

**Department of Community Planning and Economic Development—Planning Division  
Vacation, Vac-1474**

**Hearing Date:** 1/9/06

Applicant: Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development—Housing Division, 105 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. S., Mpls., MN 55401

**Address of Property:** The area to be vacated is that portion of a tunnel easement located in an alley area that was vacated on November 28, 1913 within Block 15, Windom's Addition, and which lies in the southern half of the block immediately north of the Greenway Corridor and midway between Aldrich and Bryant Avenues S.

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**Ward:** 10      **Neighborhood Organization:** Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association

**Existing Zoning:** R6 Multi-family District

**Comprehensive Plan and City Goals:**

- City Goal #8: Strengthen our city through infrastructure improvements.
- The *Minneapolis Plan* does not contain policies that provide direct guidance as to the proposed vacation of the tunnel easement.

**Proposed Use:** The Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development—Housing Division is seeking to vacate that portion of a tunnel easement located in an alley area that was vacated on November 28, 1913 within Block 15, Windom's Addition, and which lies in the southern half of the block immediately north of the Greenway Corridor and midway between Aldrich and Bryant Avenues S. The vacation is necessary for the City to develop the Urban Village project (Attachment 3 provides a project description and the history of City actions on behalf of this project).

**Background:** When the City vacated the above described alley in 1913, it inadvertently neglected to vacate a tunnel easement in that alley. The Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development—Housing Division is seeking to correct this problem by vacating the tunnel easement. There is no tunnel in the tunnel easement area (refer also to Attachments 2-4.)

**Development Plan:** Refer to Attachment 2.

**Other Zoning Applications Required:** No other approvals are required.

**Attention:** If you want help translating this information, call - **Hmong** - Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu 612-673-2800; **Spanish** - Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llama 612-673-2700; **Somali** - Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 612-673-3500

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**Responses from Utilities and Affected Property Owners:** Notice for the proposed vacation was sent on 10/28/05 to the appropriate list of governmental agencies and utility companies seeking their input. The following summarizes the responses received to date:

- Minneapolis Public Works: Recommends approval of vacation subject to the legal descriptions contained in attached letter (Attachment 5).
- Minneapolis Fire Department: Conditional approval of vacation subject to final approval, based on final plans and/or any changes submitted.
- Minnesota Department of Transportation: No response to the vacation notice.
- Hennepin County Transportation Department: No response to the vacation notice.
- Xcel Energy: No objection to the vacation
- MCI: No objection to the vacation.
- Center Point Energy: No objection to the vacation.
- Qwest: No response to the vacation notice.

**Findings:** As stated above, the purpose of this vacation is to correct a situation created in 1913 (refer also to Attachments 2-4). The CPED—Planning Division agrees with the conclusion of the Public Works Department that the area proposed for vacation is not needed for any public purpose, that it is not part of a public transportation corridor, and that it can be vacated.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Recommendation of the Department of Community Planning & Economic Development – Planning Division for the proposed vacation:**

The Department of Community Planning & Economic Development – Planning Division recommends that the City Planning Commission and City Council **approve** the proposed vacation of that portion of a tunnel easement located in an alley area that was vacated on November 28, 1913 within Block 15, Windom’s Addition, and which lies in the southern half of the block immediately north of the Greenway Corridor and midway between Aldrich and Bryant Avenues S.

**Attachments:**

1. Zoning maps
2. Easement request, and map and aerial photo of easement
3. CPED—Housing Division letter to the City Council, 7/12/05
4. Prior City action vacating the alley (November 28, 1913)
5. Public Works letter
6. Draft Resolution