



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

Date: August 23, 2011
To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee
Subject: **Nicollet Ave (Lake St to 40th St) Reconstruction Project No 6713**

Recommendation:

- A. Approve the attached project layout for the reconstruction of Nicollet Ave (between Lake St and 40th St)
- B. Authorize Public Works to negotiate with private property owners to acquire permanent sidewalk easements and additional right of way if needed.
- C. Setting of a public hearing to be held on October 25, 2011 before the Transportation and Public Works Committee to consider the abandonment and removal of areaways in conflict with the street construction project and directing staff to give notice in accordance with the provisions of Section 95.90 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances

Previous Directives:

- December 13, 2010 - Passage of Resolution adopting the 2011-2015 Capital Programs

Prepared by: Beverly Warmka, P.E. Transportation Planning and Engineering 673-3762
Don Elwood, P.E. Transportation Planning & Engineering 673- 3622

Approved by:

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

Presenters: Don Elwood, P.E. Director, Transportation Planning & Engineering
Beverly Warmka, P.E., Project Engineer, Transportation Planning & Engineering

Reviews:

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

Financial Impact

Action is within current department budget

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification: Sent notices to the area for two community wide meetings in the summer of 2011, along with multiple block, node, business, and neighborhood meetings
City Goals: Maintain the physical infrastructure to ensure a healthy, vital and safe city
Comprehensive Plan: NA
Zoning Code: NA

Background/Supporting Information

Project/Scope

Nicollet Avenue is Municipal State Aid route (MSA 430) and is classified as a community corridor in Access Minneapolis. Nicollet Avenue carries two-way traffic and allows for parking on both sides. Nicollet Avenue, from Lake Street to 40th Street, is proposed for reconstruction. The project is approximately 1.25 miles long. The roadway was constructed in 1954 with a mill and overlay occurring in 1977. There has also been a continuous maintenance effort done.

The proposed reconstructed Nicollet Avenue will carry 2-way motorized traffic and have parking on both sides. The reconstructed street width is generally 44 feet. The roadway will widen between Lake Street and 31st Street as well as around the intersections with 36th Street and 38th Street to accommodate current or future turn lanes. The reconstruction project includes new roadway surface, curb, gutter, turf boulevards, trees, sidewalks, and potential storm water features. Please see the attached layout. The existing street width is generally 50 feet. The reduction in width results in less impervious pavement and allows for wider green space. The boulevards provide space for tree planting, streetscape amenities, light poles, and signs out of the sidewalk area.

There have been many meetings over the last two years with the affected stakeholders to discuss the project and gather feedback. Feedback from the stakeholders and balancing the needs from the multiple users of the corridor has led Public Works to the proposed layout as presented.

Schedule

The final design work for Nicollet Avenue is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2011. The reconstruction of this project is scheduled for 2012 and 2013.

Next Steps

We will return to The Transportation and Public Works committee in early 2012 to designate the project and set a project approval and assessment public hearing.

Authorize Public Works to obtain right-of-way or easements

Staff is requesting authorization to allow Public Works to negotiate with private property owners to acquire permanent sidewalk easements and additional right of way if needed.

Currently, it's not anticipated that permanent easements will be needed. However, some temporary construction easements may be needed to facilitate construction.

