

SUMMARY OF ENGINEERING RECOMMENDATIONS  
**Hamline-Midway Library Porous Alley**  
City Project No. XX-P-XXXX

Report Prepared 5/31/2012  
Public Hearing 7/18/2012

**PROJECT**

This project is to improve the alley bounded by Snelling, Minnehaha, Asbury, and VanBuren referred to as the **Hamline-Midway Library Porous Alley**, by constructing a new porous bituminous surface. Utilizing alternative surfaces such as permeable pavement can reduce stormwater runoff volume by allowing stormwater to seep through the pavement surface. See attached map.

**EXISTING CONDITIONS**

The existing "H" alley is in fair to good condition. Interest and demand continues to grow for broadening the use of alternative pavement surfaces within the City. The underlying soils are suitable for infiltration and there is interest by the community to try a porous pavement in an alley. Interest and demand for porous alleys and streets is outpacing the City's ability to understand and address uncertainties associated with current or new permeable pavement installations.

**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS**

The Department of Public Works wishes to construct a pilot demonstration of a permeable surface in the "H" alley bounded Snelling, Minnehaha, Asbury, and VanBuren. The goals of the demonstration are to:

1. Develop first-hand knowledge of the durability of a permeable surface in a context other than parking lots.
2. Better understand the associated maintenance ramifications; and,
3. If possible, compare the cost and benefit to storm water mitigation relative to the City's conventional approach currently considered the most cost-effective.

**ALTERNATES**

Do nothing and wait for other communities to construct pilot projects for us to learn from.

**POSITIVE BENEFITS**

Lessons learned from this project will be used on future projects. The findings from this pilot demonstration will help us determine if policy changes are warranted and aid us in making informed decisions about alternative surface usage on a city wide scale.

**ADVERSE EFFECTS**

Normal problems associated with construction such as noise, dust, reduced access to

the neighborhood, and general disruption will be present.

#### **TIME SCHEDULE**

The project will begin in late summer of 2012 and will be completed by the fall of 2012.

#### **COST ESTIMATE**

Construction	\$	300,000
Engineering	\$	90,000
Miscellaneous	\$	<u>25,000</u>
<b>PROJECT TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>415,000</b>

#### **ESTIMATED FINANCING**

Sewers, Storm Water Management Fund	\$	415,000
<b>PROJECT TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>415,000</b>

Since this is a pilot project there will be no assessments to abutting property owners.

#### **SOURCE OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

For additional information, contact the Project Engineer, Dan Haak, at 266-6084.

#### **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,

Dan Haak  
Public Works

