

SUMMARY OF ENGINEERING RECOMMENDATIONS  
**Phalen Villages Left Turn Lanes**  
City Project No. T-1316

Report Prepared – 11/15/10

**PROJECT**

Acquire right-of-way and reconstruct and widen Maryland Avenue from approximately three hundred feet west of Clarence Street to approximately three hundred feet east of the Prosperity Avenue/Phalen Boulevard intersection.

The project is a cooperative project between Ramsey County and the City of Saint Paul. The portion of the project from Etna Street to the eastern end of the project is funded by a Federal Safety Grant to the County. The portion of the project from Etna to the western edge of the project is funded through City of St. Paul Capital Funds. This project seeks to improve safety and traffic flow on Maryland Avenue in the Phalen Village Area. The project was initiated in 2006-2007 CIB Process by Phalen Village Business Association. The project requires the acquisition of right-of-way along the corridor for the purpose of widening the roadway to accommodate eastbound and westbound turn lanes at the Clarence Avenue and Prosperity/Phalen intersections.

**EXISTING CONDITIONS**

With the completion of Phalen Boulevard, traffic from the Hillcrest and Hazel Park neighborhoods that used to access the freeway system (Interstate 35E and Interstate 194) by either traveling west on Maryland Avenue or south on White Bear Avenue, now uses Phalen Boulevard to access the system. Traffic from these neighborhoods reaches Phalen Boulevard by traveling west on Maryland Avenue and turning south on either Clarence Street or Prosperity Avenue. Also, traffic impacts on Maryland Avenue at Clarence Street and Prosperity/Phalen are being felt as a result of the arrival of Cub Foods south of Maryland Avenue on Clarence Street.

The existing Maryland Avenue roadway is a four lane roadway between Clarence Street and Prosperity/Phalen Blvd intersection. Both the Maryland/Clarence and Maryland/Prosperity/Phalen intersections have a large number of left turning type crashes.

**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS**

Implementation of the proposed project includes widening Maryland to 59' width from approximately 150' west of the Clarence intersection to approximately 200' east of the Prosperity/Phalen intersection and then tapering back to the existing roadway at the west and east ends of the project limits. The lane assignments would be two outside thru traffic lanes at thirteen feet (13') wide, two inside thru lanes at eleven feet (11') wide and left turn lanes that are eleven feet (11') wide. Sidewalks on both sides would be rebuilt inclusive of pedestrian ramps that meet ADA requirements. A new signal would be installed at the Clarence intersection and at the Phalen/Prosperity

intersection. New street lighting would be installed along the corridor.

Ramsey County will be acquiring the needed right of way between Etna and east project limits. St. Paul will be acquiring the needed right of way between from west of Clarence to Etna. The administration of project construction is still being finalized.

**PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION:**

It is proposed to acquire right-of-way on Maryland Avenue from approximately three hundred feet west of Clarence Street to Etna Street to facilitate the installation of eastbound and westbound left turn lanes at Clarence Street. City Council approval to proceed with ROW is being requested in this document as is approval for construction. Construction is planned to be completed in 2011.

The right of way proposed to be acquired is on Maryland Avenue from approximately three hundred feet west of Clarence Street to Etna Street as shown on the attached map, specifically parcels 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. Parcels 1 and 7 require only a temporary easement for construction purposes.

**POSITIVE BENEFITS**

The project will improve traffic safety and capacity on this section of Maryland Avenue.

**ADVERSE EFFECTS**

Normal issues relative to implementing infrastructure improvement projects will be present. Those issues include, but may not necessarily be limited to, noise, dust and general disruption to vehicle traffic.

The widening project will require permanent and temporary right-of-way acquisition of properties on both sides of Maryland Avenue. The acquisition process being managed by Ramsey County and City of St. Paul will provide relocation payments and services to owners of acquired property in accordance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Properties Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended and required under state law.

**TIME SCHEDULE**

It is anticipated that property acquisition will be completed in the spring of 2011 and that construction will be completed in 2011.

**COST ESTIMATE**

ROW acquisition	\$ 400,000.00
Construction	\$ 800,000.00
Engineering	<u>\$ 200,000.00</u>

**PROJECT TOTAL** **\$1,400,000.00**

**ESTIMATED FINANCING**

Municipal State Aid Funds	\$1,400,000.00
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**PROJECT TOTAL** **\$1,400,000.00**

**SOURCE OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

For additional information please contact David Kuebler at 266-6217.

**SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION**

The Department of Public Works believes the project submitted herein to be necessary and feasible. The Department's Engineering Recommendation is for approval of the project and acquisition of the right-of-way.

