SUMMARY OF ENGINEERING RECOMMENDATIONS
Raymond Avenue Streetscape Project
City Project No. 15-P-1393
State Aid Project No. 164-020-133

Report Prepared – 10/27/14
Public Hearing – 2/4/15

PROJECT

The project seeks to improve **Raymond Avenue from Hampden Avenue to Energy Park Drive** by installing traffic calming devices and improving the existing bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The traffic calming devices include bump-outs and intersection re-alignments resulting in a safer environment for all users.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Raymond Avenue was originally paved in 1924. It was last paved in 1988. The pavement is in fair to poor condition with a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) of 34 out of 100.

The existing street width on Raymond between Hampden Ave. and Robbins St. is 40'. The existing street width on Raymond between Robbins St. and Energy Park Dr. is 44'. The Right of Way is 66' wide.

Raymond Avenue currently has three different styles of street lighting.
There are lanterns north of Robbins Street. There are bent straw and davit arms on wood poles south of Robbins Street.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

It is proposed to reconstruct Raymond Avenue between Hampden Avenue and Energy Park Drive. The improvements include concrete curb and gutter, new bituminous roadway, sidewalk improvements, ADA compliant pedestrian ramps, bike lane improvements, lantern style street lighting and traffic signal revisions at Raymond and Energy Park Drive.

The underutilized parking on the west side of Raymond Avenue between Manvel Street and Robbins Street will be removed.

This project was originally initiated by the Raymond Avenue Traffic Calming Task Force which was formed in 2006 by the Saint Anthony Park Community Council. The project as proposed is the result of long term public process. This project would be phase II of a three phase effort to improve Raymond Avenue between University Avenue and Como Avenue.

The Traffic Signal at Energy Park Drive and Raymond will be reconstructed. An off-road bicycle path will be constructed on the south side of Energy Park Drive between Everett Court and 250' west of Raymond Avenue. This is in keeping with future bike plan improvements.

ALTERNATES
To do nothing would not fulfill the neighborhood's desire for a calmer, more cohesive and safer environment for bicyclists, pedestrians and other modes of traffic.

POSITIVE BENEFITS
General improvement of the public right-of-way will enhance and add quality to the neighborhood. The plan is in keeping with the City's Complete Streets Initiative and District 12 Small Area Plan, relevant sections of which have been incorporated into the City's Comprehensive Plan. The newly rebuilt roadway will improve drivability of the neighborhood. Increased green space and lantern style street lighting will enhance neighborhood safety and esthetics.

ADVERSE EFFECTS
Normal problems associated with construction such as noise, dust, reduced access to the neighborhood, and general disruption will be present. Parking will be banned on the west side of Raymond between Hampden and the alley north of Hampden and between Manvel and Robbins.

EFFECTS ON TREES
Ash trees and stumps will be removed. New trees will be planted as part of the boulevard restoration.

TIME SCHEDULE
The project will begin in the spring of 2015 and will be completed by the fall of 2015.

COST ESTIMATE

Construction	$ 1,660,000
Engineering	$ 415,000
PROJECT TOTAL	**$ 2,075,000**

ESTIMATED FINANCING

MSA (Municipal State Aid)	$ 454,300
CSAH (Ramsey County)	$ 535,000
ISTEA (Federal Transportation Funding)	$ 1,000,000
Assessments	$ 220,700
PROJECT TOTAL	**$ 2,075,000**

The 2015 assessment rate for arterial street paving and lighting is expected to be approximately $100.00 total per ASSESSABLE FOOT.

SOURCE OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information, contact the Project Engineer, Barb Mundahl, at 266-6112.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

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

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Mundahl
Public Works