

SUMMARY OF ENGINEERING RECOMMENDATIONS
Grand Avenue Pedestrian Safety Improvements Project

City Project No. 18-P-1439

State Aid Project No. 164-141-011

Report Prepared 12/04/2017

Public Hearing 2/21/2018

PROJECT

The project seeks to improve pedestrian crossings on **Grand Avenue between Hamline Avenue and Victoria Street**. Improvements consist of curb extensions (bumpout) and/or a center median refuge at unsignalized intersections, signal modifications, ADA compliant pedestrian ramps, and high visibility style crosswalk markings.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The average daily traffic volume (ADT) between Hamline Avenue and Victoria Street varies from 12,800 to 15,200. The right of way is 80 feet wide with a 56-foot wide roadway which is a 3-lane section with parking allowed on both sides. Grand Avenue is classified as a B minor arterial in the St. Paul Transportation Plan and is designated as a Municipal State Aid Route. Grand Avenue is also a bus route.

The development adjacent to Grand Avenue is mixed use. Grand Avenue is a popular commercial area which generates a high volume of pedestrians who cross Grand Avenue and the intersecting streets along Grand Avenue to patronize the shops and restaurants along Grand. The larger neighborhood adjacent is densely developed which also contributes to the high volume of pedestrians.

Over the 10 years between 2004 and 2013, there were three fatal crashes on this segment of Grand Ave, two of which were pedestrian crashes (2010 and 2012). During that same time period, there were seven incapacitating crashes, four of which were pedestrian crashes. Overall, there were 27 pedestrian and 23 bike crashes in the one mile segment over the ten years between 2004-2013.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

This project reconstructs five unsignalized intersections along the one mile of Grand Ave between Hamline Ave and Victoria St, and makes signal improvements at the three signalized intersections. At unsignalized intersections, work will consist of building curb extensions (bumpouts) and/or center median refuge. At signalized intersections, signal improvements will consist of pedestrian countdown timers, accessible pushbuttons,

leading pedestrian interval (LPI) signal phasing if possible, replacement of 8" signal heads with 12" heads, and blue enforcement lights. Overhead signal indications will be installed on the Hamline Ave legs of that intersection. At all intersections, ADA-compliant pedestrian ramps will be installed if not already.

There are No Right of Way acquisitions required for this project.

ALTERNATES

Doing nothing would not address the pedestrian safety concerns identified. Pedestrian safety improvements on Grand Avenue were requested by the neighborhood and businesses. The proposed improvements were recommended in the Ramsey County Safety Plan and 2007 Minnesota Strategic Highway Safety Plan, and limit impact and cost to the pedestrian crossing locations (intersections).

POSITIVE BENEFITS

Curb extensions reduce the pedestrian crossing distance and provide better sight distance between pedestrians and motorists. They will also provide a physical delineation of legal parking areas.

Signal modifications will improve visibility and comprehension of signal heads and improve usability for the disabled. Non-compliant pedestrian ramps will be reconstructed to meet ADA standards.

ADVERSE EFFECTS

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

EFFECTS ON TREES

No tree impacts are anticipated.

TIME SCHEDULE

The project will begin in the summer of 2018 and will be completed by the fall of 2018.

COST ESTIMATE

Construction	\$	730,000
Engineering	\$	<u>187,800</u>
PROJECT TOTAL	\$	917,800

ESTIMATED FINANCING

Capital Improvement Bonds	\$ 250,000
Federal HSIP Funds	<u>\$ 667,800</u>
PROJECT TOTAL	\$ 917,800

There are no assessments proposed for this project.

