



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

Date: December 11, 2007

To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

Subject: Mn/DOT Metro District Downtown Minneapolis Freeway Study Update

Recommendation: Receive and File Downtown Freeway Study Final Report, presentation and staff comments

Previous Directives: May 2, 2006 T&PW - Receive and File presentation

Prepared by: Anna Flintoft, Transportation Planner, Transportation Planning and Engineering
Lisa Cerney, Principal Professional Engineer, Transportation Planning and Engineering
Don Elwood, Director, Transportation Planning and Engineering

Approved by:

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

Presenters: Lisa Cerney, Transportation Planning and Engineering
Thomas O'Keefe, Minnesota Department of Transportation

Permanent Review Committee (PRC) Approval _____ Not applicable X

Policy review Group (PRG) Approval _____ Not applicable X

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

X 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: X 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

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification: Targeted stakeholder public meetings were held by Mn/DOT to gain strategic input at this very early stage of discussions.

City Goals: Maintain the physical infrastructure to ensure a healthy, vital and safe city

Comprehensive Plan: Not Applicable

Zoning Code: Not Applicable

Background/Supporting Information

Mn/DOT recently completed the Final Report for its Downtown Minneapolis Freeway Study. This study's focus was to begin the discussions about framing the needs and very preliminarily defining the potential range of solutions. Public Works and CPED have participated in the project advisory committee and submitted to Mn/DOT the attached final report comments. Mn/DOT staff will present the study overview and the final report recommendations.

Minneapolis is working with MnDOT and other agencies on a 3rd and 4th Street Feasibility Study. The study is reviewing the feasibility on connections from 3rd/4th in downtown to I-35W North. Additionally an Urban Land Institute (ULI) Advisory Services Planning Initiative will take place December 4 – 7 for the I-35W Bridge area. The focus of this initiative should be to address issues regarding connectivity, linkages and land use policy for the area immediately adjacent to the I-35W Bridge on the south side of the Mississippi River.

Attachments: Downtown Minneapolis Freeway Study Final Report dated July 2007
Minneapolis staff comments submitted to Mn/DOT on final report
Mn/DOT PowerPoint Study Presentation

Cc: Ward Offices 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, and 10 that are part of the Study Area: