



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

Date: September 16, 2008

To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

Referral To: Paul Ostrow, Chair Ways & Means Committee

Subject: **Chicago Avenue South (8th Street to 28th Street) Layout Approval and Enter into Agreement with Children's Hospital for the installation, operation and maintenance of an actuated pedestrian crosswalk flasher system.**

Recommendation:

- a. Approve the project layout of Chicago Av S from 8th Street to 25th Street and 26th Street to 28th Street
- b. Passage of a Resolution authorizing City Staff to negotiate with property owners to acquire permanent road right-of-way easements.
- c. Increase the appropriation for the PW-Transportation Capital Agency in the Permanent Improvement Fund (4100-901000) by \$25,000 and increase the revenue source 372001 by \$25,000 to be reimbursed by Children's Hospital.
- d. Authorize the proper City Officials to execute an Agreement with Children's Hospital for the installation, operation and maintenance of an actuated pedestrian flasher system.

Previous Directives:

- April 4, 2008, Council adopted Resolution 2008R-127 amending the 2008 Capital Improvement Appropriation Resolution to include funds for the reconstruction of Chicago Ave. (25th St E to 26th St E);
- April 4, 2008, Council adopted Resolution 2008R-128 requesting the Board of Estimate & Taxation for reallocation of Net Debt Bonds;
- April 4, 2008, Council adopted Resolution 2008R-129 designating the Chicago Ave. street improvement project (25th St. E to 26th St. E).
- May 2, 2008, Council adopted Resolution 2008R-172 ordering the work to proceed and adopting special assessments for the 2500 block of Chicago Ave
- May 2, 2008, Council adopted Resolution 2008R-173 requesting the sale of assessment bonds for the reconstruction of the 2500 block of Chicago Ave.
- May 2, 2008, Council adopted Resolution 2008R-174 ordering the City Engineer to install parking restrictions along the 2500 block of Chicago Ave

Prepared by: Ole Mersinger, P.E., Project Engineer, Transportation Planning and Engineering
673-3537
Steve Mosing, P.E., Traffic and Parking Services

Approved by:

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

Presenters in Committee: Ole Mersinger, P.E., Project Engineer, Transportation Planning and Engineering

Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC):	Approval	NA	Date
Civil Rights Affirmative Action Plan	Approval	NA	Date
Policy Review Group (PRG):	Approval	NA	Date

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

- No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- Business Plan: Action is within the plan. Action requires a change to plan.
- Other financial impact (Explain):
- Request provided to department’s Finance Dept. contact when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification: Project meetings with neighborhood on April 29, 2008 and July 30, 2008. Various presentations have been made to the neighborhood associations as well.
 City Goals: Maintain the physical infrastructure to ensure a healthy, vital and safe city
 Comprehensive Plan: Is consistent with Chapter 8, Movement, City Comprehensive Plan
 Zoning Code: Not Applicable

Background/Supporting Information

Chicago Ave S is a Municipal State Aid Roadway (MSA 165) and is in the 2009-2010 Public Works Capital Improvement Program (CIP). One block of Chicago Ave (25th -26th) is under construction this year due to the Children’s Hospital expansion. The majority of Chicago Ave S was last reconstructed in 1957 and has an average pavement condition index of 50. The segment is 1.2 miles long with an average existing ADT of 8400 and an average future ADT estimated at 10,500.

The current roadway width is 52 feet wide and carries two lanes of traffic (one drive lane each direction) and parking on both sides of the roadway. The current roadway has one of the highest frequencies of bus service within the City of Minneapolis. Traffic signals exist at 28th St, 27th St, 26th St, 25th St, 24th St, Franklin Av, 17th St, 15th St, 14th St, and 9th St.

Public Works has coordinated development of the attached proposed project layout with affected property owners and neighborhood associations at two public project meetings. Public Works has also met independently with each of the four neighborhood associations affected by the project and the Franklin Avenue Business Association to introduce the project and garner initial input.

Proposed Layout

The proposed layout will retain two lanes of traffic and parking on both sides of the roadway. The proposed layout consists of two 11-foot drive lanes and two 10-foot parking lanes narrowing the roadway width to 42 feet and providing five additional feet of boulevard to each side of the roadway. Left turn lanes are proposed at the 28th St, 26th St, 24th St, and Franklin Av intersections. Chicago Av is identified as a potential streetcar route in the City's Streetcar Feasibility Study. Public Works has hired a consultant with expertise in street car design to ensure the proposed layout is consistent with future streetcar needs.

A round-a-bout is proposed to replace the traffic signal at 9th St. A consultant with expertise in round-a-bout design was hired to ensure that a round-a-bout will function at the Chicago and 9th intersection. The proposed round-a-bout functionality was also evaluated to confirm it did not conflict with proposed future streetcars. It is probable that additional right of way will be required for the construction of a round-a-bout at 9th and Chicago. The amount of right of way required, the estimated cost and the properties the right of way will be purchased from have not been finalized at this time.

Discussions on possible streetscape amenities including additional trees and pedestrian level lighting are ongoing with the property owners and not included within this letter.

Traffic Signal and Pedestrian Crossing Modifications

Four traffic signal systems are proposed to be removed as part of the project. This includes unwarranted signals at 27th St, 25th St, and 15th St. Bump outs are proposed at the 27th St intersection in order to assist in crossings Chicago Av by pedestrians by shortening the crossing distance and providing better sight lines. The traffic signal at 9th Av will be removed and replaced with a single lane round-a-bout.

Public Works is requesting that the proper City Officials be directed to execute an Agreement with the Children's Hospital for the installation of an actuated pedestrian flasher system for crossing Chicago Ave. S. between East 25th and 26th. The purpose of the flasher system is to facilitate pedestrians crossing Chicago Ave. S. between the to hospital facilities.

Schedule

Construction of Chicago Av is currently scheduled to occur in 2009 and 2010. The actual cross street where the construction will be split has not been determined at this time.

Att.: Final Layout

Cc: CM Lisa Goodman, Ward 7
CM Gary Schiff, Ward 9
Jon Wertjes, Public Works

By Council Members Colvin Roy and Ostrow

“Passage of a resolution to amend the 2008 general appropriation resolution to increase the appropriation for Public Works in the Capital Improvements Fund in the Transportation Capital Agency for expenses related to capital projects by \$25,000 funded from an increase to Private revenues in the amount of \$25,000 and amend the allocation of resources as follows: increase the revenue source 372001 by \$25,000.”

**Colvin Roy
Resolution No.**

Approving the layout for Chicago Ave S from 8th St E to 25th St E and 26th St E to 28th St E.

Whereas the reconstruction of Chicago Ave N (MSA 165) from 8th St E to 25th St E and 26th St E to 28th St E is included in the City's approved Five Year Capital Improvement Program; and

Whereas, the proposed layout meets minimum design guidelines as set forth by State Aid and the City's Design Guidelines for Streets and Sidewalks.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City of Minneapolis:
That the City approve the layout dated September 16, 2008 for Chicago Ave S as submitted.

T&PW – Your Committee recommends passage and summary publication of the accompanying Resolution and its accompanying Committee Report approving the Chicago Av Layout and authorize proper City Officials to negotiate with property owners to acquire permanent roadway easements.

Your Committee recommends that the proper City Officials be directed to execute an Agreement with Children’s Hospital for the installation, operation, and maintenance of an actuated pedestrian flasher system for crossing Chicago Ave. S. between East 25th and 26th Streets (intersection of Chicago Avenue S and Children’s Hospital Drop-Off Drive).