

411 W 1<sup>st</sup> St, Rm 208 \* Duluth, Minnesota 55802-1197 Phone: 218/730.5580 Fax: 218/723-3559

File Number	PL 18-1	59	Contact		John Kelley		
Туре	Vacation	n of Right of Way	Planning (	Commi	ssion Date	January 8, 2019	
Deadline	Application Date		Dec. 11, 20	ec. 11, 2018 <b>60 Days</b>		February 9, 2019	
for Action	Date Ex	tension Letter Mailed	Dec. 19, 20	)18	120 Days	April 10, 2019	
Location of S	ubject	Adjacent to the intersection of	f Oneota Stre	et and	Recycle Way	, and east of I-35	
Applicant	City of E	Ouluth	Contact	Daniel	lle Erjavec		
Agent			Contact				
Legal Description		See Attached		1			
Site Visit Date		December 21, 2018	Sign Notice Date		D	December 26, 2018	
Neighbor Letter Date		December 27, 2018	Number of Letters Sent		rs Sent 2	22	

Proposal: The applicant is requesting the vacation of a portion of the platted right-of-way of Recycle Way.

**Recommended Action**: Recommend to the City Council to Approve.

	Current Zoning	Existing Land Use	Future Land Use Map Designation
Subject	MU-B, I-G	Paved Street	General Industrial
North	MU-B	Utilities/Highway	General Industrial
South	I-G	Industrial/Verso Corporation	General Industrial
East	MU-B, I-G	Paved Street	General Industrial
West	MU-B, I-G	Highway	General Industrial

## **Summary of Code Requirements**

Vacation of public rights of way and/or easements require a Planning Commission public hearing with a recommendation to City Council. City Council action is to approve or deny by resolution. Resolutions approving either a full or partial vacation require a 6/9's vote of the council.

UCD Sec. 50-37.6.C – The Planning Commission shall review the proposed vacation, and Council shall approve the proposed vacation, or approve it with modifications, if it determines that the street, highway, or easement proposed for vacation:

- 1. Is not and will not be needed for the safe and efficient circulation of automobiles, trucks, bicycles, or pedestrians or the efficient supply of utilities or public services in the city;
- 2. Where the street terminates at a waterfront or shoreline, the street is not and will not be needed to provide pedestrian or recreational access to the water;
- 3. Is not otherwise needed to promote the public health, safety, or welfare of the citizens of Duluth.

# Comprehensive Plan Governing Principle and/or Policies and Current History (if applicable):

Governing Principle #7 - Create and maintain connectivity: Connectivity should be provided for vehicular and non-vehicular modes.

Policy #3 – Add to the transportation network by systematically enhancing multi-modal options

Transportation Section - Funding & Projects

Completion of the Cross City Trail

Future Land Use – General Industrial. Description: Areas for manufacturing, processing, and other activities that may have off-site impacts and are generally isolated from other uses or buffered from them. Sites should have direct access to major regional transportation facilities and other infrastructure.

