

Hennepin Ave – (Douglas Ave to W Lake St)

Project Background

Public Works has identified Hennepin Avenue as a future reconstruction candidate, driven primarily by pavement condition, multimodal connections, number of daily users, as well as an opportunity to better plan for Metro Transit's future Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) E-Line. Hennepin Avenue between Douglas Avenue and West Lake Street is proposed to be programmed in the City's Capital Improvement Program for reconstruction in 2023. Public Works is conducting preliminary planning work in 2018 in order to submit an application for federal transportation funding through the Metropolitan Council's Regional Solicitation.

Existing Conditions

Hennepin Avenue serves an estimated 770 to 3,400 people walking, 220 to 280 people biking, 6,600 transit users, 400 buses, and between 15,000 and 31,500 people driving per day. The existing right-of-way is constrained throughout, therefore identifying priorities along a constrained corridor like Hennepin Avenue may require trade-offs for other users and uses. Public Works relies on planning guidance and community input to inform the design of streets like Hennepin Avenue.

Project Scope

The Access Minneapolis Transportation Plan (2009), Complete Streets Policy (2016), and the City's commitment to Vision Zero (2017) provide guidance for the design of Hennepin Avenue. The reconstruction project provides an opportunity for geometric changes with a design that addresses current and future needs. Available right-of-way is limited along the corridor, but the project will aim to provide the following design elements:

- Make sidewalk and intersections accessible for all users, install durable pavement markings and crosswalks, support pedestrian activities with space for planting and furnishing zones where feasible.
- Evaluate bicycle network connectivity, as the City's Bicycle Master Plan identifies this corridor as a future on-street bikeway and bicycle lanes should be considered when the street is reconstructed.
- Provide space for enhanced transit stops compatible with future E-Line BRT service.
- Replace aging traffic signal and stormwater infrastructure.
- Maintain mobility and circulation for transit and motor vehicles.

Public Works will be conducting a technical evaluation of Hennepin to understand where opportunities exist to move curb lines and improve the experience of pedestrians, transit users, and bicyclists.

Project Schedule and Public Input

To support a successful application for federal transportation funding, Public Works is planning to conduct technical analysis and gather community feedback in advance of the application deadline in July. Public Works will be engaging stakeholders in the winter and spring of 2018 to understand what design elements are important to consider for Hennepin Avenue. Should the project be awarded federal funding, there would be future opportunities in 2019 and beyond for the public to provide additional input on to inform the design details.

- Winter/Spring 2018: Technical evaluation, public engagement and community meetings
- July of 2018: Submit application for federal transportation grant, through the Met Council
- Winter 2019: Grant recipients announced
- 2019—2021: Detailed street design and engineering
- 2023: Anticipated project construction

Contact: Becca Hughes, Transportation Planner, Minneapolis Public Works, 612-673-5012, Rebecca.hughes@minneapolismn.gov

