



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

Date: June 20, 2006
To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee
Subject: **West Lake Street - West Segment (Dupont Ave S to Blaisdell Ave S and Lyndale Ave S from 29th St to 31st St) Streetscape Petitions**

Recommendation:

Receive and File the proposed streetscape petitions to be used in the west segment of the Lake Street Reconstruction and Streetscape Project.

Previous Directives:

- June 21, 2002 Council Action – Authorization to execute a Lake Street reconstruction and streetscape project City/County cooperative agreement for professional services

Prepared by: Jenifer Loritz, P.E., Project Engineer, Engineering Services, 673-3625
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Approved by:

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

Presenters: Don Elwood, P.E., Project Manager, Public Works

Permanent Review Committee (PRC)	Approval _____	Not applicable <u> X </u>
Policy review Group (PRG)	Approval _____	Not applicable <u> X </u>

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

Background/Supporting Information

The enhancement of Lake Street between Dupont Ave S and Blaisdell Ave S has been determined to be eligible for expenditure of federal aid funds and is programmed in the federally approved STIP for the fiscal year 2006. The County and the City are proposing a federal aid project to reconstruct and enhance Lake Street between Dupont Ave S and Blaisdell Ave S. The attached streetscape petitions are proposed for the petitioning process in the west segment. Property owners will be shown the petitions and allowed to decide whether to sign in favor of or against a base level streetscape, an enhanced level streetscape and a special service district that would be associated with an enhanced level streetscape.

In 1999, Hennepin County began discussions with Minneapolis Public Works regarding its plans to reconstruct Lake Street between Lyndale Avenue South and West River Parkway. During the discussions, the concept of expanding the project scope to include streetscape improvements came forward.

In 2000, County and City elected officials met with their staff to initiate a framework for developing a greater Lake Street vision. It was determined that the rebuilt Lake Street should be a balance of multi-modal transportation (pedestrians, transit, bicyclists and vehicles) and "place making" to reaffirm its long history as a destination. Community involvement was recognized as essential to project success. The vision for Lake Street included that it should incorporate unifying elements while still providing opportunities to recognize and celebrate the diversity of its neighborhoods. To facilitate community involvement, the County proposed the formation of a Project Advisory Committee (PAC) committee made up of representatives of the surrounding neighborhoods, businesses, property owners and wards.

A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was formed to work on developing the project design and assist the PAC. The TAC membership consists of stakeholder representatives from the County, City, Metro Transit (MT) and professional service consultants. The PAC began by establishing the goals and vision for Lake Street. In considering the balance of multi-modal transportation and "place making" along Lake Street, the PAC weighed many variables. Among these were the right-of-way (R/W) width, pedestrian realm, bicyclists, present and future transit needs, on-street parking, and vehicular traffic.

The PAC began meeting in January of 2003. Over the ensuing months, the PAC met on a monthly basis (and on occasion, more frequently) investigating multiple street cross-section alternatives. The project and the alternatives were then presented at several Public Open Houses, and neighborhood and business association meetings where comments were solicited.

Due to the length of the proposed street reconstruction, the County divided the work on Lake Street into three projects. Phase III of the project is the west segment (Dupont Ave S to Blaisdell Ave S and Lyndale Ave S from 29th St to 31st St) and is scheduled for 2007.

The purpose of this letter and related action is to inform Council of the petition process that will be followed for the west segment of the Lake Street Reconstruction and Streetscape project. The revised petitions are meant to improve communication and understanding with the affected property owners.

Attachment: Proposed Petitions

Cc: Council Member Robert Lilligren, Ward 6
Council Member Ralph Remington, Ward 10
Rhonda Rae, Public Works
Ed Backstrom, Assistant City Attorney
Mary Al Balber, Assistant City Attorney