



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

Date: February 2, 2010

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

Subject: **University of Minnesota Non-Motorized Trail Project**

Recommendations:

1. Request approval of the University of Minnesota Trail alignment (as shown on Plat Maps)
2. Authorize the proper City officers to negotiate and enter into a License and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Agreement over the use of University of Minnesota property for the U of M Trail.
3. Passage of a resolution by the City of Minneapolis for acceptance and execution of the Right-of-Way Plats for the University of Minnesota Trail area. (Plats 1, 2 & 3)

Previous Directives:

- August 8, 2008: Resolution 2008R-341, authorizing the execution of inter-agency agreements with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for Federal Participation in Force Account (Agreement No. 92693) and for Federal Participation in Right-of-Way Engineering (Agreement No. 92905) for the University of Minnesota Trail, Phase III.
- October 5, 2007: Resolution 2007R-510, authorization to accept University of Minnesota Trail NTP Federal Grant for \$2,500,000
- April 3, 2007: Resolution 207R-183, Council Action authorizing the proper City Officers to submit pedestrian and bicycle projects to the Transit for Livable Communities for Federal Non-motorized Transportation Program (NTP) funding.
- December 13, 2004: Resolution 2004R-580, Project was adopted into the 2005-2009 Capital Program.
- December 28, 2001: Resolution 2001R-565, Council Action authorizing negotiations with Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railway for the acquisition of property easements to construct the U of M Trail, Phase III.

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Approved by:

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

Presenter: Jack Yuzna, P.E., Principal Professional Engineer, Public Works

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: CONNECTED COMMUNITIES: Integrated, multimodal transportation choices border to border.

Comprehensive Plan: The U of M Trail is in the Five Year Bike Plan

Zoning Code: Not Applicable

Background/Supporting Information

The U of M Trail, Phase III was conceived in the mid 1990s and was designed to connect downtown Minneapolis with the University of Minnesota's Minneapolis & St. Paul campuses. The project consists of a pedestrian and bikeway trail that will extend from the east approach of Bridge 9 to the intersection of 5th Street SE and newly constructed Oak Street SE. The project also provides additional trail access at East River Road and at 17th Avenue SE / 5th Street SE.

In 2007, the City of Minneapolis sought and received \$2.5 million dollars in federal aid funds from the Non-motorized Transportation Pilot (NTP) program for construction of the U of M Trail.

The City of Minneapolis Public Works has designed a non-motorized pedestrian and bike trail alignment that would necessitate a license agreement with the University of Minnesota and easement rights from BNSF Railroad for property use for the Trail.

The City of Minneapolis has completed the surveying of the properties and has had three (3) plats drawn up showing the right-of-way that will need to be acquired from the University of Minnesota and BNSF Railroad. These plats differ from standard land subdivision plats in that they are not subdividing land for development. Their purpose is to publicly identify tracts of land the City seeks to acquire for right-of-way purposes. The plats will allow the process to acquire the necessary property easements to be expedited. The plats have received preliminary approval by the Hennepin County Surveyor's Office and Minneapolis Public Works is currently working with the Planning Department to receive all the necessary approvals, and the Mayor's authorization and signature, as required by the Hennepin County Recorder's Office.

The University of Minnesota and BNSF Railroad properties are currently being appraised, and the City will enter into negotiations with BNSF and the University of Minnesota after review appraisals are completed. The City Council has previously given approval to enter into negotiations with BNSF for this project.

Upon completion of easement acquisitions and design agreements with the University of Minnesota and BNSF Railroad, Public Works will be returning to the Council in the near future as construction and engineering costs are finalized. The current schedule for the construction of the U of M Trail Project is late fall of 2010.

