Southport Industrial District Study

Planning Commission
December 1, 2017
City Council resolution initiated the study in December 2015

- Resolution *sprang from permit request* earlier that year. The resolution noted concerns about:
  - Environment
  - Health
  - Safety

- Air quality monitoring results were of concern around this time as well led to year-long monitoring in 2106
Community Forums

- City and Port Authority staff met with the Protect Our Riverfront Together (PORT) group in July 2016. This led to a plan for community forums. Concerns and questions raised at the forums provided direction for the study. Forum topics included:
  - Air Quality & Environment
  - Railroads & Emergency Management
  - Air Quality & Fugitive Dust
Study Contents...

- **Background** on Southport
- **Air quality** monitoring activity
- **Fugitive dust** and strategies for reducing it
- **Public health** discussion
- **Traffic analysis**: auto, truck, and train
- **Alternative access** discussion
- **Emergency response** and management (evacuation, accidents, train cargo)
Study Contents

- **Great River Passage** Master Plan
- **Future of Southport**
  - River Action Strategy (Port Authority)
  - Port Optimization Plan (Port Authority)
- **MN Port Development Assistance Program**
- **Study Recommendations**
- Appendices (resolution, meeting summaries, air monitoring results, and hazardous chemical inventory)
Study Recommendations

- Improving air quality
  - reduce fugitive dust
  - address truck idling and diesel emissions

- Making complaints to the city and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

- Contacting the railroad during train blockages
Study Recommendations

- Participating in emergency management workshops and fire department visits
- Participating in the City’s emergency notification system
- Participating in Saint Paul-Ramsey County Public Health community meeting offerings
- Considering a speed limit for Barge Channel Road to reduce fugitive dust
Staff Recommendation

- Release the study for review and set a public hearing date for January 12, 2018.

Questions