

Action Transmittal

Transportation Advisory Board



Meeting Date: January 17, 2024

Date: January 8, 2024

Action Transmittal: 2024-03

Scope Change Request for South Saint Paul Marie Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility

To: Transportation Advisory Board
From: Technical Advisory Committee
Prepared By: Joe Barbeau, Senior Planner, 651-602-1705

Requested Action

The City of South Saint Paul requests a scope change to remove the 2nd Street and 7th Avenue improvements from its Marie Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Safe Routes to School project (SP# 168-104-011).

Recommended Motion

That the Transportation Advisory Board approve South Saint Paul's scope change request to remove the 2nd Street and 7th Avenue improvements from its Marie Avenue bicycle and pedestrian facility (SP# 168-104-011) with no reduction in federal funds.

Background and Purpose

South Saint Paul was awarded \$1,000,000 in Carbon Reduction Program funds in the 2022 Regional Solicitation for program year 2025. Funding was awarded in the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) application category. The [application](#) was awarded to reduce conflict points on Marie Avenue from 3rd Avenue to 9th Avenue and improve non-motorized connectivity by upgrading sidewalks, improving ADA access, and installing bicycle lanes.

Some of this work – specifically improvements on 2nd Avenue and 7th Street – has already been completed in a Dakota County project that included a \$1,474,970 contribution from South Saint Paul. Therefore, South Saint Paul requests a scope change to remove this part of the project from the scope. The city also requests retention of its full federal funding amount, as the remaining intersections are estimated to cost \$2,391,600, which is roughly the same as the original estimate of the full project (\$2,380,760).

Relationship to Regional Policy

Projects that receive funding through the Regional Solicitation and HSIP Solicitation processes are subject to the regional scope change policy. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the project is designed and constructed according to the plans and intent described in the original application. The scope change policy allows project sponsors to adjust their projects as needed while still providing substantially the same benefits described in their original project applications.

Staff Analysis

Approval/Denial of the Scope Change: Given the relatively minor portion of the project being removed, the application's first-place ranking in the SRTS application category, the fact that all

projects in the category were funded, and that the entire project will end up built, staff did not examine the scoring and recommends approval of the request.

Funding: Removal of a portion of the original project scope will result in a reduction in the original budget. The original application and current cost estimates are shown in Table 1, below.

Table 1: Federal and Local Costs

	Application Budget	Current Budget
Federal Funding Amount	\$1,000,000	
Local Contribution	\$1,246,000	
Total Cost	\$2,246,000	
Project Reduction (federal; 80%)	\$306,000 (\$244,800)*	\$306,000
Revised Project Cost	\$1,940,000	\$2,391,600

*The original application was funded at 45% federal. 45% of this reduction is \$136,242.

History going back to the February 2019 Scope Change Consultation and Evaluation Process shows that retention of the full federal award is typical when removed elements are being completed by other another project. The removed part of the scope has already been completed.

Committee Comments and Action

At its December 21, 2023, meeting, the TAC Funding & Programming Committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of South Saint Paul’s scope change request to remove the 2nd Street and 7th Avenue improvements from its Marie Avenue bicycle and pedestrian facility with no reduction in federal funds.

At its January 4, 2024, meeting, the Technical Advisory Committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of South Saint Paul’s scope change request to remove the 2nd Street and 7th Avenue improvements from its Marie Avenue bicycle and pedestrian facility with no reduction in federal funds.

Routing

To	Action Requested	Date Completed (Scheduled)
TAC Funding & Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	December 21, 2023
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	January 3, 2024
Transportation Advisory Board	Review and Adopt	<i>January 17, 2024</i>





October 30, 2023

Michael Thompson
Chair, TAC Funding and Programming Committee
Metropolitan Council
390 Robert Street North
Saint Paul, MN 55101-1805

Re: Scope Change Request to: S.P. 168-104-011 – Marie Avenue 3rd Avenue to 9th Avenue - Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities

Dear Mr. Thompson:

The City of South St. Paul respectfully requests that the Funding and Programming Committee consider the attached Scope Change request for the above referenced project.

