



Administration

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Committee: Board of Public Works	Date: 5/31/2017	
Common Council Item Number: ID 17-0897	Date: 6/6/2017	
Submitted By: Fred Abadi, Director of Public Works	City Administrator Approval: Kevin Lahner, City Administrator	
Finance Department Review: Rich Abbott, Finance Director	City Attorney's Office Review: Brian Running, City Attorney	

Subject:

Presentation to Common Council for the St. Paul Avenue and North Street Corridor Traffic Study

Details: The City has a contract with Ayres Associates for conducting a traffic study on the St. Paul Avenue and North Street corridors. The purpose of the study was to evaluate the possibility of converting the existing one-way pair of streets, St. Paul Ave and North Street, to be a two-way street system from Wisconsin Avenue to E. Moreland Blvd. The consultant and Department of Public Works staff worked together on evaluating the study data, traffic modeling and rendering a conclusion. City staff also solicited the assistance of a Task Force committee that consisted of the consultant, Department of Public Works staff, other city administrative staff, fire, police, Transit and other business and land owners that are adjacent to the study corridor. The task force met twice and provided valuable feedback to assist in drawing our conclusions.

The consultant has finished the study and provided a final report to the Department of Public Works and we have concluded that converting the corridors of St. Paul Avenue and North Street from a one-way street to a two-way street system is feasible from a traffic flow and intersection capacity perspective. The purpose of this presentation to the City Council is to provide an overview of the study, present data that supports our conclusion to convert the streets to a two-way system and to describe possible scenarios to construct the improvements.

Options & Alternatives:

Alternative would be to leave the existing corridors of St. Paul Avenue and North Street to be a one-way street system. The drawback to that alternative is that some businesses and the downtown itself would be better served by two-way streets. The study concludes that there would be great benefits to a two way street flow system and allow for visitors and patrons to more easily access the downtown area.

Financial Remarks:

The estimated cost of implementing a two way street conversion on St. Paul Avenue and North Street is expected to be \$1,000,000 Funding for this would be discussed and approved in the 2018 CIP. It is expected that further design and plan preparation would occur in 2018 and the first steps of conversion would happen in 2019 or 2020.

Executive Recommendation:		

