



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

Date: March 3, 2015

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

Subject: **6th Avenue North (5th Street to dead end north of Washington) Paving Project No 6699**

Recommendation:

- A. Approve the attached project layout for reconstruction of 6th Avenue North from 5th Street to the dead end north of Washington Avenue.
- B. Authorize Public Works to negotiate with private property owners to acquire and execute easements and additional right-of-way, if necessary.

Previous Directives:

- July 1, 2011 – Council adoption of TP&W report authorizing proper city officers to submit a series of applications for Federal SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users) funds passed through the state.

Department Information:

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Don Elwood, P.E., Director, Transportation Planning & Engineering, 673-3622
Heidi Hamilton, P.E., Deputy Director, Public

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

Presenters in Committee: Lee Mann, P.E. Project Manager
Jeff Handeland, P.E., Principal Professional Engineer TP&E

Financial Impact

- The project needs an additional \$800,000 in net debt bonds or municipal state aid funds, which will be proposed as part of the 2016-2020 CIP process

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification

- Minneapolis Warehouse District Historic District Design Guidelines and Warehouse District Heritage Street Plan completed in February 2010 and September 2011, respectively.
- Meeting with the North Loop Neighborhood Association – September 2014.
- Two Neighborhood public informational meetings - 10/6/2014 and 1/21/2015
- PAC meeting and presentation – 1/15/2015
- Meetings with business owners, September 2014 through January 2015

City Goals

- Living well: Minneapolis is safe and livable and has an active and connected way of life.
- A hub of economic activity and innovation: Business – big and small – start, move, stay and grow here.
- Great Places: Natural and built spaces work together and our environment is protected.

Supporting Information

Background

In 2011, the City applied for and received \$1 million in Federal Transportation Enhancement funding to reconstruct 6th Ave North by reusing the vitrified clay pavers and preserving the existing loading docks for that portion of the roadway located within the Warehouse Heritage Preservation District. Also in 2011, CPED completed the development of a Warehouse District Heritage Street Plan, which provides design guidelines for streets located within the Warehouse Heritage Preservation District. The plan has been approved by the Heritage Preservation Commission but it has not been brought forward for Council approval.

Scope

The proposed project scope consists of the reconstruction of 6th Avenue North from 5th Street North to 200-feet north of Washington Avenue. The proposed layout is based on the Warehouse District Heritage Street Plan. Constructing this street consistent with the Heritage Street Plan will add an additional \$1.8 million to the cost of the project beyond what a standard street would cost. Federal funding will cover \$1 million of this added cost.

The project will include preserving the historic vitrified clay paver brick surface from 4th Street North to Washington Avenue and protecting the loading docks within the historic district. The project will also include new ADA compliant sidewalks and curb ramps, new curb and gutter, new asphalt pavement (outside of the historic district), signing, traffic signal modifications, landscaping, and stormwater management enhancements. A new City street lighting system is also included in the project unless the adjacent property owners opt out through the petition process. If the property owners opt out, then the existing wood pole lighting will remain.

The street was last constructed in 1926 with brick street pavers and over time there has been extensive asphalt patching of the pavement surface. The average daily traffic volume averages 5,100 between 5th Street and Washington Avenue. The street is in very poor condition. There is also a lack of an accessible ADA compliant pedestrian walkway. The right-of-way for 6th Avenue North is 80-feet wide and the existing design varies from block-to-block with a nominal street width of 50-feet.

The proposed reconstruction will narrow the roadway and result in modified parking configurations. The reconstructed 6th Avenue North will carry two-way traffic. Currently, there is a mix of no-parking, parallel parking, and angled parking, including areas with restricted parking at certain times of the day. The proposed driving lane widths are 11-feet with adjacent 8-foot wide parallel parking areas. Curb extensions (bump outs) are proposed at select locations. Sidewalks in the project area will be a minimum of 8-feet wide.

Landscaping is proposed for the south end of the project as originally planned in the Warehouse District Heritage Street Plan, in the non-historically designated area from the alley south of 3rd Street to 5th Street.

Public Works has met with property and business owners and other stakeholders, including the Pedestrian Advisory Committee and the North Loop Neighborhood Association to gather feedback on the project.

Maintenance

In funding the street reconstruction with federal dollars, the city is committing to maintaining the street, including the pavers, for a minimum of twenty years. The brick pavers will require extraordinary maintenance and care as compared to bituminous or concrete roadways, including provision for appropriate restoration for utility excavations. It is expected to cost more to maintain, although specific costs are difficult to estimate.

Schedule

The final design for the 6th Avenue North project is scheduled to be complete in June of 2015. The construction of this project is scheduled for 2016.

