



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

Date: April 6, 2010
To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee
Referral: Honorable Betsy Hodges, Chair Ways & Means Committee
Subject: **Funding Increase for Pothole Repair Crews**

Recommendation:

Approval of accompanying resolution increasing Transportation Maintenance & Repair Division's general fund appropriation for fiscal year 2010 in the amount of \$500,000 for the purpose of increasing the number of general pavement repair crews to perform pothole patching from four to eight for a period of seven weeks.

Previous Directives:

None

Prepared by: Brette Hjelle, Public Works Interagency Coordinator
Michael Kennedy, Director, Transportation Maintenance & Repair Division

Approved by:

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

Presenters: Michael Kennedy, Director, Transportation Maintenance & Repair Division

Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval NA Date _____

Civil Rights Approval Approval NA Date _____

Policy Review Group (PRG): Approval NA Date _____

Financial Impact

Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget or Operating Budget

Background/Supporting Information

Due to the extraordinary 2009-2010 winter season and the affect that it had on City streets, the Mayor and Council asked Public Works to propose a plan to accelerate the patch and repair of potholes on City streets and alleys in the 2010 summer season. Working with the Finance Division, it was determined that \$500,000 could potentially be utilized from contingency funds to provide for additional street repair crews to address potholes and restore pavements and driving conditions throughout the City faster.

The original 2010 approved budget allowed for the Street Department to deploy seven repair crews for the summer. Three of them must be predominantly dedicated to utility cut restoration, but the other four are primarily tasked to perform general patch and repair activities, that is pothole repair, and dispersed across the City. This recommendation would be to fund four additional patch and repair crews for approximately seven weeks to address pothole repair much more quickly.

With the current resources, it has been our experience that pothole repair has not been completed on the major arterial streets until late July or August, and some residential pothole repair is never completed at all. The recommended action could advance general pothole repair on arterial streets by possibly up to two months, if weather conditions and other factors remain favorable.

Therefore, it is recommended that the 2010 appropriation in the Public Works Department (00100 6070500) be increased by \$500,000; and the Contingency Fund appropriation (00100 1750100) be decreased by \$500,000 to fund this initiative.

Resolution

By Colvin Roy

Amending The 2010 General Appropriation Resolution (2009R-586).

Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the above-entitled Resolution, as amended, be further amended by increasing the 2010 appropriation in the Public Works Department (00100 6070500) by \$500,000; and decreasing the Contingency Fund appropriation (00100 1750100) by \$500,000.