Funding:

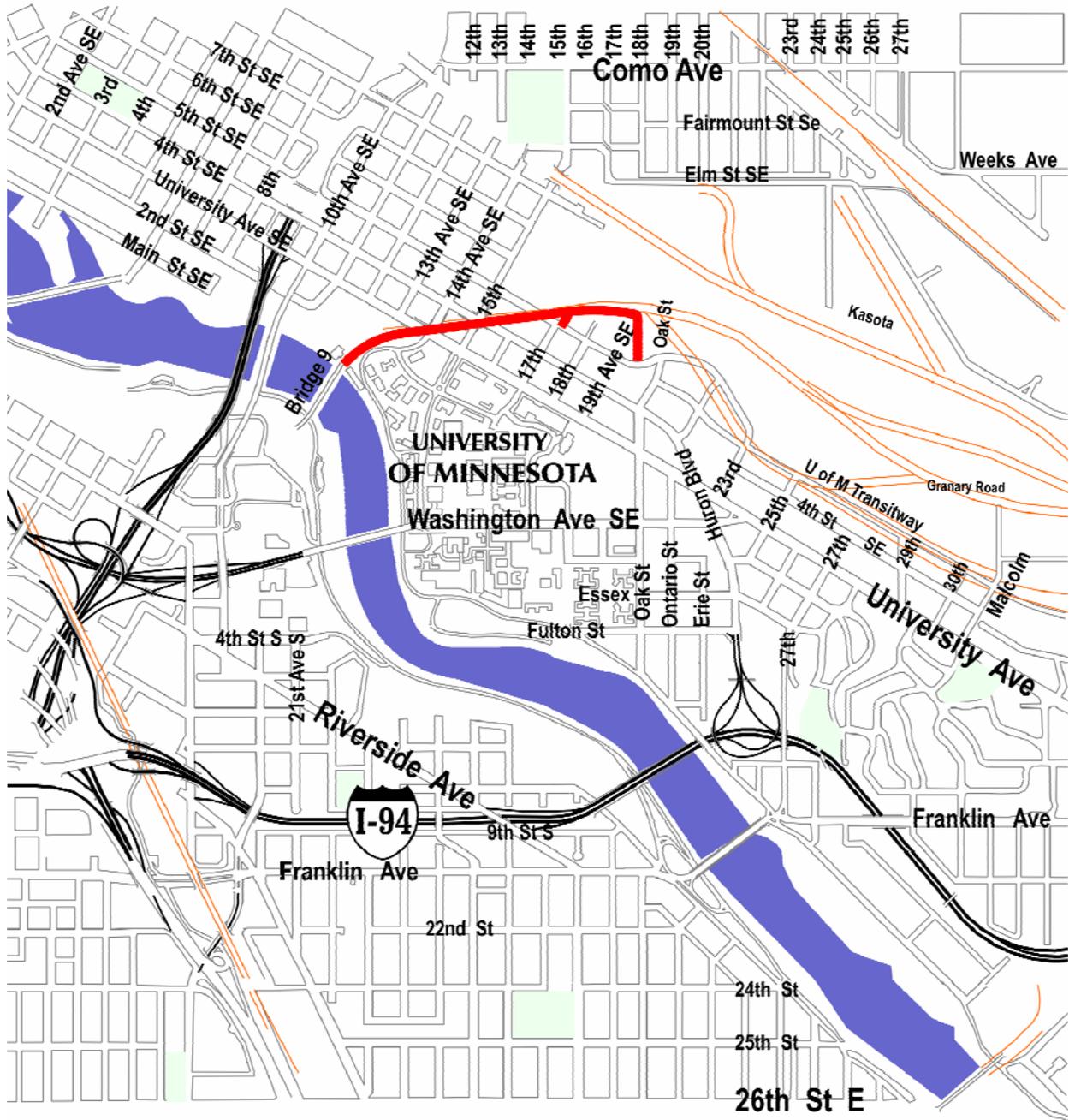
Project funding includes:

- 2007 Federal Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Grant - \$2,595,000

Attachments: U of M Trail Project Location Map
Right of Way Plats 1, 2 & 3

Cc: Council Member Cam Gordon, Ward 2
Don Elwood, Transportation Planning and Engineering
Jon Wertjes, Traffic and Parking Services
Greg Schroeder, Transportation Planning and Engineering
Jack Yuzna, Transportation Planning and Engineering

U of M Trail



 Project