



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

Date: June 16, 2009

To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

Subject: **Access Minneapolis: Citywide Ten-Year Transportation Action Plan**
Access Minneapolis: Pedestrian Master Plan

Recommendation:

- a. Approve the Access Minneapolis Citywide Ten-Year Transportation Action Plan
- b. Receive and file the draft Minneapolis Pedestrian Master Plan for public review

Previous Directives:

- April 2, 2004 Resolution 2004R-139 – Appropriated \$300,000 for citywide transportation planning
- June 8, 2004 – TPW received & filed study goals and timelines
- November 5, 2004 – Authorized the issuance of a Request for Proposals to solicit consultant proposals for the Transportation Action Plan
- November 5, 2004 – Authorized entering into interagency agreements with Hennepin county and Metropolitan Council regarding funding participation
- March 18, 2005 – Approved consultant selection and authorized execution of contract
- March 18, 2005 – Authorized entering into interagency agreement with Mn/DOT regarding funding participation
- July 1, 2005 – Appointed Project Steering Committee
- March 10, 2006 – Authorized amendment to consultant contract to complete a Streetcar Feasibility Study
- November 3, 2006 – Authorized amendment to consultant contract to complete additional traffic analysis and public outreach
- December 22, 2006 – Approved contract extension with three partner agencies for funding reimbursement to 12/31/2007.
- March 20, 2007 – TPW received and filed draft Downtown Action Plan
- April 3, 2007 - Authorize City officials to accept two NTP direct award federal grants (\$150,000 Citywide Pedestrian Master Plan, S.P. 141-091-02 and \$200,000 Citywide Bicycle Parking, S.P. 141-091-01); Authorize City officials to accept the Blue Cross Blue Shield grant for \$75,000 to be used for the Citywide Pedestrian Master Plan; Authorize City officials to enter into respective agreements with MnDOT State Aid and/or Blue Cross Blue Shield as needed to obtain such grant awards; Authorize Public Works to develop and issue an RFP for a consultant to assist on the Citywide Pedestrian Master Plan pending PRC approval.
- April 13, 2007 – Resolution 2007R-187 appropriated \$247,000 to Action Plan
- June 29, 2007 – Approved Downtown Action Plan - Petn No. 272107
- September 25, 2007 - Authorize proper city officials to enter into a contract with the consultant team of T. Y. Lin International to complete the Citywide Pedestrian Master Plan pending city attorney review and execution of grant contracts.

- October 9, 2007 - Received and filed the draft Streetcar Feasibility Study and draft Citywide Ten-Year Transportation Action Plan for public review
- January 22, 2008 – Received and filed the Streetcar Feasibility Study Final Report
- April 22, 2008 – Received and filed the Access Minneapolis Design Guidelines for Streets and Sidewalks

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Approved by:

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

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Transportation Planning & Engineering

Charleen Zimmer, Project Manager, Access Minneapolis

Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC):	Not applicable
Civil Rights Affirmative Action Plan	Not applicable
Policy Review Group (PRG):	Not applicable

Financial Impact

No financial impact

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification:

- A public meeting on the Pedestrian Master Plan has been scheduled for July 16, 2009. Email distribution has been made to the City’s pedestrian listserve, interested stakeholders, neighborhood organizations and the Pedestrian Advisory Committee. News releases have been sent. Information has been posted to the City’s website.
- The Citywide Transportation Action Plan was drafted and presented for public review at 9 public meetings in October 2007.

City Goals: Meets the goals of:

- Connected communities
- Integrated, multimodal transportation choices border to border
- Walkable, bikable
- Enriched environment
- Energy into renewable and alternative energy
- Replant, restore, reverse our urban forest

Comprehensive Plan: implements the transportation policies set forth in the city’s comprehensive plan

Zoning Code: Not Applicable

Background/Supporting Information

The purpose of *Access Minneapolis*, the city’s Ten-Year Transportation Action Plan, is to identify specific actions that the City and its partner agencies (Metro Transit, Metropolitan Council, Hennepin County, Minnesota Department of Transportation) need to take within the next ten years to implement the transportation policies articulated in *The Minneapolis Plan for Sustainable Development (2008)*, the city’s comprehensive plan.

There are six components of *Access Minneapolis*:

- *Downtown Ten-Year Transportation Action Plan*, which was approved by City Council in June 2007.
- *Streetcar Feasibility Study*, which was received and filed by City Council in January 2008.
- *Design Guidelines for Streets and Sidewalks*, which was received and filed by City Council in April 2008.
- *Citywide Ten-Year Transportation Action Plan*, which is being presented for final City Council approval in this request.
- *Pedestrian Master Plan*, which is being presented for City Council to receive and file it prior to public review.
- *Bicycle Master Plan*, which is currently being developed and will be completed in 2009.

Citywide Transportation Action Plan

The Citywide Transportation Action Plan was drafted and presented for public review at nine public meetings in October 2007. Based upon Council comments indicating the need for more detail on pedestrian, bicycle, traffic calming/arterial speed management, and implementation actions, the plan was delayed pending further work on these issues and development of the pedestrian and bicycle master plans.

The Plan includes over 60 actions related to eight objectives, as well as funding and implementation. The eight objectives are:

1. Make transportation design decisions based on place type in addition to street function.
2. Ensure that all streets in the City are safe, convenient and comfortable for walking.
3. Provide a well-connected grid of bike lanes.
4. Provide the best possible transit service on a Primary Transit Network (PTN).
5. Encourage people to walk, bike and take transit rather than drive.
6. Optimize the use, safety and life of the street system.
7. Manage and operate streets to support all modes of transportation.
8. Make consistent decisions for curbside uses.

The Access Minneapolis Project Steering Committee has reviewed and provided input on the revised final plan. The final plan is posted on the Minneapolis website at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/public-works/trans-plan/> under the Citywide Transportation Action Plan section. Staff is requesting City Council approval of the plan.

Pedestrian Master Plan

The purpose of the Pedestrian Master Plan is to provide guidance on making Minneapolis a great walking city where people choose to walk for transportation, recreation, and health. The planning process was initiated in January 2008 and has been developed under the guidance of the City's Pedestrian Advisory Committee and a team of City staff from Public Works and Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED). Two public meetings have been held to gather input on the plan in March and September 2008.

The draft plan includes over 60 implementation strategies focused around the following 7 goals:

1. A Well-Connected Walkway System
2. Accessibility for All Pedestrians
3. Safe and Convenient Street Crossings
4. A Pedestrian Environment that Fosters Walking
5. A Well-Maintained Pedestrian System
6. A Culture of Walking
7. Funding, Tools and Leadership for Implementing Pedestrian Improvements

The draft plan has been posted to the City's website at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/pedestrian/pedestrian-masterplan.asp>. Staff is requesting City Council to receive and file the plan prior to public review and a July 16, 2009 public meeting.