Abandonment and Removal of Conflicting Areaways

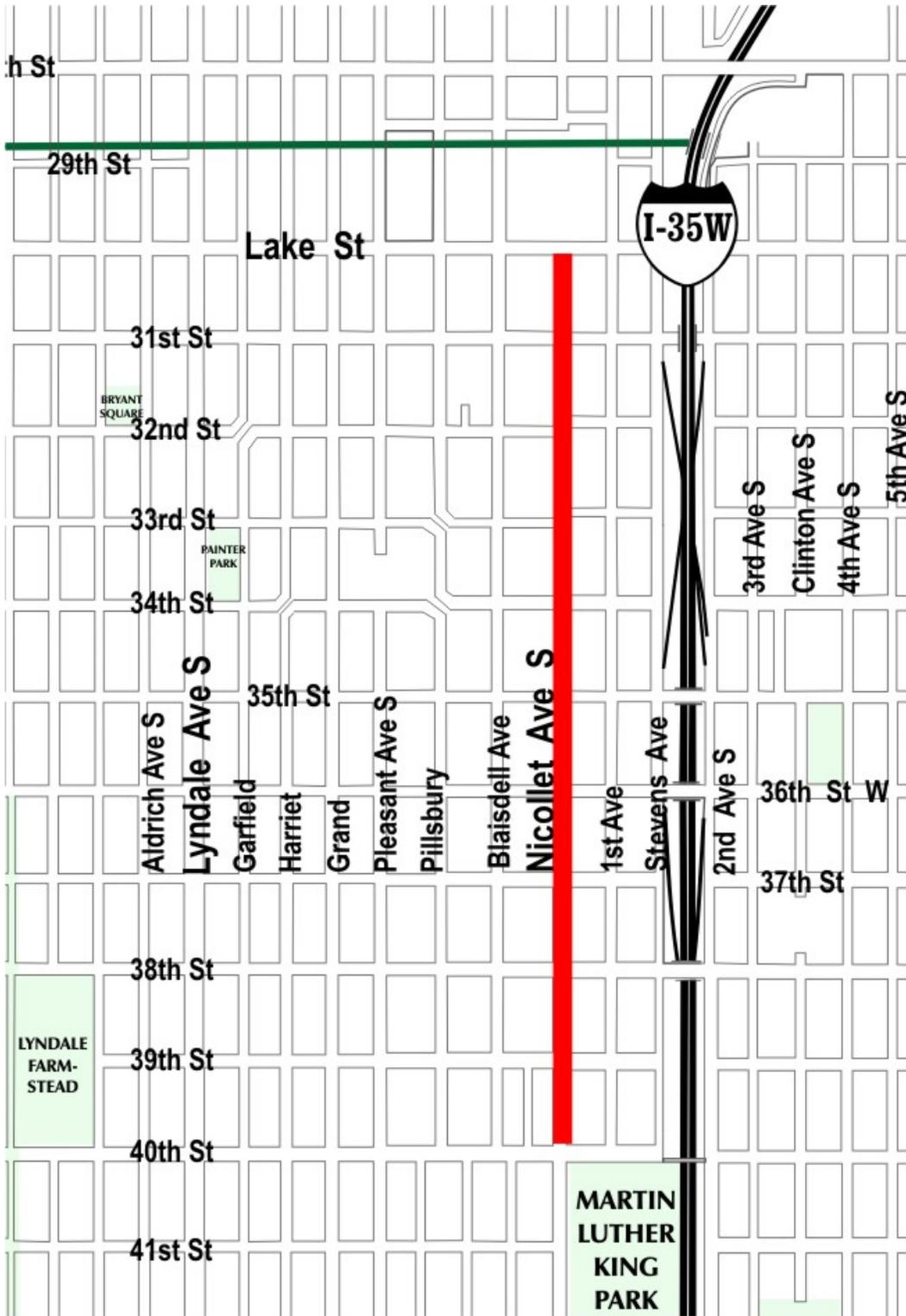
Section 95.90 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances provides a procedure for dealing with areaway encroachments that would interfere with public improvements being made in the public right-of-way such as street construction. Before the City may abandon and remove conflicting areaways (upon the failure of the abutting property owner to resolve or agree to resolve the conflict) and then later assess the costs, a public hearing must be held. It is our recommendation that this areaway public hearing be held in conjunction with the Nicollet Ave Project. Prior to the areaway public hearing notices being given, the City Engineer will have provided the initial notice required in Section 95.90 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances.

The Nicollet Avenue reconstruction project is estimated to occur in the 2012 and 2013 construction seasons.

Attachments: *Project Location Map*
Project Layout

Cc: Council Member Glidden, Ward 8
Council Member Tuthill, Ward 10

Nicollet Avenue Reconstruction – Lake Street to 40th Street
Project Map



 Project

