



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

Date: October 21, 2014
To: Honorable Kevin Reich, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee
Subject: **Walking Routes for Youth Map Release**

Recommendation: Receive and file

Previous Directives:

May 9, 2014 – Safe Routes to School Program Update, Receive and File

Oct 25, 2011 – Authorize the proper City Officials to execute agreements with the State of Minnesota for the Preliminary Engineering associated with Safe Routes to School Projects S.P. 141-591-005 and 141-591-006; M.P SRTS 2710 (138) and SRTS 2710 (139)

Department Information:

Prepared by: Forrest Hardy, Safe Routes for Youth & Seniors Planner

Approved by: _____

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

Presenters in Committee: Forrest Hardy, Safe Routes for Youth & Seniors Planner

Supporting Information

In 2009, the City of Minneapolis was awarded federal funding for a school route mapping pilot. At this time Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) was developing "Active Routes to School" maps for many of its sites. In 2012, the City's efforts were reallocated to the Bicycle & Pedestrian Section of Public Works. Initial meetings were held with staff at MPS where it was determined the mapping efforts of these two agencies would be consolidated into the City's project. The Minneapolis Walking Routes for Youth Map was developed over the past two years with input from parents, students, MPS staff including Julie Danzl and Jenny Bordon, the 4th Precinct CARE Task Force, officers from the Minneapolis Police Department, staff at Minneapolis Public Works and Hedberg Maps Inc. and members of many of the city's neighborhood organizations.

The routes contained within the map are meant to encourage students and families to walk to schools, parks, libraries and other neighborhood destinations. The routes can also serve as a planning tool for allocating school pedestrian enhancement dollars. The back side contains relevant information for users in an energetic graphic style.

The maps began distribution during Walk to School Day events on October 8, 2014. They are available in four languages: English, Spanish, Somali and Hmong. Digital versions of the map will be available at <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/publicworks/saferoutes> and a mobile version will let users track their current location on the map via smartphone. All versions of the map are free of charge.

Attachment

Walking Routes for Youth Map – Front/Back