

SUMMARY OF ENGINEERING RECOMMENDATIONS **2023 Saint Paul Streets Project**

Report Prepared – 11/20/2023
Public Hearing – 6/12/2024

PROGRAM

The project seeks to improve **Grand Avenue from Fairview Ave N to Snelling Avenue (Highway 51)** by reconstructing the pavement and improving pedestrian facilities.

Improvements to be made as part of the project include constructing new concrete pavement with concrete curb and gutter, concrete sidewalk, lighting, and associated traffic signal upgrades. In addition, appropriate water and storm sewer repairs will be made.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Grand Avenue was last paved in the 1960s with a section of road within Macalester College repaved in the 2010s. The Pavement Condition Index (PCI) ranges from near failure (0-20 PCI) from Fairview Avenue to Cambridge Street, poor (21-40) from Wheeler St S to Macalester Street, to moderate (40-59) from Macalester Street to Snelling Avenue. The existing roadway width on Grand Avenue is typically 54 feet, accommodating 2 travel lanes, a center turn lane and 2 parking lanes. The existing street lighting on Grand Avenue is 15-foot double lantern overhead lighting. Metro Transit bus route 63 currently uses Grand Avenue.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Improvements to Grand Avenue between Fairview Avenue and Snelling Avenue include new bituminous pavement with concrete curb and gutter.

The project proposes to narrow Grand Avenue from 54 feet to 48 feet. This new street width will accommodate two travel lanes and two parking lanes. The space from narrowing of the roadway will be added to the boulevard zone. Pedestrian improvements including curb extensions, a pedestrian refuge for a Safe Routes to Schools route at Cambridge Avenue, and two raised midblock crossings between Macalester Avenue and Snelling Avenue. Metro Transit will keep their existing routes on Grand Avenue.

The project includes new traffic signal systems at the intersections of Fairview and Grand Avenue.

ALTERNATES

Extensive public engagement regarding the proposed cross section was conducted by Public Works Transportation Planning.

POSITIVE BENEFITS

General improvement of the public right-of-way will enhance and add quality to the neighborhood. The proposal is in keeping with the City's Complete Streets Initiative, 2040 Comprehensive Plan, and the Saint Paul Bicycle Plan.

ADVERSE EFFECTS

Normal challenges associated with construction such as noise, dust, reduced access to the neighborhood, and general disruption will be present. Existing trees will be removed.

EFFECTS ON TREES

Some boulevard trees may be impacted by this construction. Efforts will be made to preserve as many existing trees as possible. New trees will be planted where there is sufficient space free of utility conflicts.

TIME SCHEDULE

The project will begin in the summer of 2024 and will be completed by the fall of 2025.

COST ESTIMATE

Construction	\$ 8,000,000
Engineering	\$ <u>1,525,000</u>
PROJECT TOTAL	\$ 9,525,000

ESTIMATED FINANCING

Saint Paul Regional Water Services	\$ 700,000
Saint Paul Sales Tax	\$ 6,952,236
Assessments	\$ <u>1,872,764</u>
PROJECT TOTAL	\$ 9,525,000

SOURCE OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information, contact the Project Engineer, Christopher M. Engelmann, at 266-6084.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

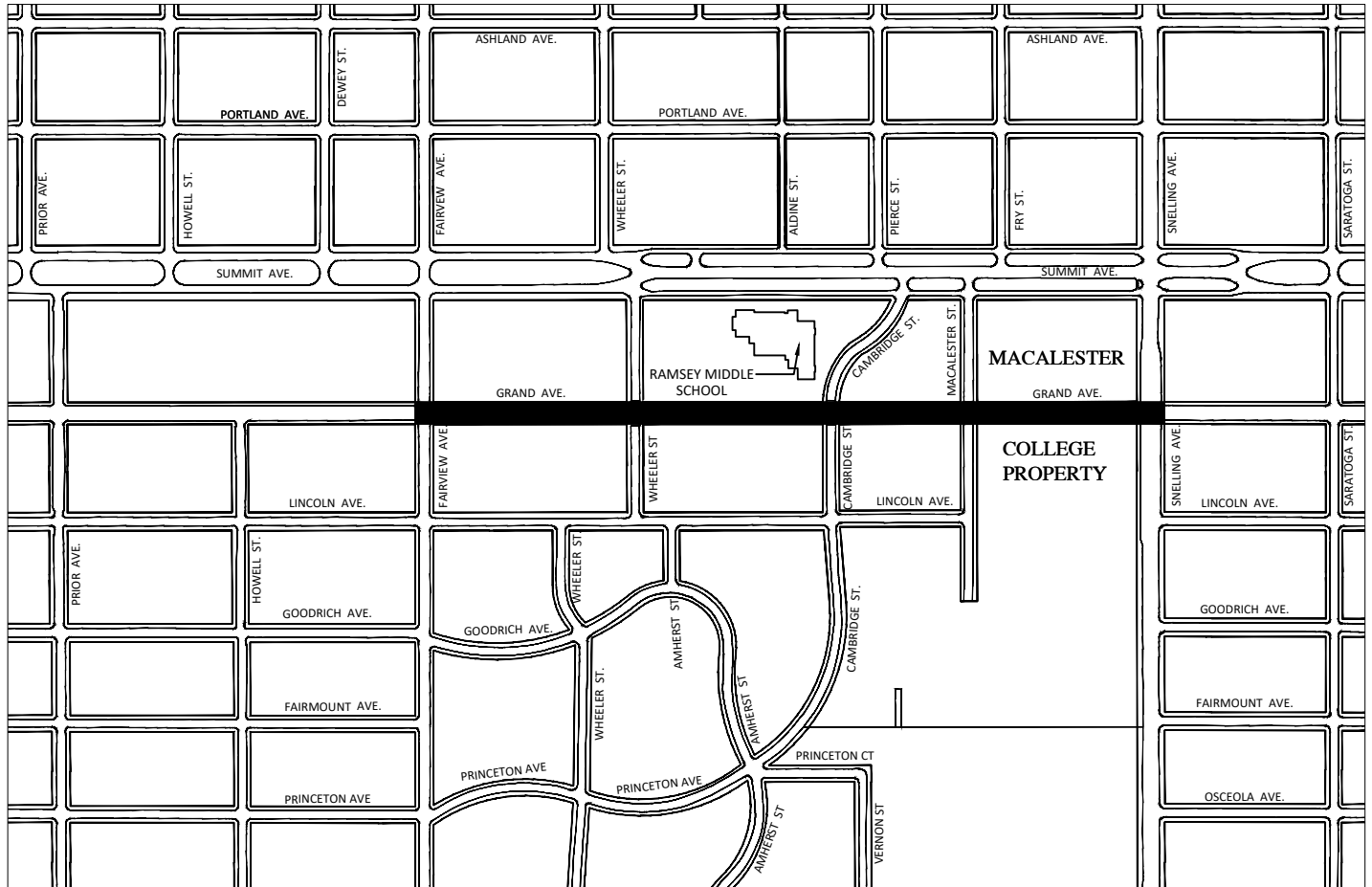
The Department of Public Works has ranked this a high priority project and this Engineering Recommendation is for approval of the project and financing.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher M. Engelmann
Public Works



City of Saint Paul
Department of Public Works
Street Design and Construction Division



GRAND AVENUE



CONSTRUCTION IN 2024



GRAND—FAIRVIEW TO SNELLING

