



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

**Date:** September 27, 2011

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

**Referral:** Honorable Betsy Hodges, Chair Ways and Means

**Subject:** **4<sup>th</sup> Street / I35W On Ramp and Auxiliary Lane Project, Cooperative Agreement with Hennepin County and Capital Appropriation Adjustments.**

### Recommendation:

- a. Authorize the proper City officers to negotiate and execute a Cooperative Agreement with Hennepin County for the City to participate in the referenced project, including cost sharing. The City's estimated cost share is \$2,000,000.
- b. Authorize the proper City Officials to identify funding/adjust capital appropriations for various projects to fund the 4<sup>th</sup> Street / I35W On Ramp project as follows:
  - Decrease appropriation in 04100-9010937 project CPV007, University Research Park by \$1,582,730 from Municipal State Aid (MSA) funds – revenue source 321514.
  - Allocate unappropriated excess MSA funds in the amount of \$417,270.
  - Increase appropriation in 04100-9010937 project CPV077 4<sup>th</sup> Street / I35W On Ramp and Auxiliary Lane by \$2,000,000 - revenue source 321514.

### Previous Directives:

- None.

**Prepared by:** Bill Fellows, P.E., Life Cycle Project Manager, 673-5661  
Don Elwood, P.E. Transportation Planning & Engineering 673- 3622

### Approved by:

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

**Presenters:** Bill Fellows, P.E., Transportation Planning & Engineering

### Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval NA Date \_\_\_\_\_

Civil Rights Approval Approval NA Date \_\_\_\_\_

Policy Review Group (PRG): Approval NA\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Financial Impact

Action is within current department budget

## **Community Impact:**

### City Goals:

- Neighborhood Notification: The project team has provided a project overview to and solicited input from stakeholders, including the affected neighborhoods. One public Open House was conducted in August, 2011 and additional outreach is planned.
- A SAFE PLACE TO CALL HOME: the city's infrastructure will be well-maintained; people will feel safe in the city.
- CONNECTED COMMUNITIES: Connected network of Transportation Options.
- Comprehensive Plan: The Comprehensive Plan is being met.
- Zoning Code: Not Applicable

## **Background/Supporting Information**

The demand to access northbound I-35W from Downtown Minneapolis exceeds the capacity of existing direct (Washington Avenue) and indirect (Hennepin or 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave Bridge to University/4<sup>th</sup> St) routes. This is especially evident during afternoon peak periods when Washington Avenue is routinely congested several blocks back from the left turn access to 35W north.

A recent study completed at the direction of the City of Minneapolis in partnership with MnDOT and Hennepin County recommended a new eastbound double left turn lane from 4<sup>th</sup> Street South to a new northbound on-ramp. The study also identified the need for an added lane on 35W from University Avenue SE to the Stinson Boulevard exit.

The estimated project cost is \$13,488,000. Transportation Economic Development (TED) funds have been solicited and secured. MnDOT has committed the \$9,441,600 in TED funds to the project. Hennepin County and the City of Minneapolis are to share the remaining project costs, estimated to be \$4,046,000.

The City's share of the remaining project costs are estimated to not exceed \$2,000,000 and will be comprised of municipal state aid funds made available by decreasing the appropriation to CPV007 University Research Park in the amount of \$1,582,730 and using unallocated excess MSA funds in the amount of \$417,270 available due to adjusted appropriations from closed projects.

Hennepin County and MnDOT are the joint project leads, with support from the City of Minneapolis. MnDOT will be requesting Municipal Consent for the project from the City of Minneapolis later this year. The project is scheduled for construction in 2012.

A map of the project is attached.

Attached: Project Map

Cc: Council Member Reich, Ward 1  
Council Member Gordon, Ward 2  
Council Member Hofstede, Ward 3  
Council Member Goodman, Ward 7  
Heidi Hamilton, Public Works  
Don Elwood, Transportation Planning and Engineering  
Jon Wertjes, Traffic & Parking Services  
Pam Fischer, Finance  
Bill Schroeder, Finance