



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

Date: November 22, 2005
To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

**Subject: University of Minnesota On-Campus Football Stadium
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Comments**

Recommendation:

- a.) Review and approve Draft EIS comments and direct Public Works Department to submit comments to the University of Minnesota by the November 23, 2005 deadline.
- b.) Refer Draft EIS Comments to the City Council for approval.

Previous Directives: March 11, 2005: 2005-124 authorizing the appropriate city officials to enter into a Letter of Agreement regarding environmental review of a proposed Gopher Football Stadium

Prepared by: Gregory Schroeder, P.E., Capital Improvement Coordinator, 673-3718

Approved by:

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

Presenters: Gregory Schroeder, P.E., Capital Improvement Coordinator

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:

The University of Minnesota is proposing to build a new 50,000 seat open air on-campus football stadium on the existing Huron Boulevard parking lots, just east of Mariucci Arena. To provide information about the magnitude of the proposed project, the extent of potential environmental impacts and how they may be avoided or minimized as a result of building and operating the stadium, the University of Minnesota has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact

Statement (Draft EIS). As shown on the attached map, the Draft EIS includes site and associated public infrastructure improvements within the City of Minneapolis.

The Prospect Park East River Road neighborhood will be impacted the most by this project. There will be more traffic, more noise, and an impact on our environment. The Draft EIS is a document that identifies the project impacts and is used as a basis for future approval decisions. City personnel from the City Attorney's Office; Fire Department; CPED; Environment Services; and Public Works reviewed the Draft EIS. Their Comments are attached.

Proposed Action:

The Draft EIS was release for public comment on October 24, 2005. Comments are due to the University of Minnesota on November 23, 2005. This time frame did not allow us sufficient time to review; prepare and compile the comments; and present them to City Council by the proposed deadline. As a result we are requesting authority from the Transportation and Public Works Committee to submit these draft comments to the University of Minnesota by the November 23, 2005 deadline. Upon approval by the City Council on December 2, 2005, we will submit final comments.

Attachment 1 – Map of Stadium area.

Attachment 2 – Draft EIS Comments.

C: Council Member Paul Zerby
Corey Conover, Attorney's Office
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