



Legislation Text

File #: 16-0806R, **Version:** 1

RESOLUTION TO RESCIND THE DESIGNATION AND ESTABLISHMENT AS ONE WAY STREETS THAT PART OF THE SEGMENT OF FIRST AVENUE WEST BETWEEN SUPERIOR STREET AND THIRD STREET, THE SEGMENT OF SECOND AVENUE WEST BETWEEN SUPERIOR STREET TO FOURTH STREET, AND THE SEGMENT OF THIRD AVENUE WEST BETWEEN SUPERIOR STREET AND FOURTH STREET.

CITY PROPOSAL:

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the provisions of Section 33-17 of the Duluth City Code, 1959, as amended, the segment of First Avenue West between Superior Street and Third Street, the segment of Second Avenue West between Superior Street and Fourth Street, and the segment of Third Avenue West between Superior Street and Fourth Street are no longer one way streets. This resolution will become effective only after said street segments have been posted with proper signage and striping, indicating the change in designation.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: The City of Duluth has been converting the one-way street pairs to two-way traffic, in an effort to improve traffic circulation. There are three remaining downtown Avenues that are currently one-way: First Avenue West, from Superior Street to Third Street; Second Avenue West, from Superior Street to Fourth Street; and Third Avenue West, from Superior Street to Fourth Street. With the upcoming Superior Street reconstruction project, it is recommended that these three Avenues be converted to two-way traffic prior to the start of that project.

A traffic study was conducted by Alliant Engineering in the fall of 2016 to determine if the signals at these intersections could be removed. The traffic study confirmed that the signals could be removed, with the streets having the through movement and the avenues having a stop condition. A variance was granted by MN/DOT to allow parking on both sides of the avenues following the conversion.

The project is proposed to occur in three phases over the spring and summer of 2017. The first phase will bag the signals and install stop signs on the Avenues at the street crossings. The actual conversion will take place during the second phase. In the third phase, the signals will be removed.

This conversion has been discussed with the Greater Downtown Business Council on several occasions, and they are in full support of the change. The DTA, EMS, and ISD 709 have also been notified.