Next Steps

At a future meeting, staff will return to this committee to set an assessment public hearing.

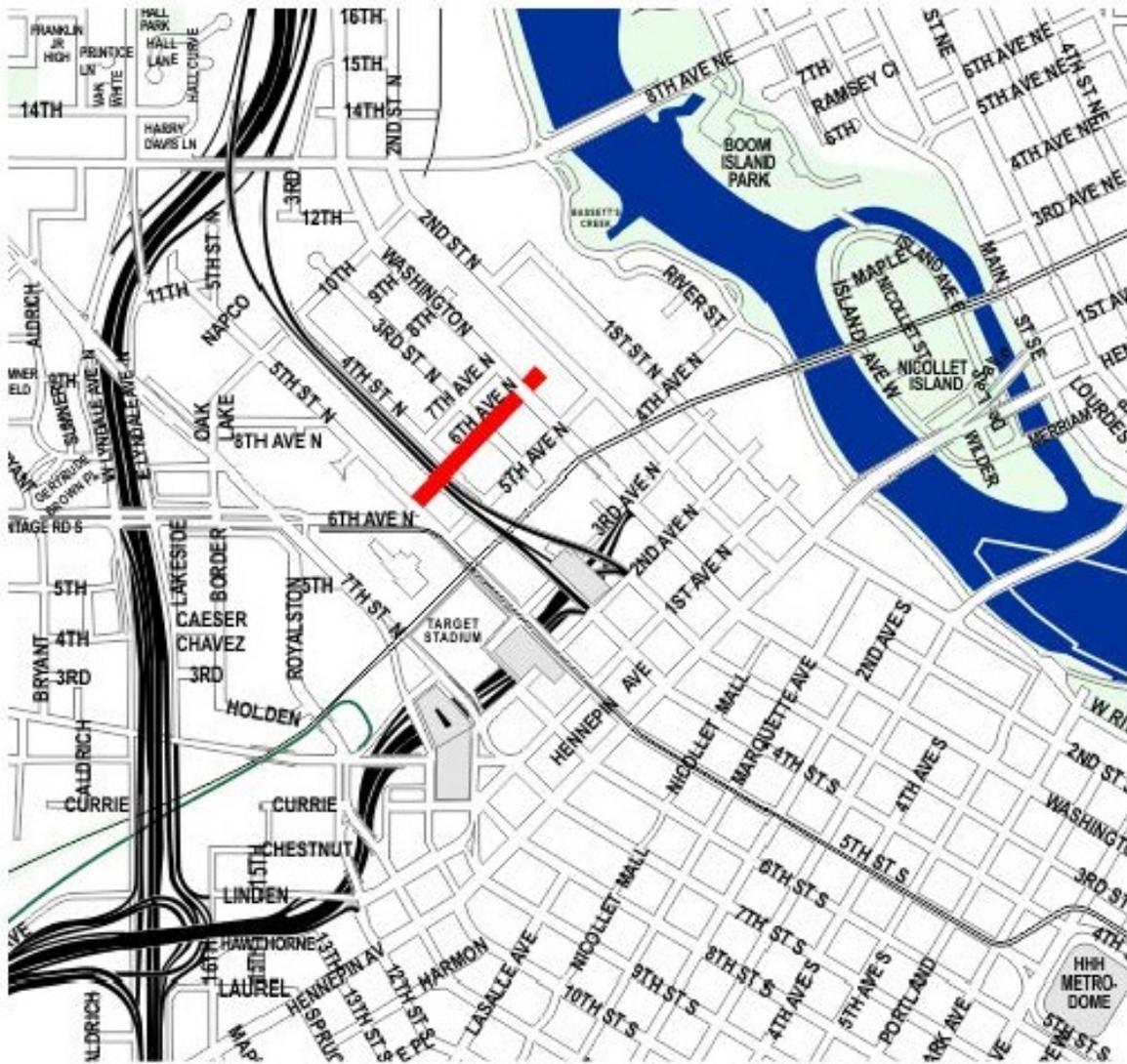
Attachment 1- Map

Attachment 2 – Proposed Layout

cc: Council Member Frey – Ward 3
Council Member Yang – Ward 5

ATTACHMENT 1

PROJECT MAP



 Project



RESOLUTION

T&PW - Your Committee, having under consideration the 6th Ave North Paving Project No. 6699 (from 5th Street to the dead end north of Washington Avenue), now recommends:

- a) Approval of the project layout as set forth in Petition No _____;
- b) That the proper City officers be authorized to negotiate with private property owners to acquire and execute additional easements and additional right-of-way, if needed.