



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Public Works

Date: April 29, 2014
To: Honorable Kevin Reich, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee
Subject: **Protected Bikeways Update to the Minneapolis Bicycle Master Plan**

Recommendation:

Receive and file update on the development of the Protected Bikeways Update to the Minneapolis Bicycle Master Plan.

Previous Directives:

- June 28, 2013 – City Council adopted the Minneapolis Climate Action Plan.
- June 22, 2011 – City Council approved the Minneapolis Bicycle Master Plan.

Department Information:

Prepared by: Anna Flintoft, Transportation Planner, 673-3885

Approved by: _____

Steven A. Kotke, P.E., Director of Public Works

Presenters in Committee: Anna Flintoft

Financial Impact

- None. Action is within the current project budget.

Community Impact

- City Goals:
 1. Living Well - High-quality and convenient transportation options connect every corner of the city.
 2. One Minneapolis - All people have access to quality essentials, such as housing, education, food, child care and transportation.

Supporting Information

A protected bikeway is a bicycle facility that is physically separated from motor vehicle traffic. Off-street trails are the most common type of protected bikeway; however, protected

bikeways may also be located within street corridors and separated from traffic lanes through parked cars, curbs, medians, bollards/flexible traffic posts, planters or other vertical feature.

The current Minneapolis Bicycle Master Plan, approved in 2011, addresses a broad range of bikeway facility types, including off-street trails, bike boulevards, bike lanes, and shared lanes, but it does not specifically address on-street protected bikeways. The City of Minneapolis adopted a Climate Action Plan in 2013 recommending implementation of 30 miles of on-street protected bike facilities by 2020. There is growing interest in implementing protected bikeways in Minneapolis and throughout the country, and protected bikeways have been considered in a number of recent street design processes. Currently, protected bikeway implementation is planned for several corridors, including parts of 26th Avenue N, 18th Avenue NE, Broadway Av NE, W 36th St, and Washington Avenue S, and the Franklin Avenue Bridge over the Mississippi river.

Public Works is leading a planning process to update the Minneapolis Bicycle Master Plan with priority corridors, capital costs, and maintenance costs for implementation of protected bikeways in Minneapolis. The final document will be an addendum to the existing bicycle master plan and is expected to be completed by the end of 2014. Staff is working with the Bicycle Advisory Committee on the plan update. Hennepin County is also in the process of updating their bicycle master plan. Staff is working with Hennepin County to coordinate the two processes as much as possible.

Public Works is planning two phases of public engagement. In May 2014, staff will seek public input on where protected bikeways are most needed. Public Works will use that input to identify an initial list of corridors for further evaluation. Following that evaluation over the summer and the resulting development of a draft list/map of priority corridors, staff will seek further input on the draft master plan amendment in Fall 2014.

The City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County will hold a joint open house meeting on Thursday, May 8, 5:30-7:30pm at the Minneapolis Central Library to give the public an opportunity to learn about these plan updates and to share their ideas on improving bicycle facilities in Minneapolis.

More information is available on the City's website: www.minneapolismn.gov/bicycles.