: **Subgrant agreement with the Alliance for Metropolitan Stability for proposed North Minneapolis Greenway outreach**

Recommendation:

Authorize the proper City officials to execute up to \$100,000 in subgrant agreements with the Alliance for Metropolitan Stability for outreach related to the North Minneapolis Greenway initiative.

Previous Directives:

- August 6, 2013 – Authorization to accept up to \$405,000 over three years from Blue Cross Blue Shield for planning and community engagement for a proposed north Minneapolis Greenway.

Department Information:

Prepared by: Bill Fellows, Transportation Planning and Engineering
Sarah Stewart, Health Department

Approved by: _____
Steven A. Kotke, P.E., Director of Public Works

Gretchen Musicant, Commissioner Health Department

Presenters in Committee: Bill Fellows, P.E., Sarah Stewart, Health Department

Supporting Information

In 2013 Blue Cross Blue Shield awarded the City \$405,000 for three years to explore the idea of a north Minneapolis greenway. The project is managed jointly by Public Works and the Minneapolis Health Department. Public Works manages the technical aspects and the Health Department manages outreach and community engagement efforts. In the first year of funding, the City, through the Health Department, entered into a subgrant agreement with the Alliance for Metropolitan Stability (the Alliance) for \$43,000 to administer 13 mini-grants with community and neighborhood organizations to conduct community engagement. With the funds, these organizations engaged residents about the idea of a greenway through door knocking, community meetings, and events, and they gathered input from residents via surveys. This subgrant agreement was authorized by the August 6, 2013 Council action.

In the second and third years of funding (2014 and 2015), additional subgrant agreements with the Alliance for community engagement are proposed. The proposed subgrants will total up to \$100,000 (up to \$50,000 per year). The Alliance will support community and neighborhood organizations in outreach efforts that will help inform residents of the results of previous engagement efforts and to follow up with more in-depth engagement around the greenway idea. This more in-depth engagement will address residents' specific preferences and concerns, such as the preferred greenway cross-sections on specific blocks, concerns and ideas about parking, and opinions about assessments. The funds will also allow for engagement of residents living south of Plymouth Avenue, because this area has not yet received targeted engagement.

Public Works and the Health Department request that the Council authorize the proper City officials to execute up to \$100,000 in subgrant agreements with the Alliance for Metropolitan Stability for outreach related to the North Minneapolis Greenway initiative.

cc: Council Member Barbara Johnson, Ward 4
Council Member Blong Yang, Ward 5
Gary Winter, Attorney