



## Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Community Planning & Economic Development

**Date:** December 1, 2014

**To:** The Honorable Council Member John Quincy, Chair, Ways and Means Budget Committee

**Subject:** Cooperative funding agreement between Hennepin County and the City of Minneapolis for land use planning activities in the Penn Avenue North corridor (extending from Interstate 394 on the south to 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and Osseo Road on the north).

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the City Council authorize staff to enter into an agreement with Hennepin County to provide the City's contribution for multijurisdictional coordination of land use planning on the Penn Avenue North corridor.

**Previous Directives:** The City Council approved Resolution 2012-R-346 on June 15, 2012, supporting the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for the Bottineau Transitway Project. This resolution stated that the City of Minneapolis would work with Hennepin County and the Metropolitan Council to pursue enhanced transit service, economic development and livability in North Minneapolis including the creation of a Community Works project for Penn Avenue North.

### Department Information

Prepared by: Jim Voll, Principal City Planner, Phone 612-673-3887

Approved by: Kjersti Monson, Director Long-Range Planning

Presenter in Committee: Jim Voll, Principal City Planner

### Financial Impact

- Action is within current department budget. No additional funds need to be encumbered.

### Community Impact

- Neighborhood Notification – Not Applicable
- City Goals: Living well, One Minneapolis, A hub of economic activity, Great Places and A City that works.
- Sustainability Targets – Not Applicable
- Comprehensive Plan: The final land use plan will be reviewed and approved by City staff, the City Planning Commission, and the City Council.

- Zoning Code: The adopted land use plan will recommend policy that may prompt changes to the zoning code. Individual projects will still be subject to, and reviewed for compliance with the zoning code.

## **Supporting Information**

The purpose of this request is to allow City staff to enter into an agreement with Hennepin County Community Works staff to allow for the transfer of \$50,000 from the current CPED Long-Range Planning budget (currently allocated for northside planning activities) to the Penn Avenue Community Works Project to support land use planning activities within the project.

The Hennepin County Board of Commissioners established the Penn Avenue Community Works program in May 2012 to stimulate economic development, beautification, livability and job creation along the Penn Avenue corridor in North Minneapolis. It stated the following goals:

- Re-envision Penn Avenue as a complete street with better bus service, pedestrian improvements, and improved streetscaping.
- Promote economic opportunity and stimulate private investment by improving the street and public places, attracting housing and commercial development, and supporting existing businesses and attracting new ones.
- Enhanced livability through making better connections to key destinations, improving public places, and supporting activities that encourage community gathering and ownership.

Hennepin County budgeted \$750,000 for 2013-14 Penn Avenue Community Works project. While the program budget is not defined for beyond 2014, Community Works programs are typically long-term commitments that include significant investment from multiple sources (in the past there has been a wide-range of amounts—everything from \$1 million to \$10 million and more).

Metro Transit is contributing an additional \$170,000 for studying Arterial BRT on the corridor as a part of the Community Works project.

Specific land use planning activities are estimated to cost between \$50,000 and \$75,000. The City of Minneapolis contribution of \$50,000 will be applied to the land use planning activities of the Community Works project.

Penn Avenue North is a major Community Corridor with five Neighborhood Commercial Nodes at 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Lowry Avenue North, West Broadway, Plymouth Avenue North, and Cedar Lake Road. It also connects with the proposed Bottineau LRT and Southwest LRT stations at Hwy 55 and just south of I-394.

The land use planning portion of the plan will look at appropriate density for the residential parts of the corridor and will provide economic development strategies for the commercial nodes. It will also address other important factors such as urban design, public realm enhancements, stormwater management, and development opportunities. The plan will refine the existing policies in the Minneapolis Plan for Sustainable Growth, the Bryn Mawr Plan, West Broadway Alive, and the Lowry Avenue Strategic plan.

The end product will provide Minneapolis with:

- A conceptual road layout that will be compatible with Arterial BRT improvements.
- A land use plan and map in a form adoptable by the City of Minneapolis. The plan will address urban design, public realm enhancements, development opportunities and intensity, stormwater management, and housing and economic development.
- An implementation strategy for the corridor.

A more detailed description of the scope of services is attached.

The draft cooperative funding agreement has been reviewed by the City and County attorney and they have deemed it practicable.

**Attachments:**

1. Draft Cooperative Funding Agreement
2. Scope of Services

