

SUMMARY OF ENGINEERING RECOMMENDATIONS
Shared Use Trail along Pierce Butler Route

Report Prepared 4-1-2016
Public Hearing 05-18-2016

PROJECT

This project is to construct a shared use trail along Pierce Butler Route. The shared use trail will run from the southeast corner of the intersection of Pierce Butler Route and Dunlap Street to the shared use trail along the west side of Lexington Avenue.

This project is funded by the City of Saint Paul. Though Pierce Butler Route is CSAH 33 in the area of this project, county state aid funding will not be used.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Pierce Butler Route is an east-west arterial roadway with one lane of through traffic in each direction. There are dedicated bicycle lanes in both directions and a two-way left-turn lane as well.

There is a shared use trail that runs along the west side of Lexington Parkway from Minnehaha Avenue to Horton Avenue, at the Como Park Zoo. Both Lexington Avenue and the shared use trail that runs alongside of it are grade separated over Pierce Butler Route.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

As part of this project, a bituminous shared use trail would be constructed connecting Pierce Butler Route with the shared use trail along Lexington Parkway. The trail would run south of Pierce Butler from Dunlap Street, and would provide a connection between two dedicated bicycle facilities.

ALTERNATIVES

A field visit, as well as the view on Google Earth, shows a worn path in the grass from the Pierce Butler to the shared use trail along Lexington. To do nothing would be ignore an existing demand for a connection between the two facilities, and be a missed opportunity to provide a more comprehensive network for bicyclists and pedestrians.

POSITIVE BENEFITS

This project will provide a paved connection for non-vehicular users who want to travel from Pierce Butler Route to Lexington Avenue, and vice versa. Ultimately, this will lead to a more thorough network for bicyclists and pedestrians in the City of Saint Paul.

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

On all projects, Ash Trees will be removed as part of the Parks and Recreation Structured Removal program. It is likely that one or two coniferous trees and some shrubbery will need to be removed to accommodate the construction of this shared use

trail. There are two large deciduous trees that are near the trail's path that will remain in place.

TIME SCHEDULE

The project will be constructed during the 2016 construction season, likely between the months of August and October.

COST ESTIMATE

Construction	\$	128,000
Engineering	\$	32,000
TOTAL	\$	160,000

ESTIMATED FINANCING

<u>2016 Capital Improvement Bond</u>	\$	160,000
TOTAL	\$	160,000

ASSESSMENTS

There will be no assessments to adjacent landowners as part of this project.

SOURCE OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information, contact the Project Engineer Mitch Bartelt, 651-266-6082.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

The Department of Public Works feels that this is a necessary and worthwhile project, and the Engineering Recommendation is for approval of the project and financing.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitch Bartelt
Public Works