In 2022, South St. Paul was awarded Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) federal funding for a Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities project to provide safe crossings of Marie Avenue from 3rd Avenue to 9th Avenue and to remove conflict points between pedestrians and vehicular traffic, specifically school drop-offs and pick-ups. The project was also proposing to provide pedestrian and bicycle improvements on 2nd Street and 7th Avenue.

The 2024-2027 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) identifies \$1,000,000 in federal funding and \$1,380,760 in local match funding for a total of \$2,380,760. The program year for the project is 2025.

The project is currently in the design development stage, with final design slated for 2024 and construction in 2025.

In 2023, Dakota County advanced a library project in the northwest quadrant of Marie Avenue and 7th Avenue. As a result, the City advanced the portion of the project located on 2nd Street and 7th Avenue to accommodate traffic flow and parking for the new library. That portion of the project is now complete, resulting in safer pedestrian and bicycle movements. The City funded the project at a cost of approximately \$1,474,970 to complete a series of improvements that included those in the federal funding application.

The remaining Marie Avenue improvements were the primary components of the funding application, accounting for approximately 87% of the construction costs. Those improvements will be completed in 2025. At this time, South St. Paul requests a Scope Change that would remove the planned improvements on 2nd Street and 7th Avenue from the project as these improvements have already been completed. Approval of this scope change request will allow for all portions of the project, as listed in the funding application, to be completed by the end of 2025, resulting in a safer corridor for pedestrians and cyclists.

The cost estimate as listed in the STIP is \$2,380,760 for the improvements, with a City participation percentage of 58.0%. Due to price escalation in the industry, the cost estimate has been updated and is currently \$2,391,600 for the Marie Avenue improvements alone. The City is requesting that the total cost listed in the

Michael Thompson
Metropolitan Council
October 30, 2023
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STIP be revised to \$2,391,600 (accounts for the removal of the 2nd Street and 7th Avenue components). We are also requesting that the federal match remain unchanged in an effort to maintain project feasibility.

Summary

- The City of South St. Paul was awarded \$1,000,000 for improvements to Marie Avenue, 2nd Street, and 7th Avenue.
- The City completed the 2nd Street and 7th Avenue improvements at their own cost (\$1,474,970) to accommodate pedestrian and bicycle safety due to the construction of a new library.
- Price escalation has resulted in the proposed Marie Avenue costs increasing to \$2,391,600.
- The City is requesting that the 2nd Street and 7th Avenue components be removed from the STIP.
- The City is requesting that the total construction amount listed in the STIP be revised to \$2,391,600.
- The City is requesting that the federal funding amount remain as currently listed in the STIP.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns you have related to this request.

Sincerely,



Nick Guilliams, P.E.
City Engineer

CC: Colleen Brown, MnDOT Metro State Aid
Kevin Kielb, Bolton & Menk

FUNDING DATA FOR SCOPE CHANGE REQUEST

Original Application

Regional Solicitation Year	2022
Application Funding Category	Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities
HSIP Solicitation	No
Application Total Project Cost	\$2,246,000.00
Federal Award	\$1,000,000.00
Application Federal Percentage of Total Project Cost	44.52%

Project Elements Being Removed

	Original Application Cost
Work along 2nd Street and 7th Avenue	\$306,000.00

FUNDING SCENARIO

Current Funding vs. Proposed Funding

	STIP 2024-2027	Remove 2nd Street and 7th Avenue	
		Federal Funds Remain the Same	Federal Funds Removed
Federal	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$870,000
Local Match	\$1,380,760	\$1,391,600	\$1,521,600
Total	\$2,380,760	\$2,391,600	\$2,391,600
% Federal	42.0%	41.8%	36.4%
% Local	58.0%	58.2%	63.6%
Note: Assumes 2nd Street and 7th Avenue Represent 13% of the Total			
Note: Includes Increase in Construction Costs Due to Inflation			

