



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

Date: June 8, 2004
To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee
Referral to: none

Subject: Peer Review -- Traffic Signal Management and Operations Program

Recommendation:

1. Receive and File

Previous Directives: None

Prepared by: Jon Wertjes, Director of Traffic and Parking Services, 673-2614
Approved by:

Klara A. Fabry, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

Presenters: Jon Wertjes, Director of Traffic and Parking Services

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
- Other financial impact (Explain):
- Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Background/Supporting Information

In recent years the City of Minneapolis has endured significant reductions in their traffic signal management and operations program. The impacts of some of these changes have led to major portions of the City traffic management system being rendered inoperative or less than fully functional. These reductions have had a noticeable negative impact on the City's ability to promptly and effectively deal with traffic congestion. The reductions have also eliminated the ability for city personnel to actually measure and report on the negative impacts.

To respond to this situation the City of Minneapolis requested an independent review of their traffic signal operations program to attempt to help reconstruct the program to improve traffic conditions. The National Transportation Operations Coalition (NTOC) Traffic Signal Action

Team responded to this request and has produced the attached assessment of the current city program.

The request was originally made by the city to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Minnesota Division office that, working with FHWA's National Resource Center, requested assistance from the National Transportation Operations Coalition, Traffic Signal Action Team. This Coalition includes experts from the Institute of Transportation Engineers, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), ITS America, Association of Metropolitan Planning Officials (AMPO), American Public Transportation Association (APTA), FHWA, the University of Maryland and others.

The assessment was performed on February 19 and 20, 2004 using the first draft of an assessment tool. Goals for the effort were two-fold: first, to assess the condition of the current city program and second, to gain feedback to improve the self-assessment tool. Both city personnel and the assessment team found the effort very helpful. The team brought information of programs undertaken at other locations. The city also provided the team with extremely useful guidance needed to improve the assessment program.

The Peer Review final report is attached.

Attachments:

- Assessment of City of Minneapolis Traffic Signal Management and Operations Program (report)
- PowerPoint Presentation slides for Council Committee

Cc Ogren, Rae, Kennedy
Hotvet, Mosing, Hildebrand, Tacheny