

SUMMARY OF ENGINEERING RECOMMENDATIONS  
**2025 Saint Paul Streets Project**

Report Prepared – 10/11/2024  
Public Hearing – 04/23/25

**PROGRAM**

The project seeks to improve a portion of the **Wheelock-Grotto Residential Area – RSP Area 56, bounded by East Como Boulevard, Grotto Street, Wheelock Parkway and Arlington Avenue** by reconstructing the roadway pavement and improving the pedestrian facilities.

Improvements to be made as part of the project include constructing new bituminous surfaced streets with concrete curb and gutter, concrete driveway aprons and boulevards landscaped with sod and trees. Damaged sidewalks will be replaced as necessary. Sidewalks will be added where appropriate. The existing wood pole streetlights will be replaced with lantern style lights as part of the project. In addition, new watermain will be installed, appropriate storm and sanitary sewer repairs will be made, and storm and sanitary sewer reconnections will be made at the request of property owners.

**EXISTING CONDITIONS**

Many of the streets in the area are oiled streets. These include Folsom, Ivy, Orange and Parkview. Avon was last paved in 1986. East Como Boulevard was paved in 1972. Osage was paved in 1990. The existing roadway width on Avon, Folsom, Ivy and Orange is 30'. East Como Boulevard is 28' wide. Parkview is 32' wide. Osage Street width varies from 30' to 34'.

The street lighting is primarily davit arms on wood poles.

**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS**

It is proposed to improve a portion of the Wheelock-Grotto Residential Area – RSP Area 56, **bounded by East Como Boulevard, Grotto Street, Wheelock Parkway and Arlington Avenue** with the construction on a new bituminous surface street with concrete curb and gutter, City of Saint Paul standard lantern style lighting system where appropriate, concrete driveway aprons, and boulevards landscaped with sod and trees where appropriate. Damaged sidewalk will be replaced as necessary. Sidewalk will be constructed in areas where there is none according to City Sidewalk Policy.

In addition, appropriate sanitary sewer repairs will be made, and storm sewer and sanitary sewer connections will be made at the request of property owners. Existing water main will be replaced where necessary.

The proposed roadway for width for Parkview Avenue and Osage Street is 32' wide to

provide two travel lanes and two parking lanes. East Como Boulevard will be constructed at 28' to provide two travel lanes and parking on the east side of the street. Avon, Folsom, Ivy and Orange Street will be 30' wide to provide two travel lanes and two narrow parking lanes. Concrete sidewalks where present and will be repaired to match the existing width. In areas where sidewalk is not present, a 5 wide sidewalk will be constructed.

As part of this project, special attention will be paid to bringing the existing pedestrian ramps up to current ADA standards and City design standards.

Public art will be included in the project, following the procedures developed for street projects. Funding for public art is 1% of eligible project funds, in this case Street Reconstruction Bonds, as determined by the Office of Financial Services per the City's Public Art Ordinance.

### **ALTERNATES**

To do nothing would not fulfill the neighborhood's desire for a calmer, more cohesive and safer environment for all modes.

### **POSITIVE BENEFITS**

General improvement of the public right-of-way will enhance and add quality to the neighborhood. The newly rebuilt roadways will improve the durability and drivability of the streets, reduce maintenance issues, and continue the City's efforts to improve the transportation system in Saint Paul. The lighting system will enhance neighborhood safety and aesthetics. The upgrades to the sidewalks will improve pedestrian safety and movement.

### **ADVERSE EFFECTS**

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

### **EFFECTS ON TREES**

This project will impact boulevard trees. Trees impacted by disease or pests will be removed. The project will seek to minimize tree impacts where possible. 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 is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2025 and completed in the fall of 2025.

## **COST ESTIMATE**

Construction	\$ 8,000,000
Engineering	<u>\$ 2,000,000</u>
<b>PROJECT TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 9,628,750</b>

## **ESTIMATED FINANCING**

Saint Paul Regional Water Services (SPRWS)	\$ 718,750
Sewer Repairs	\$ 690,000
Street Reconstruction Bonds	<u>\$ 8,220,000</u>
<b>PROJECT TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 9,628,750</b>

## **SOURCE OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

For additional information, contact the Project Engineer, Barbara Mundahl, at 266-6112.

## **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,

Barbara Mundahl  
Public Works