



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

Date: August 12, 2008

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

Referral to:

Subject: Washington Avenue Greening Partnerships

Recommendation:

That the Director of Public Works be authorized to enter into Agreements on behalf of the City with various private sector entities to undertake landscaping improvements in four designated medians in the public right-of-way on Washington Avenue South.

Previous Directives:

Designation Resolution 2002R-175, passed May 17, 2002, that gave Public Works direction to facilitate the construction of center medians on 3rd Avenue South.

Council Action of September 12, 2003 that recommended the establishment of the Downtown Greening Partnership – Third Avenue Pilot Project and authorized the City Engineer to enter into Agreements with private sector entities on 3rd Avenue South.

2008 – 2012 Five Year Capital Program Resolution 2007R-645, passed December 12, 2007, that included PV055 – Washington Boulevard Functional Improvements to be constructed in 2008.

Prepared by: Michael D. Kennedy, P.E., Director, Transportation Maintenance & Repair

Approved by:

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

Presenters: Michael Kennedy

Reviews

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

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:
- City Goals:
- Comprehensive Plan:
- Zoning Code:

Background/Supporting Information:

In 2002 and 2003 the Downtown Greening Partnership program established a method for public-private entities (e.g., business organizations, property owners, corporations) to beautify and landscape the public right-of-ways. On 3rd Avenue South, Resolution 2002R-175 gave Public Works the direction to furnish and install landscape medians that included electrical and water sources. Private sector entities, via formal Agreements with the City, then furnished and installed plantings, and associated irrigation and lighting systems as they desired, and perform all ongoing operations and maintenance of their respective projects.

In 2007, the Mayor's office received interest from business owners along Washington Avenue South to work together to improve several existing center island medians. Public Works and Mayor's staff met with business owners and it was decided that the Downtown Greening Partnership model could be followed to make the desired improvements. Resolution 2007R-645 adopted PV055 – Washington Boulevard Functional Improvements to facilitate provision of the basic infrastructure improvements, including electric and water service, to existing medians that would allow for respective participants to install and maintain landscaping improvements.

It is recommended that the City Engineer be authorized to enter into Agreements on behalf of the City with respective participants to undertake the landscaping improvements on four medians on Washington Avenue South to move forward with the partnerships and improvements. The same guidelines and procedures that were established for the Downtown Greening Partnership will be used on Washington Avenue.

Attachments: Sample Greening Partnership Agreement

Cc: Mayor RT Rybak
Councilmember Lisa Goodman, Ward 7