



Minnesota Department of Transportation

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May 18, 2016

Cindy Voigt
City Engineer
City of Duluth
411 West First Street Room 211
Duluth, MN 55802

RE: Request for City Approval (Municipal Consent) of the Final Layout for SP 6910-92.

Dear Ms. Voigt:

MnDOT is proceeding with plans to complete State Project 6910-92, the replacement of the Mission Creek Bridge in the Fond du Lac area of Duluth. In accordance with Minnesota Statute 161.164, I am submitting for City approval the project's Final Layout, identified as Layout No. 2, S.P. 6910-92.

The City's approval (municipal consent) is required for this project because it:

- Alters access by relocating 132nd Avenue W between Hwy 23 and Fourth Street.
- Reduces highway traffic capacity by reducing the lanes through the Fond du Lac area from 4 to 2.
- Requires acquisition of permanent right of way, a tax forfeit parcel between Hwy 23 and Fourth Street will be acquired for the new connection.

Municipal consent of MnDOT projects is described in Minnesota Statutes 161.162 through 161.167 (attached).

Approval or disapproval of the final layout is by resolution of the City Council. (A sample resolution is attached). However, if the City neither approves nor disapproves the final layout within 90 days of the public hearing, the layout is deemed approved (per MN Statute 161.164).

The deadlines (per MN Statute 161.164) for the City's responsibilities regarding municipal consent of the attached layout are as follows, based on a submittal date of the final layout to the City of May 20, 2016.

- Within 15 days of receiving the final layout, schedule a public hearing (by June 6, 2016).
- Within 60 days of receiving the final layout, conduct the public hearing (by July 25, 2016).
- Provide at least 30-days' notice of the public hearing.
- Within 90 days of the public hearing, approve or disapprove the layout by resolution (by August 26, 2016)

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MnDOT will attend the public hearing to present the final layout and answer questions, as required by statute.

Project Purpose

The project is part of a statewide plan to replace or improve deficient bridges on the state highway system.

Project Description

The project limits are from the south end of the St. Louis River Bridge to 0.02 miles east of West 5th Street.

Project Elements include:

- Replacement of the bridge over Mission Creek
- A five foot grade raise at the bridge
- Reduction to two lanes using the existing south bound lanes. There will be 12 foot lanes and 8 foot shoulders.
- A new connection to Fourth Street at 133rd Avenue W and removal of the 132nd Avenue W connection.
- Relocating sidewalks to the median and extension of sidewalks to the St. Louis River Bridge.

Planned Project Schedule

The project is scheduled for February 24, 2017. Construction is anticipated to begin in May 2017 and be completed by November 2017. During construction of the new bridge and roadway, one lane of traffic in each direction will be carried on the existing north bound lanes.

City's Estimated Project Costs

Some project costs are the City's responsibility, as detailed in MnDOT's cost participation policy. (See the policy and the Cost Participation and Maintenance with Local Units of Government Manual at MnDOT's this website: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/policy/financial.fm011.html>) MnDOT's estimated cost for the project is \$3.2 million. There is no City cost except for utility adjustments.

City's Maintenance Responsibilities

The existing northbound lanes and sidewalk will be removed. The area will be graded and seeded. This property will be conveyed to the City after the project is complete.

MnDOT will own the bridge and roadway and is responsible for all maintenance involving the bridge structure, deck and roadway. The City of Duluth will be responsible for the minor maintenance of the sidewalk. Minor maintenance includes snow removal, sweeping crack repair, and other minor items.

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Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about this submittal.

Sincerely,



Roberta Dwyer
Project Manager
Roberta.dwyer@state.mn.us
(218) 725-2781

Attachments:

Final layout for SP 6910-92, dated February 2016
MN Statute 161.162- 161.167
Sample City Resolution

cc: Caroline Pederson, City Transportation Engineer

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