SOURCE OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information, contact the Project Engineer, HunWen Westman, at 266-6174.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

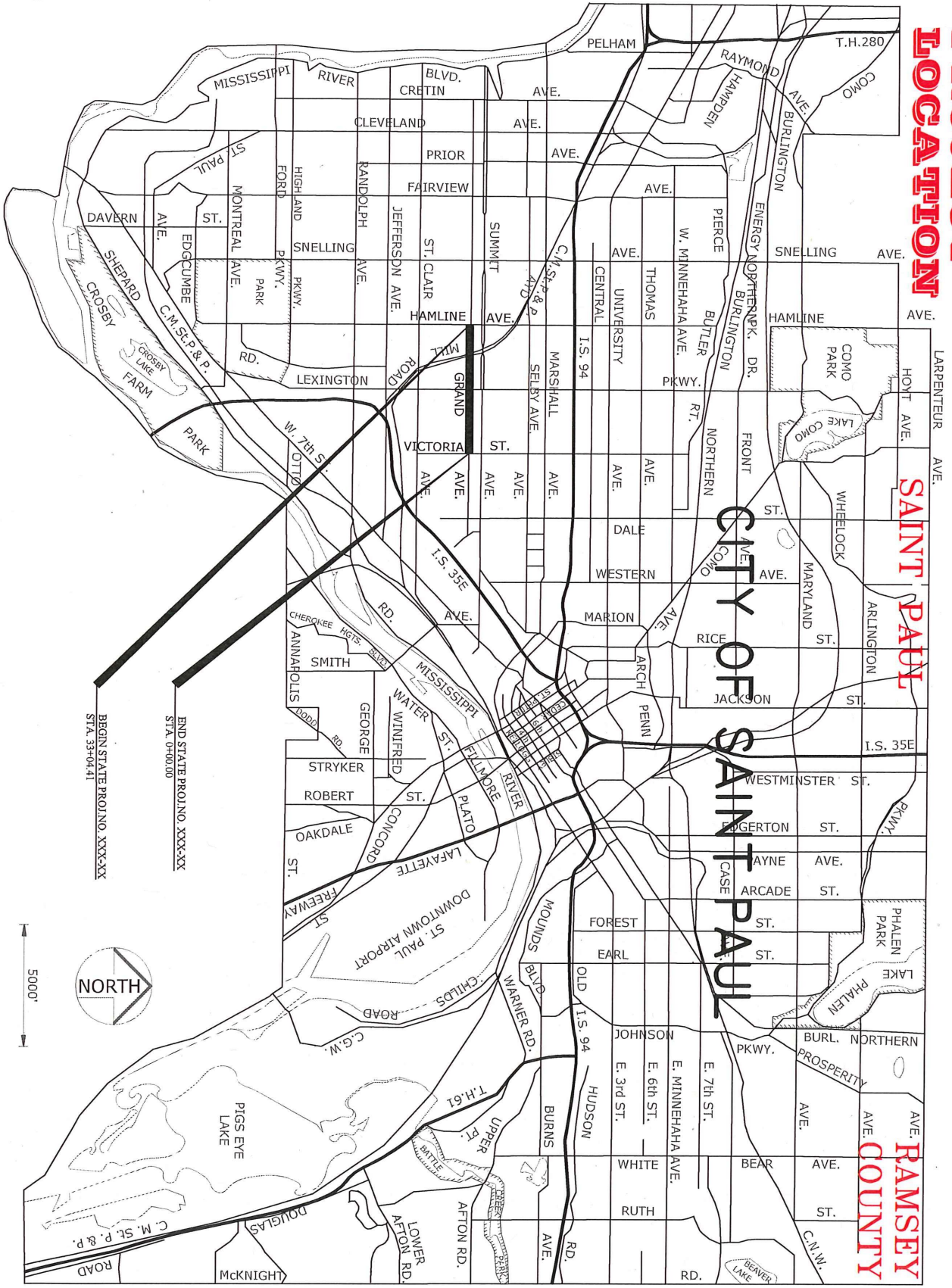
The Department of Public Works has ranked this a high priority project and the Engineering Recommendation is for approval of the project and financing.

Respectfully submitted,



HunWen Westman
Public Works

PROJECTIONS LOCATION



5000'

BEGIN STATE PROJ. NO. XXX-XX
STA. 33+04.41

END STATE PROJ. NO. XXX-XX
STA. 0+00.00