

SUMMARY OF ENGINEERING RECOMMENDATIONS **Selby Ave and Saratoga St Intersection**

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

PROJECT

This project is to remove a bumpout in the northeast quadrant of the Selby Avenue intersection with Saratoga Street. This will enable a right-turn lane to be added on westbound Selby Avenue for traffic turning onto northbound Saratoga Street.

This project is funded by the City of Saint Paul.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The project intersection is one block east of the intersection of Selby Avenue and Snelling Avenue, and one block west of Ayd Mill Road. Traffic commonly backs up on westbound Selby at the signal-controlled intersection with Snelling. A recently-built mixed use development on the block between Snelling Avenue and Saratoga Street north of Selby has exacerbated this issue.

Bumpouts were installed at the northeast and northwest quadrants of the intersection at Selby Avenue and Saratoga Street circa 1995. The bumpout in the northwest quadrant of the intersection will remain intact. The barriers from the westbound Ayd Mill Road ramp to Selby will also remain intact.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

The intersection improvement at Saratoga is being proposed in hopes that traffic backups will be less likely on westbound Selby by diverting traffic to northbound Snelling via Saratoga Street and Dayton Avenue. Improvements include removing the bumpout, paving the new roadway surface with bituminous for a new right turn lane, reconstruction of the concrete curb, and restoring an existing manhole into a catch basin in the new curb.

Also as part of the project, special attention will be paid to bringing the existing pedestrian ramp up to current ADA standards. Concrete sidewalk panels along Selby Avenue and Saratoga Street along the northeast quadrant on the intersection will be replaced where necessary to meet grades, and V-curb will likely be installed in that quadrant.

A sign to direct traffic to northbound Snelling Avenue via Saratoga Street and Dayton Avenue will be installed on westbound Selby. Appropriate traffic markings will be added or refreshed.

ALTERNATIVES

To do nothing would be to continue to get backups on Selby Avenue at Snelling, and be inconsistent with the City's desire to alleviate traffic flow issues.

POSITIVE BENEFITS

The project would improve traffic flow in the neighborhood. There likely would be far fewer backups on Selby. New ADA pedestrian ramps in the northeast quadrant will

improve access.

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. Pedestrian access in that quadrant of the intersection will likely be impeded during the project, as there will likely need to be a temporary sidewalk closure during construction.

Pedestrians cross the east leg of the intersection will have more distance to travel before getting from one side to the other, and will have to cross an additional lane of traffic to do so. There will also be a permanent removal of parking spaces as a part of this project, to accommodate the right turn lane. (The amount of parking will be reduced by an estimated three parking spaces.)

One block of Dayton Avenue and one block of Saratoga Street will likely experience higher traffic volumes after the project is complete.

EFFECTS ON TREES

It is possible that a mature tree was planted on private property will need to be pruned, as it protrudes on the sidewalk area. Otherwise, there is not expected to be any effect on trees as part of this project.

TIME SCHEDULE

The project will be constructed during the 2016 construction season.

COST ESTIMATE

Construction	\$	20,000
Engineering	\$	5,000
TOTAL	\$	25,000

ESTIMATED FINANCING

2016 Capital Improvement Bond	\$	25,000
TOTAL	\$	25,000

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