



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

Date: March 25, 2008
To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee
Referral: Honorable Paul Ostrow, Chair Ways & Means Committee
Subject: **East Island Avenue and West Island Avenue RR Safety Project Agreement**

Recommendation:

- a. Increase the appropriation for the PW-Transportation Capital Agency in the Permanent Improvement Fund (4100-943-9440 – TR713070) by \$448,100 and increase the revenue source (4100-943-9440 – TR713070) by \$448,100 to be reimbursed by Federal Aid Funds.
- b. Authorize the proper City Officials to execute Agreement No. 92343 with the State of Minnesota and the BNSF Railway Company

Previous Directives: None

Prepared by: Steve Mosing, Traffic Operations Engineer 673-5746

Approved by:

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

Presenters: Steve Mosing, Traffic Operations Engineer, Department of Public Works, Traffic and Parking Services

Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC):	NA
Civil Rights Affirmative Action Plan	NA
Policy Review Group (PRG):	NA

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

- No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- Business Plan: Action is within the plan. Action requires a change to plan.
- Other financial impact (Explain):
- Request provided to department's Finance Dept. contact when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification: Not Applicable
 City Goals: A SAFE PLACE TO CALL HOME: the city's infrastructure will be well-maintained, people will feel safe in the city.
 Comprehensive Plan: Not Applicable
 Zoning Code: Not Applicable

Background/Supporting Information

MnDOT's Office of Freight and Commercial Vehicle Operations annually conducts safety reviews of grade crossing locations for potential projects to include in the RR Grade Crossing Safety Program. This project was submitted and approved for SAFETEA-LU funds as part of the State's 2009 and 2010 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The project has been accepted for advance constructing in years 2008/2009 for the purpose of accommodating the opening of Northstar Commuter Rail Line.

This project includes safety enhancements such as the replacement of the existing crossing warning devices with warning devices that are more reliable, the addition of crossing gates and replacing existing track circuitry for improved train arrival prediction.

This project will be completed in 2008/2009 by BNSF Forces.

Thus, Public Works is requesting that the proper City Officials be directed to execute State Agreement No. 92343 with the State of Minnesota and the BNSF Railway Company for installation of two complete railroad crossing signal systems on Nicollet Island located at East Island Avenue, MUN 859 (USDOTNO: 061314G) and West Island Avenue, MUN 866 (USDOTNO: 061314).

The estimated total cost for the two crossing signal installations is \$497,900. Of this cost, 90% (\$448,100) will be reimbursed by the Federal Highway Administration in cooperation with the State of Minnesota. The City is responsible for funding the remaining costs (\$49,800) which is programmed as Net Debt Bonds in the 2009 Public Works Capital Budget Requests.

Attachments: Map

Cc: Council Member Hofstede, Ward 3
 Don Elwood, Public Works
 Greg Schroeder, Public Works
 Steve Mosing, Public Works

By Council Members Colvin Roy and Ostrow

“Passage of a resolution to amend the 2008 general appropriation resolution to increase appropriation for Public Works in the Capital Improvements Fund in the Transportation Capital Agency for expenses related to capital projects by \$448,100 funded from an increase to Federal Aid revenues in the amount of \$448,100 (4100-943-9440 – TR713070); amend the allocation of resources as follows: increase the revenue source (4100-943-9440 – TR713070) by \$448,100.”

T&PW

Your Committee recommends that the proper City Officials be directed to execute Agreement No. 92343 [MN Proj. RRS 2708(138)] with the Commissioner of Transportation, State of Minnesota and the BNSF Railway Company in the amount of \$497,900 for installation of two complete railroad crossing signal systems on Nicollet Island located at East Island Avenue, and West Island Avenue