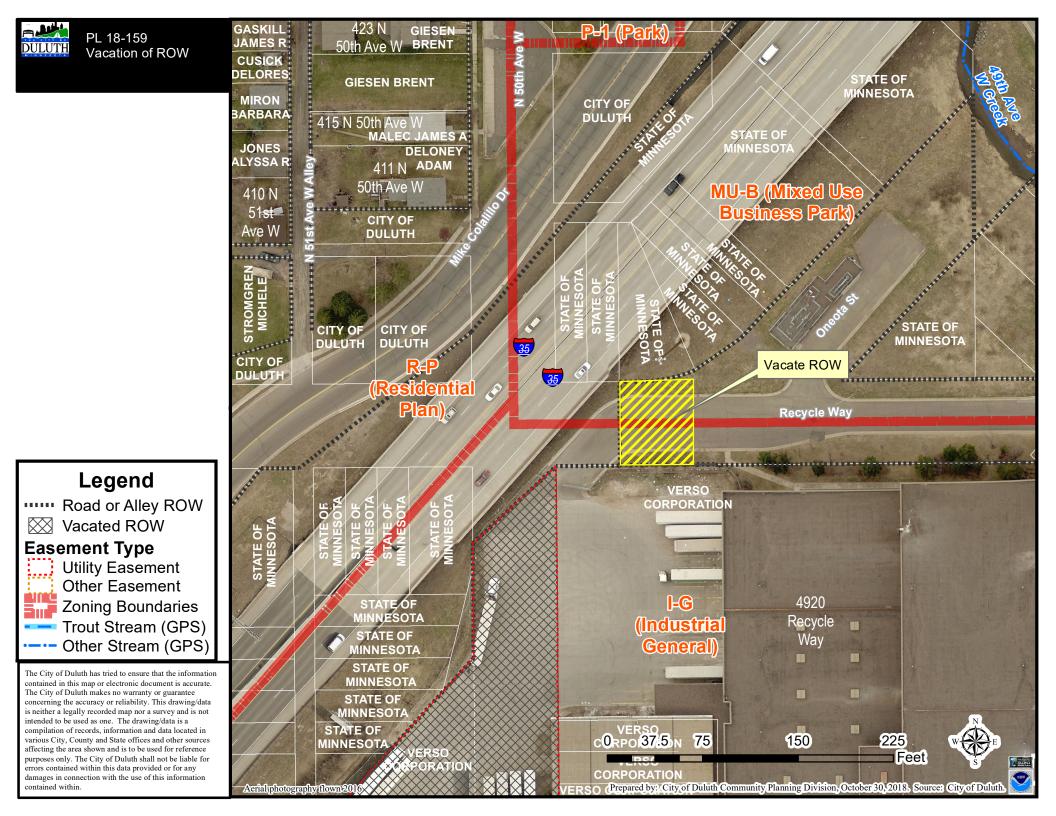
#### **Review and Discussion Items**

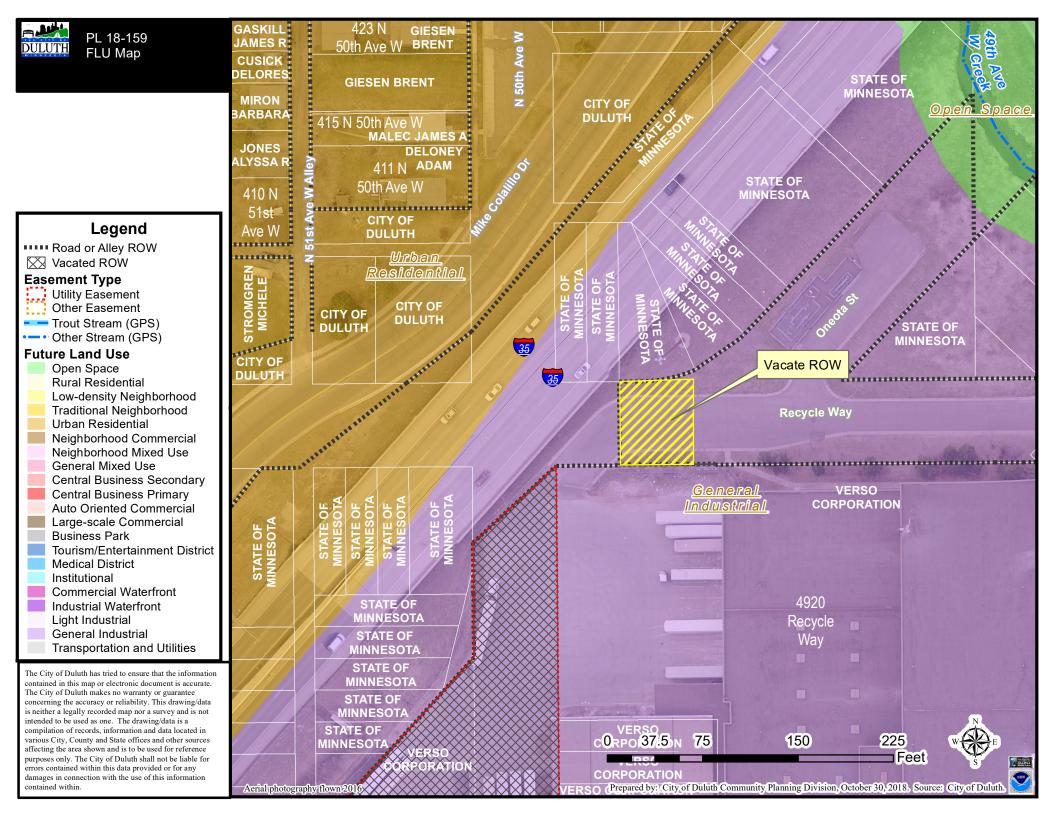
Staff finds that:

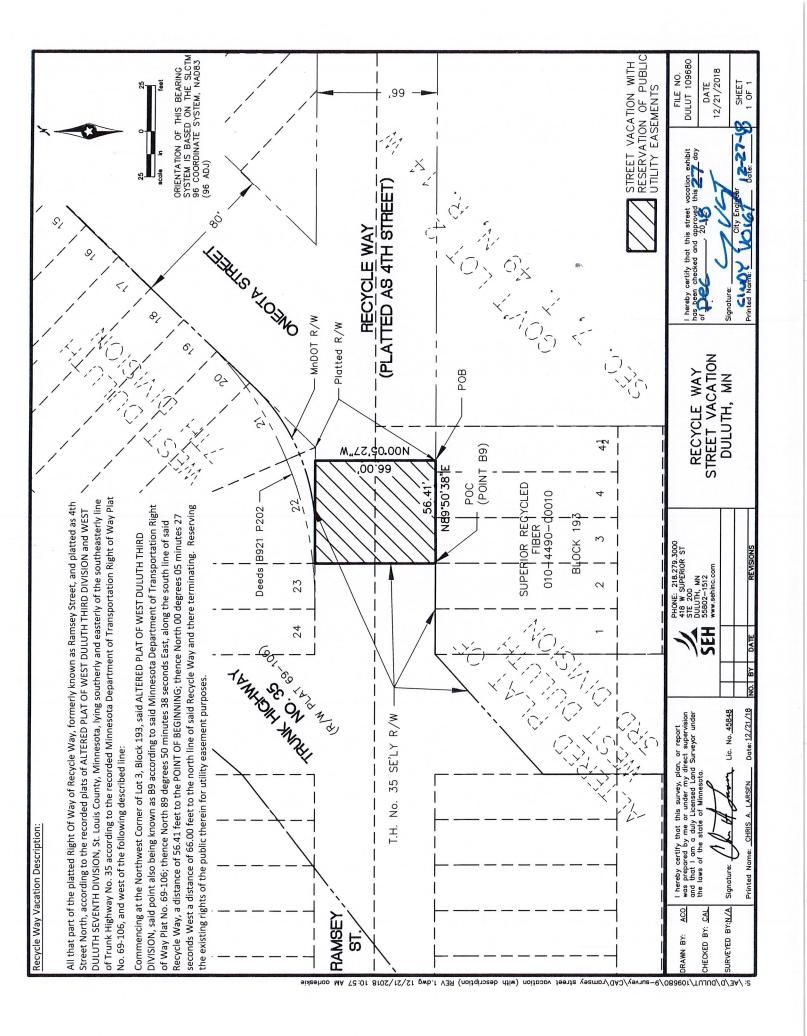
- 1) The applicant is requesting that the City vacate a portion of the platted right-of-way of Recycle Way shown in the attached exhibit with the retention of the entire vacated area as an utility easement. The portion of street subject to this application is used as an entrance to private property and will improve operation and security of the property.
- 2) The City has been working with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and Verso Corporation for two years on securing an easement to construct the Cross City Trail in this area. The proposed trail alignment does not cross through the platted ROW. The vacation of a portion of the ROW will allow Verso Corporation to use the area for their business purposes. In exchange for the vacated ROW, Verso Corporation will grant a trail easement in favor of the City for the Cross City Trail.
- 3) The proposed vacated portion of Recycled Way is not needed for public use. The City Engineering office has reviewed the proposed vacation and has indicated that it is not needed for street purposes. An easement will be retained for utilities.
- 4) This portion of the right of way is not needed to provide access to any public water. Vacating the right of way will not have impacted or deny access to other property owners.
- 5) No public or City comments have been received. Written comments were received by Western Lake Superior Sanitary District regarding a utility easement (see attached).
- 6) Vacations of rights of way and easements lapse unless the vacation is recorded with the county recorder within 90 days after final approval. The vacation recording is facilitated by the City of Duluth.