South St. Paul Secondary Safe Routes to School Project



Project Extent

- Marie Avenue from 3rd Avenue N to 9th Avenue N;
- ~~2nd Street N/7th Avenue N from 9th Avenue N to Marie Avenue~~
Improvements Completed by City

Project Elements

- Marie Avenue 3rd to 9th: bike lanes, pedestrian facility improvements, and streetscape
- Marie Avenue 6th to 9th: enhanced pedestrian crossing facilities including a flashing beacon
- ~~2nd Street N: convert to one-way traffic from Marie Avenue to 9th Avenue~~ Improvements Completed by City

Benefits

- Address pedestrian safety, improve primary Marie pedestrian crossing area, simplify school traffic flow, connect to trails and city center, support community business district





South St Paul Secondary

South St. Paul Secondary Safe Routes to School Project
Layout Plan - Page 1 of 3

2nd St N



Intersection Lighting

Grass Boulevard
Parallel Parking

All Improvements
Shown on This Page
Have Been Completed
by City

Pedestrian Scale Lighting

Pedestrian Access
Route

New Dakota
County Library

Street Trees

7th Ave N

Central
Square
Community
Center

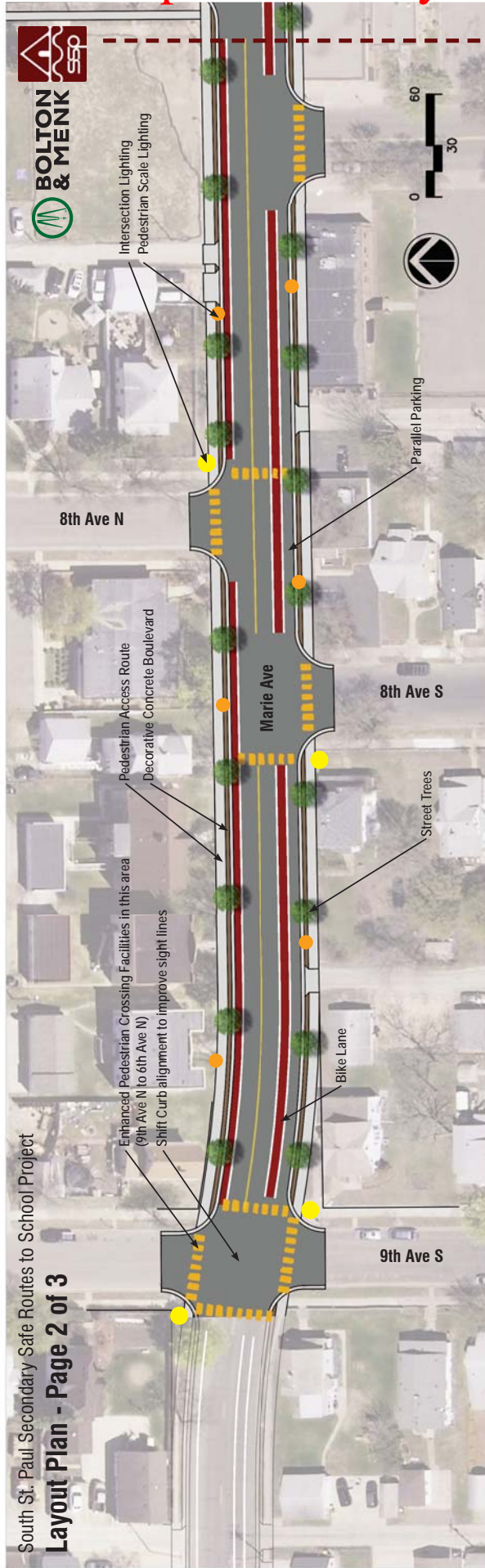


9th Ave N

See Marie Ave Layout, Page 2

Marie Ave

Improvements yet to be Completed



Improvements yet to be Completed

