

City of Minneapolis

Request for Committee Action

To: Transportation & Public Works
Date: 4/5/2016
From: Public Works Department
Lead Staff: Forrest Hardy, Associate Transportation Planner, Transportation Planning & Programming
Presented by: Forrest Hardy, Associate Transportation Planner, Transportation Planning & Programming
File Type: Action
Subcategory: Street Project

Subject:

46th Ave S (Godfrey Pkwy to 46th St E) Reconstruction PV111: Project layout and private easements

Description:

1. Approving the attached project layout for the reconstruction of 46th Avenue South between Godfrey Parkway and 46th Street East.
2. Authorizing Public Works to negotiate with private property owners to acquire easements and additional right of way as necessary.

Previous Actions:

December 9, 2015 – City Council Resolution 2015R-497, Adopting the 2016 – 2021 Five Year Capital Program and fixing the maximum amounts for 2016 to be expended by the various funds under the jurisdiction of the City Council.

Ward/Address:

Ward 12
Hiawatha

Background/Analysis:

This project will reconstruct a one-block segment of 46th Avenue South from Godfrey Parkway to 46th Street East. This portion of 46th Avenue South is a local street that provides access to Minnehaha Park and to Godfrey Parkway. The project is programmed for construction in 2017. The project will consist of removing the existing road and replacing the paving, base, curb, gutter, signage, striping, sidewalks, boulevards, landscaping, and storm drainage.

The existing right-of-way is 66 feet wide and the existing curb to curb width is 40 feet. The street carries two-way traffic and currently has a 9' parking lane on both sides. There is an estimated 2,000 vehicles traveling in this segment daily. Currently a sidewalk and boulevard are present on the western side. The entire segment for reconstruction is 330' in length. The southern portion of the segment, approximately 180 linear feet, was constructed in 1929 as a brick paver surface.

Much of this surface has been covered in asphalt patching and is in very poor condition. Much of the curbs in this section have completely deteriorated. A Pavement Condition Index (PCI) was not available for the southern portion of the block. The northern portion of the block was constructed in 1975 with a concrete surface. The PCI of this section was last reported to be 81 out of a maximum value of 100, in 2011.

The southern portion of the street segment lies fully within Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) right-of-way. MPRB staff are supportive of the proposed reconstruction. However, this portion of the project will require consent from the Park Board for a construction easement or for the establishment of permanent City right-of-way. Further discussion between City and MPRB staff will determine which process is the most appropriate. City staff will return to Council at a later date to seek necessary approvals regarding this right-of-way agreement with the Park Board.

Upon reconstruction, this portion of 46th Ave S will continue to carry two-way vehicle traffic and a standard bicycle lane will be added in either direction. These bicycle lanes will directly serve the Godfrey Parkway Trail which is part of the Grand Rounds Scenic Byway. The boulevard will be widened to provide adequate space for the growth of street trees. In order to accommodate the additional bicycle lanes and additional boulevard space within the limited right-of-way, parking will be removed on the eastern side.

No sidewalk is recommended on the eastern side, and the eastern curb line cannot be widened more than a couple of feet. This is due to the potential impacts this construction would have on six existing mature oak trees, just beyond the eastern right-of-way. Minneapolis Park and Recreational Board staff estimate these trees to be 100 years old, and believe they could double this longevity. See the attached layout.

Public Works staff have met with the affected neighborhood organizations, the Pedestrian Advisory Committee, the Bicycle Advisory Committee, and with MPRB staff to gather feedback on the project. The meetings were held from Sept 2015 to March 2016. Feedback was mostly positive, with a general consensus that the street condition was in need of improvement. The addition of bicycle lanes was positively received, and the removal of parking on the east side was viewed as a necessary adjustment in order to achieve the bicycle facility. Based on comments received, additional boulevard space will allow for an improved pedestrian environment and a healthier growing condition for new street trees. Removal of the slip-turn on the northeastern portion of the project cannot be achieved with the project due to the limited scope and budget. The community requested future coordination with the County in order to address this issue.

The detailed design for 46th Ave S is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2016. The construction of this project is anticipated to begin in 2017.

At a future meeting, Public Works staff will return to committee to designate the project, set an assessment public hearing, and to acquire a temporary easement or additional right-of-way on public property belonging to Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

Financial Review:

No additional appropriation required, amount included in current budget.

Attachments:

1. Attachment 1 – Map
2. Attachment 2 – Proposed Project Layout

cc: Council Member Andrew Johnson, Ward 12