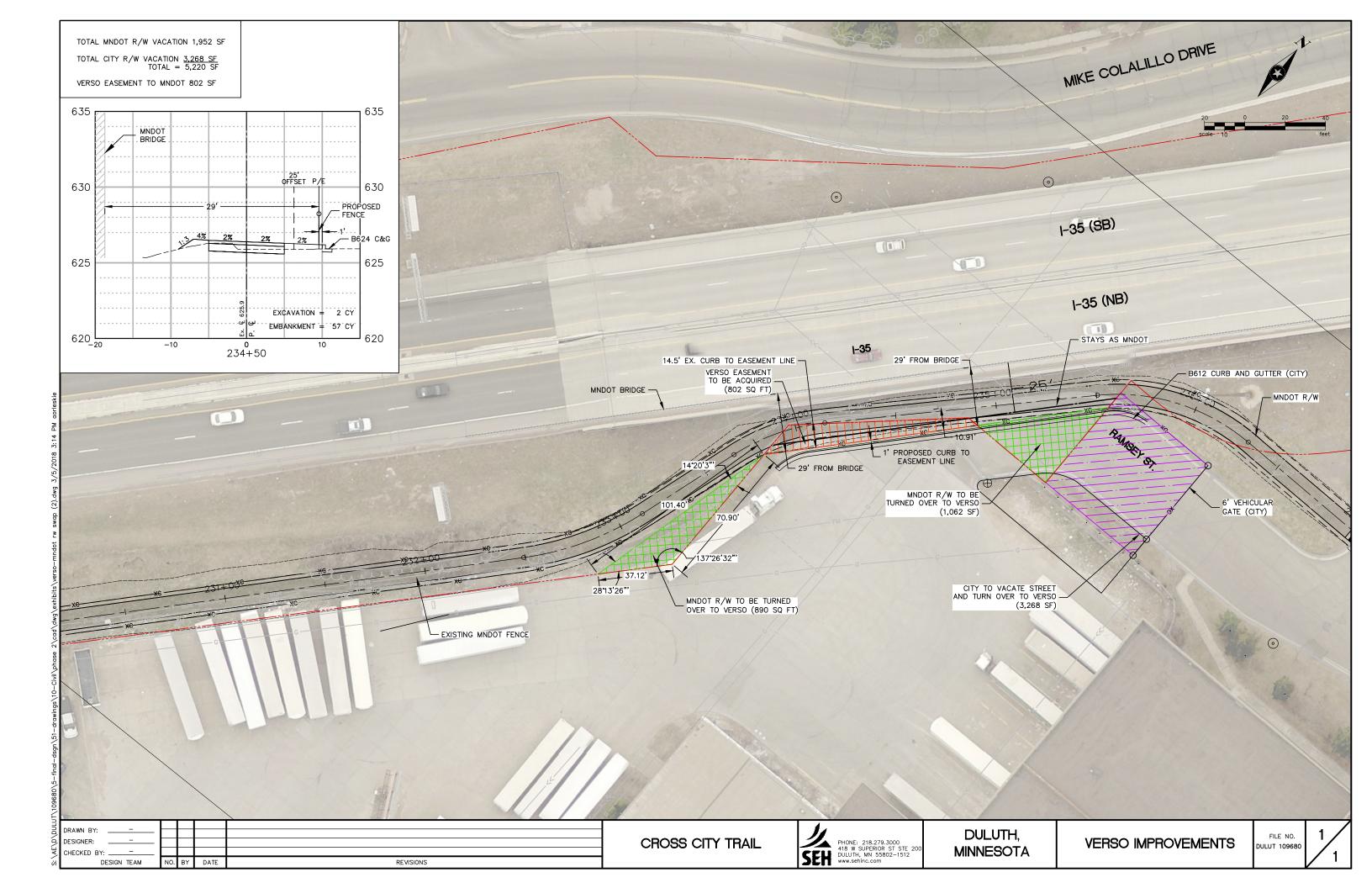
### **Staff Recommendation**

Based on the above findings, staff recommends that Planning Commission recommend approval of the vacation of the right of way as shown in the attached vacation exhibit.













2626 Courtland Street Duluth, MN 55806-1894 phone 218.722.3336 fax 218.727.7471 www.wlssd.com

# **Western Lake Superior Sanitary District**

December 28, 2018

City of Duluth Planning Commission C/O Keith Hamre 411 West First Street, Room 208 Duluth, MN 55802

RE: COMMENTS ON PLANNING COMMISSION ITEM PL 18-159 – VACATION OF PLATTED RIGHT-OF-WAY OF RECYCLE WAY

Dear Mr. Hamre:

In response to the City of Duluth Notice of Public Hearing for a vacation of a portion of the platted right-of-way of Recycle Way, the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District (WLSSD) offers the following comments:

- 1) The WLSSD Knowlton Creek Interceptor passes through the area proposed for vacation. This is a 54" diameter ductile iron sanitary sewer pipeline. The location of the pipeline relative to the right-of-way area proposed for vacation is shown on the enclosed exhibit.
- 2) The existing Knowlton Creek Interceptor is currently located within public right-of-way and the rights for WLSSD to access, operate, repair and maintain this pipeline would need to be preserved through an easement agreement with the proposed property owner.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions in this regard I can be reached at 218-740-4798 or <a href="mailto:branched-normalized

Sincerely.

Brandon Kohlts Senior Planner

Encl. WLSSD Knowlton Creek Interceptor Exhibit

