



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

Date: October 14, 2003
To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee
Referral to: Honorable Barb Johnson, Chair Ways & Means Committee

Subject: Agreement with Hennepin County for Ewing Trail Project

Recommendation:

1. Enter into agreement # PW 35-20-03 with Hennepin County for cost participation in the Ewing Trail project
2. Authorize expenditure of up to \$25,000 for design and engineering fees for the Ewing Trail project out of the Commuter Bicycle Fund. Increase the Permanent Improvement Fund (4100-943-9464) by \$25,000 and increase the revenue source 3845 by \$25,000.

Previous Directives:

- June 2001 – City Council, Mayor, and MPRB approved Minneapolis 5-Year Bikeways Plan
- December 2001 – City Council, Mayor, and MPRB approved Minneapolis Bikeways Master Plan
- December 2002 – Funding was approved for the Commuter Bicycle Fund in the 2003 Capital Budget Resolution
- January 2003 – Authorize staff to submit funding application for DNR Local Trail Connections Grant Program for \$50,000

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

Approved by:

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

Presenters: Donald Pflaum, Transportation 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

Other financial impact (Explain):

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

Background/Supporting Information:

This off-street bikeway along Ewing Avenue South provides a safe, convenient connection between the Cedar Lake Trail and France Av. S. The proposed 10' wide multi-use trail (for both pedestrians and bicycles) with 2 ft. clear zones on both sides will greatly improve safety and will reduce the city's liability. Existing sight-line impediments, moderately high traffic volumes, numerous horizontal curves, adjacent vegetation and poor shoulder condition make Ewing Avenue South an undesirable roadway for bike use. Because of the lack of continuous sidewalks along Ewing Avenue South, this project will facilitate better pedestrian movement and will deter pedestrians from walking in the street.

Funding:

Construction costs for this project are estimated at \$100,000. \$50,000 has been awarded by the DNR through its Local Trail Connections Grant Program. The \$50,000 match is coming from Hennepin County. In order to utilize the county money, the necessary cost participation agreement between Hennepin County and the City of Minneapolis needs to be approved by both the Minneapolis City Council/Mayor and the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners. The additional \$25,000 for design/engineering has been planned and budgeted as part of the City of Minneapolis Commuter Bicycle Fund.

Recommendation:

Enter into agreement # PW 35-20-03 with Hennepin County for cost participation in the Ewing Trail project. Assistant City Attorney Joe Labat has reviewed and his comments have been incorporated into the document.

Authorize expenditure of up to \$25,000 for design and engineering fees for the Ewing Trail project out of the Commuter Bicycle Fund. Increase the Permanent Improvement Fund (4100-943-9464) by \$25,000 and increase the revenue source 3845 by \$25,000.

Attachment – Exhibit A

CC: Joe Labat – Assistant City Attorney
Ned Nelson – Hennepin County
Bob Byers – Hennepin County
Tim Mitchell - DNR