



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

**Date:** January 22, 2008  
**To:** Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee  
**Referral:** Honorable Paul Ostrow, Chair Ways & Means Budget Committee  
**Subject:** Interstate 35W – 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Street Access Feasibility Study

### Recommendation:

Authorize City officials to enter into Agreements with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and Hennepin County for cost participation in the feasibility study of 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Street access with Interstate I-35W.

**Previous Directives:** None

**Prepared by:** Jon Wertjes, (673-2614)

**Approved by:**

---

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

**Presenters:** Jon Wertjes, P.E., PTOE, Director, Traffic and Parking Services

### 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: Some discussion has occurred to date, further communication needs will be determined as part of the implementation task.  
City Goals: Maintain the physical infrastructure to ensure a healthy, vital and safe city  
Comprehensive Plan: Comprehensive Plan is being met.  
Zoning Code: Not Applicable

## Background Information

Numerous discussions among Federal, State, Regional, County and City agencies regarding the needs for improved access to and from the downtown Minneapolis and I-35W to the north have been reviewed and considered as part of the:

- Downtown Minneapolis Freeway Study
- Access Minneapolis – Downtown 10-year Transportation Action Plan
- I-35W St Anthony Falls Bridge rebuilding efforts

As such, the Governor and MnDOT sent the attached letters to the City dated October 2, 2007 and September 25, 2007, respectively, that support the shared study to determine the feasibility of a proposed new northbound I-35W access from 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Street. A general area map of this access is attached.

All agencies have discussed and concurred upon the feasibility work scope. A work scope outline is provided in the table below.

<b>Work Task</b>	<b>Activity Summary</b>
1.0 Existing Conditions	Obtain key existing conditions information such as geometry, soils, traffic, etc.
2.0 Purpose & Need	Review and discuss needs with agencies partners and establish key criteria
3.0 Traffic Forecast and Analysis	Use and develop the regional traffic forecasting model for existing and future 2030 scenarios; conduct CORSIM micro-simulation traffic flow modeling efforts
4.0 Develop Improvement Alternatives	Develop and identify alternatives and related conceptual layouts
5.0 Evaluation of Alternatives	Develop methodology and conduct alternative evaluation
6.0 Implementation Plan	Determine estimated costs and next steps for implementation
7.0 Agency Coordination	Conduct on-going agency coordination meetings
8.0 Documentation	Document the feasibility report
9.0 Project Management	Provide study project management

The estimated consultant cost to complete the work scope is approximately \$190,755. Public Works has entered into a consultant pool agreement with SEH, Inc. to perform the study. To meet the proposed study schedule, the consultant work began on November 18, 2007.

Public Works has assumed a ten percent contingency which brings the approximate total costs to \$210,000. Our agency partners, MnDOT and Hennepin County, have agreed to a one-third shares of the study costs with a cost not to exceed \$70,000 each for all three parties.

### **Recommendations**

Public Works recommends entering into separate agreements with MnDOT and Hennepin County to be reimbursed for their share of the feasibility study costs. In addition, Public Works recommends that the City's one-third share up to \$70,000 will be reimbursed by the a) 2007 Traffic and Parking Services general fund budget (0100-685) for work performed in 2007 and the b) 2008 Traffic and Parking Services general fund budget for work completed in 2008.

### Attachments:

- Governor Pawlenty letter dated October 2, 2007
- MnDOT letter dated September 25, 2007
- General area map

Cc: Tom O'Keefe, MnDOT  
Jim Grube, Hennepin County