## SUMMARY OF ENGINEERING RECOMMENDATIONS 2022 Saint Paul Streets Project

Report Prepared – 2/22/2022 Public Hearing – 4/13/2022

### PROGRAM

The project seeks to improve **Prior Avenue from Gilbert Avenue to University Avenue** by reconstructing the pavement and improving non-motorized facilities.

Improvements to be made as part of the project include constructing new bituminous pavement with concrete curb and gutter, on-street bike lanes, concrete sidewalks and pedestrian ramps.

## **EXISTING CONDITIONS**

Prior Avenue was constructed in 1987 with a sewer separation project. The most current pavement condition index for Prior Avenue ranges from 17 to 42 with a weighted average of 24. The existing street width on Wabasha is 39', accommodating two 11' travel lanes, two 5' bike lanes and one 7' parking lane on northbound side. Parking on the southbound side is accommodated by two 8' wide parking bays constructed in 2012. There are sidewalks on both sides of Prior Avenue except for a gap on the west side towards the north end of the project. The only street lighting on Prior Ave is bent straw overhead lighting on the east side. There is one Metro Transit bus route on Prior Avenue.

## **PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS**

Improvements to Prior Avenue will include new bituminous pavement with concrete curb and gutter. The east side of the street will be widened by two feet to accommodate one-foot wider bike lanes. Parking and through lanes will remain the same dimension. The parking bays on west side will also remain.

Several geometric changes will occur on Prior Avenue involving realignment, lowering of profile, channelization, and curb line shifts for pedestrian improvements. Bumpouts and upgraded ADA-compliant pedestrian ramps are proposed to provide more opportunities to cross Prior Avenue and its cross streets. Loss of parking is expected with the curb extensions. The project will also include a sidewalk infill of the existing gap on the west side at University Avenue.

The project includes new pavement markings, signing and lighting. In addition,

appropriate storm sewer repairs and construction will be made to accommodate changes in street geometry and increased impervious surface.

# ALTERNATES

An off-street bike facility was considered for this project on the east side of the street. The off-street facility would improve the non-motorist experience on Prior Avenue. However, due to cost, utility conflicts, and inconsistency with preceding and succeeding bike facilities, work on the concept was discontinued.

The only other alternate would be a no-build option which would leave the pavement in its deteriorating state and be unacceptable.

## **POSITIVE BENEFITS**

General improvement of the public right-of-way will enhance and add quality to the neighborhood. The proposal is in keeping with the City's Complete Streets Initiative and the Saint Paul Bicycle Plan.

### **ADVERSE EFFECTS**

Normal problems associated with construction such as noise, dust, reduced access to the neighborhood, and general disruption will be present.

## **EFFECTS ON TREES**

Impacts to boulevard trees are minimized with current proposal. New trees will be planted where there is sufficient space as part of the boulevard restoration following the City's master tree planting plan.

## TIME SCHEDULE

The project will begin in the summer of 2022 and will be completed by the fall of 2022.

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**COST ESTIMATE** 

Construction Engineering	\$ \$	2,980,522 745,131
PROJECT TOTAL	\$	3,725,653
ESTIMATED FINANCING		
Saint Paul Regional Water Services (SPRWS) Assessments MSA (Municipal State Aid)	\$ \$ \$	51,345 983,530 <u>2,690,778</u>
PROJECT TOTAL	\$	3,725,653

See attached assessment role for information regarding 2022 assessments rates.

### SOURCE OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information, contact the Project Engineer, Jary Lee, at 651-266-1107.

### SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

The Department of Public Works has ranked this a high priority project and the Engineering Recommendation is for approval of the project and financing.

Respectfully submitted,

Jary Lee Public Works

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