



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: **Franklin Avenue (CSAH 5)-East River Pkwy Intersection Improvements
Hennepin County and City of Minneapolis Cost Participation Agreement
No. 07-20-10**

Recommendation:

Authorize proper City officers to enter into an Agreement with Hennepin County for cost participation in the improvements of Franklin Avenue S (CSAH 5) and East River Pkwy intersection. Funding is available from Central Corridor LRT Study betterment projects.

Previous Directives:

Resolution 2009R-557 Franklin Avenue and E. River Pkwy Intersection study: Approval of plan concept and amendment to agreement No A06-20-09 with Hennepin County.

Resolution 2009R-266 Proper City officers be authorized to enter into an agreement with Hennepin County for cost participation in professional Engineering Services Contract No. 06-20-09.

July 11, 2008: Approval of Central Corridor – LRT: Memorandum of Understanding.

Prepared by: Meseret Wolana, Project Engineer 673-3527

Approved by:

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

Presenters: Meseret Wolana, Transportation Planning & Engineering

Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC):	Approval	NA	Date
Civil Rights Affirmative Action Plan	Approval	NA	Date
Policy Review Group (PRG):	Approval	NA	Date

Financial Impact

Action is within current department budget

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification: Not Applicable

City Goals: A SAFE PLACE TO CALL HOME: the city's infrastructure will be well-maintained, people will feel safe in the city.

Comprehensive Plan: Not Applicable

Zoning Code: Not Applicable

Background/Supporting Information

Franklin Avenue/27th Avenue is under the jurisdiction of Hennepin County as CSAH 5. East River Pkwy is under the jurisdiction of Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. Franklin Avenue easterly of the intersection is under the jurisdiction of the City of Minneapolis. The operation of this 5-legged intersection has been a concern of all agencies due to the combination of vehicular traffic, both local and commuter, proximity to the U of M, and the high numbers of pedestrians and bicycles. The planned Central Corridor Light Rail Transit line between Minneapolis and St. Paul and Washington Avenue Pedestrian Mall enhanced the need to make long-term improvements to the intersection.

In 2009, Hennepin County took the lead in the study of the intersection including evaluating alternative concepts with City's 50% cost participation. The recommended and approved concept will improve the operation and safety of the intersection to better serve existing users (pedestrians, bikes and cars) in the short term. Features of the intersection plan include:

- Bike lanes over the Franklin Bridge and 27th Avenue with "bike boxes" at the intersection
- Improve lane assignments, signing and signal locations for driver clarity better serving major traffic movements
- Signal system able to detect bikes and cars
- Shorter crosswalks where possible to decrease pedestrian exposure and crossing time
- A shortened traffic signal cycle length to allow all users to be served more frequently.

The total project cost estimate is \$560,000 of which the city is participating in the amount of \$145,000. A breakdown of these costs is below:

1. \$250,000 - Traffic control signal system (done by City forces)
 - a. \$125,000 Minneapolis costs
 - b. \$125,000 County costs
2. \$4,794 – Design of the signal system
 - a. \$4,794 Minneapolis costs
3. \$30,000 – Permanent easements acquired by the County
 - a. \$15,000 Minneapolis costs
 - b. \$15,000 County costs

Funding for this project is available Central corridor LRT Study betterment projects. The remaining funds will be used in Granary Rd, East River Pkwy and others.

Construction activities will be coordinated between the City, County and Contractor. Construction is scheduled to begin summer 2010. In addition, traffic safety, volumes, and delays will be monitored through 2015, and issues will be revisited with neighborhoods as needed.

Attachments: Intersection map

Cc: Council Member Cam Gordon, Ward 2
Don Elwood, PE, Director TP & E
Greg Schroeder, PE, CIP Coordinator
Donald Sobania, PE, Traffic & Parking Services
Dallas Hildebrand, PE, Traffic & Parking Service

T&PW & W&M/Budget – Your Committee recommends authorizing proper City officers to enter into an Agreement with Hennepin County for cost participation in the improvements of Franklin Avenue S (CSAH 5) and East River Pkwy intersection. Funding is available from Central Corridor LRT Study betterment projects.