



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

Date: February 15, 2005
To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair, Transportation & Public Works Committee
Referral to: Honorable Barbara Johnson, Chair, Ways and Means

Subject: Midtown Greenway (Phase 3) Permit Agreement and Construction Plans

Recommendation:

- 1) Enter into a Permit Agreement (easement) for the City to use the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA) property for the Midtown Greenway (Phase 3) Trail
- 2) Approve the Phase 3 trail construction plans/specifications and direct city/county staff to obtain construction bids

Previous Directives:

- Midtown Greenway (Phase 1) Permit agreement – June 1995
- Midtown Greenway (Phase 2) Permit agreement – July 2002
- City of Minneapolis/Hennepin County Memorandum of Understanding – July 2002
- Cost participation agreement with the State of Minnesota (MnDOT) and Hennepin County for the construction of Phases 2 and 3 of the Midtown Greenway Trail – July 2002

Prepared by: Donald Pflaum, Transportation Engineer, 612-673-2129

Approved by:

Klara A. Fabry, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

Presenters: Donald Pflaum, 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 – Capital Only

Action requires use of contingency or reserves

Other financial impact (Explain):

\$36,300 in Public Works maintenance costs yearly; City to work with MPRB to assume maintenance responsibility. Anticipated trail opening in Fall 2005 (trail maintenance begins Fall 2005); first full year of trail maintenance in 2006.

Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Background/History:

Phase 3 of the Midtown Greenway will be constructed from Hiawatha Avenue to West River Parkway in 2005. In December 2004 the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority

(HCRRA) purchased the southerly 35 feet of the Canadian Pacific Railway corridor from Minnehaha Avenue to West River Parkway allowing for the trail to be completed.

The HCRRA and the City of Minneapolis entered into a permit (easement) agreement for the City to use the HCRRA property to build, maintain, and operate the Phase 1 and Phase 2 trail segments. Similar to that permit, the HCRRA and City need to enter into a Permit Agreement for the Phase 3 Trail segment. In addition to the HCRRA permit to the City, the City will be granting the County a temporary construction permit in 28th Street right-of-way to build the trail project.

The HCRRA has drafted a permit agreement (easement). The City Attorney's Office and Public Works staff have reviewed the draft agreement and have submitted comments to the HCRRA. The HCRRA have accepted the proposed changes and Public Works now recommends that the City of Minneapolis enter into this Permit Agreement.

Recommendation:

Approve the attached permit language supporting the proposed projects

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Map of Midtown Greenway (Phase 3) Trail

Attachment 2: Permit Agreement for Phase 3

Attachment 3: Midtown Greenway Final Layout

C: Marcia Wilda – Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority

Ed Backstrom – City Attorney's Office