

## **Presentation of Public Works Director Charter Amendment**

### **Charter Commission Meeting September 6, 2006**

#### **Initiative:**

Our objective is to separate the single position of Director of Public Works/City Engineer into two positions: 1. Director of Public Works and 2. City Engineer.

The Director of Public Works, a person with strong administrative/managerial skills, would be the department head. The Director may or may not be an engineer.

The City Engineer, a certified public engineer would be the final authority to sign off on engineering documents as required by statute.

#### **Precedent in Other Cities:**

Many peer cities have separated these two positions. (See list on reverse side)

#### **Process Outline:**

1. The IGR Committee sent the amendment to the Charter Commission (8/29/06).
2. The Charter Commission considers the amendment.
3. The Executive Committee establishes the position of City Engineer.
4. The IGR Committee and then the City Council consider the amendment.
5. Human Resources and the City Attorney undertake a best practices analysis to divide responsibilities of the two positions and recommend revised city ordinances to reflect that division.

#### **Project Team:**

CM Sandy Colvin Roy, Chair, Transportation & Public Works Committee  
CM Elizabeth Glidden, Vice Chair, Transportation & Public Works Committee  
CM Betsy Hodges, Chair Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Jay Heffern, City Attorney  
Steve Kotke, Director of Public Works  
Pam French, Director of Human Resources  
Brenda Shepherd, Human Resources  
Peter Wagenius, Senior Policy Aide, Mayor Rybak's Office

Partial list of peer cities that have separated Director of Public Works and City Engineer positions:

Austin, TX  
Boston, MA  
Charlotte, NC  
Chicago, IL  
Cincinnati, OH  
Columbus, OH  
Dallas, TX  
Denver, CO  
Indianapolis, IN  
Kansas City, MO  
Memphis, TN  
Philadelphia, PA  
Phoenix, AZ  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Portland, OR  
St. Paul, MN  
San Antonio, TX  
San Diego, CA  
Seattle, WA  
St Louis, MO  
Toronto, ON