

9/25/07 - Postponed.
10/9/07 - (a) and (b) Received and filed.
(c) Postponed.



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

Date: September 25, 2007
To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee
Referral To: None
Subject: Access Minneapolis: Streetcar Feasibility Study
Access Minneapolis: Citywide Ten-Year Transportation Action Plan
Access Minneapolis: Streetcar Design Guidelines

Recommendation:

- a. Receive and file the draft Streetcar Feasibility Study for public review
- b. Receive and file the draft Citywide Ten-Year Transportation Action Plan for public review
- c. Authorize the release of a Request for Proposal for consultant services to prepare Streetcar Design Guidelines

Previous Directives:

- April 2, 2004 Resolution 2004R-139 – Appropriated \$300,000 for citywide transportation planning
- June 8, 2004 – TPW received & filed study goals and timelines
- November 5, 2004 – Authorized the issuance of a Request for Proposals to solicit consultant proposals for the Transportation Action Plan
- November 5, 2004 – Authorized entering into interagency agreements with Hennepin county and Metropolitan Council regarding funding participation
- March 18, 2005 – Approved consultant selection and authorized execution of contract
- March 18, 2005 – Authorized entering into interagency agreement with Mn/DOT regarding funding participation
- July 1, 2005 – Appointed Project Steering Committee
- March 10, 2006 – Authorized amendment to consultant contract to complete a Streetcar Feasibility Study
- November 3, 2006 – Authorized amendment to consultant contract to complete additional traffic analysis and public outreach
- December 22, 2006 – Approved contract extension with three partner agencies for funding reimbursement to 12/31/2007.
- March 20, 2007 – TPW received and filed draft Downtown Action Plan
- April 13, 2007 – Resolution 2007R-187 appropriated \$247,000 to Action Plan
- June 29, 2007 – Approved Downtown Action Plan - Petn No. 272107

Prepared by: Charleen Zimmer, Project Manager, Access Minneapolis (673-3166)
Jon Wertjes, P.E., PTOE, Director, Traffic & Parking Services

Approved by:

Steve Kotke, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

Presenters: Charleen Zimmer, Project Manager, Access Minneapolis

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.

 X Other financial impact (Explain): The City estimated budget for the Streetcar Design Guidelines is expected to be \$100,000. Funding was provide in the 2007 Budget (\$500,000) for supplemental work related to the implementation of streetcars.

____ Request provided to department's Finance Dept. contact when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification: Eight public meetings will be held on the Streetcar Feasibility Study and the Citywide Action Plan during the month of October. All neighborhood publications and neighborhood organizations have been notified of these meetings and news releases have been sent. Email distribution has been made to the Project Steering Committee and interested stakeholders. Information has been posted on the city website.

City Goals: Meets the goals of:

- Connected communities
- Integrated, multimodal transportation choices border to border
- Walkable, bikable
- Enriched environment
- Energy into renewable and alternative energy
- Replant, restore, reverse our urban forest

Comprehensive Plan: implements the transportation policies set forth in the city's comprehensive plan

Zoning Code: Not Applicable

Background/Supporting Information

Draft Citywide Ten-Year Transportation Action Plan and Draft Streetcar Feasibility Report

The Access Minneapolis Ten-Year Transportation Action Plan will be documented in four components: a) Downtown Action Plan, b) Citywide Action Plan, c) Design Guidelines, and d) Streetcar Feasibility Study.

The Downtown Action Plan was presented to the Transportation and Public Works Committee as a Receive & File item on March 20, 2007 and was approved by the City Council on June 29, 2007.

A Project Steering Committee appointed by the City Council has met and discussed all plan components for approximately two years. The Streetcar Feasibility Study draft and the draft of the Citywide Ten-Year Transportation Action Plan has been revised based on input from the PSC, city staff and our partner agencies. Both documents will be reviewed by the public in October and additional revisions may be made based on public review and comment. The final documents will be submitted to Transportation and Public Works Committee and the City Council for approval following public review and comment.

The draft documents are posted on the Minneapolis website at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/public-works/trans-plan/> under the project documents section. The final plan documents and a summary of public comments will be posted on the website after the public meetings.

Streetcar Design Guidelines RFP

City streets identified as candidate corridors for streetcar may be reconstructed or rehabilitated prior to the actual construction of streetcar. This situation exists immediately on Chicago Avenue, which is scheduled for reconstruction in 2008. It is critically important that the design and construction of Chicago Avenue and other streets be done in a manner that avoids additional cost when streetcar is implemented and does not preclude the ready implementation of streetcar at the appropriate time. It is very important, therefore, that the City have clear streetcar design guidelines that can be used for decision-making during street design and construction efforts. City staff does not have the expertise to develop these guidelines and proposes to hire a consultant for this purpose.