

STREETS AND UTILITIES TASK FORCE MEETING (MARCH 3, 2015)

ACTION ITEMS

*** White Bear Avenue Reconstruction – I94 to Minnehaha**

Q: A task force member asked if the County or City had considered going to a three-lane section along White Bear Avenue instead of the four lanes that are there today.

Action Taken: Ramsey County actually hired a consultant to do a traffic operational analysis for White Bear Avenue. The results of that study showed that a three lane section would not work along White Bear Avenue simply because of the traffic volumes. (See attached excerpts from the report done by Alliant Engineering)

Q. A task force member asked if the County or City had given any consideration to having the utility lines buried along White Bear Avenue instead of having them strung on wood poles.

Action Taken: Below is an excerpt from an email Public Works received from Xcel Energy with regard to burying the utility lines:

A brief look at our maps of the area you have mentioned to bury overhead facilities, an overview estimate of \$1M could be used.

A few items of mention that may provide known road-blocks are;

- *Required easements for pad-mount equipment and underground cabling*
- *Rewiring of impacted homes/businesses to accept underground service if poles not desired*

*** Rice Street Streetscape – Sycamore to Pennsylvania**

Q: A task force member asked what the City standard is for lighting on bridges. The presentation showed a single lantern style light being proposed for installation.

Action Taken: Back in 1989 the City Council adopted a lighting policy which shows the single lantern style lighting as the standard for installation – this includes lighting along roadways and bridges.

Q. A task force member asked what the traffic volumes were along Rice Street between University and Sycamore.

Action Taken: Although this is a streetscape project with no work proposed for the roadway, the Average Daily Traffic (ADT) along this stretch of Rice Street is 15,375 vehicles per day.

NOTE: *Ramsey County is planning a mill & overlay of Rice Street from University north to the Railroad Bridge in 2015. If this streetscape project were recommended for funding, we could ask the County to hold off doing the mill and overlay until this Streetscape project happens in 2017.*

* **Battle Creek Road Reconstruction – Lower to Upper Afton**

Q: A task force member asked how many homes were adjacent to Battle Creek Road along this stretch from Upper Afton to Lower Afton.

Action Taken: There are 24 homes along Battle Creek Road.

* **Randolph Avenue Reconstruction Ph II – Syndicate to I35E**

Q. A task force member asked about proposed light levels along Randolph Avenue. Would the lantern lighting be sufficient to light the sidewalk area and roadway?

Action Taken: The residential standard spacing for lighting is 165 feet which is a balance between local road light levels and installing 4 poles per block. Randolph Avenue is an A-Minor Arterial and the recommended light level for this type of roadway is 0.9 foot candles. A detailed design analysis will be conducted once project is funded and the spacing of the light poles could be reduced to somewhere around 150 feet.

* **Payne Avenue Reconstruction – Edgerton to Woodward**

Q. A task force member asked about community support for the project.

Action Taken: See attached summaries of work done by City staff and the community and business owners.

* **Pelham Boulevard on the Grand Round**

Q. A task force member asked if we could get an average traffic count along this stretch of Pelham.

Action Taken: The Average Daily Traffic (ADT) count along this stretch of Pelham is 4,350 vehicles per day.

* **Como Avenue Lighting – Dale to RR Tracks**

Q. A task force member asked when Como Avenue along this stretch was last rebuilt and when might it be scheduled for reconstruction in the future.

Action Taken: Como Avenue was last reconstructed in 2004 (11 years ago). The Department of Public Works recently went through an exercise of rating and ranking arterial streets for possible reconstruction. Como ranked 319 out of 419 so it is in pretty good shape and won't be scheduled for any roadway work for a number of years.

General Questions from the Task Force

Q. During the meeting, there were several references made to the Citywide Bike Plan. As such, I am including a map of the Citywide Bike Plan as reference for the task force members to use when needed.

Action Taken: See attached Bike Plan Map

Q. A task force member asked if the City tracked where lighting was installed and what type.

Action Taken: The City Lighting database was able to provide the following information about lighting in terms of percentages:

- Single style standard lantern light poles = **17,708 or 58%**
- Twin lantern style light poles = **1,799 or 6%**
- Globe style light poles = **1,482 or 5%**
- Bent straw, davit, truss style light poles = **7,587 or 25%**
- Wood poles = **1,896 or 6%**