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

Date: June 13, 2002

To: Transportation & Public Works Committee

Referral to: N/A

Subject: Public Works received the 2002 Preservation Award for best "new construction in a historic district" from The Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission for the Main Street SE Paving Project.

Recommendation:

Receive and File: The Preservation Award recognizes projects, individuals and organizations that celebrate and enhance Minneapolis' historic character. Public Works is recognized by receiving the Preservation Award for best "new construction in a historic district" during the 2002 Heritage Preservation Awards, co-sponsored by the Minneapolis chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

Prepared or Submitted by: Meseret Wolana, Engineer I Engineering Services

Approved: David J. Sonnenberg, P. E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

By: Paul W. Ogren 

Presenters in Committee: Meseret Wolana, Engineer I

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)

Background/Supporting Information

The Main Street SE project is located from 3rd Avenue SE to 6th Avenue SE, and 6th Avenue SE from Main Street SE to the Cul-de-sac in the Historic Marcy Holmes neighborhood of Minneapolis.

The old roadway was a mixture of sandstone, granite cobbles and bituminous on Main Street SE (between 3rd Avenue SE and 6th Avenue SE). There was little or no curb and gutter within the project area. Drainage was directed to catch basins within the roadway. Roadway lighting was accomplished through the use of "Cobra" fixtures mounted on wood poles. Pedestrian traffic was funneled through Pillsbury Park to the Southwest, rather than along the roadway. There were no defined parking bays. The condition of the roadway was deteriorated greatly. Large potholes and irregular driving surface contribute to the poor condition. Large puddles occurred after rainfalls.

The new roadway is paved with brick with granite cobble accents at the centerline and granite cobble parking bays. Sidewalks adjacent to the roadway are a mixture of bituminous and concrete. Historic "gas lamp" style light fixtures provide pedestrian lighting, while occasional Cobra style lighting provides added illumination at intersections.

Streetscape elements such as landscaping, benches and bollards added to the historic flavor of the area. This portion of Main Street SE would serve as the basic pattern for future improvements within the project area.

The improvements were designed to enhance safety with clearly defined driving lanes and parking bays, complement the historic nature of the area and enhance the pedestrian/bike connection to the Stone Arch Bridge.

The Main Street SE reconstruction project was designed by City of Minneapolis, Engineering Services Division with the landscaping designed by Hoisington Koegler Group and constructed by Thomas & Sons.

This project was coordinated with the Minnesota Department of Transportation-Cultural Resources/State Historic Preservation Office, Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board, and the Marcy Holmes Neighborhood.

Cc: Council Member Paul Zerby

Main St SE Commercial

