## of the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities

#### **ACTION TRANSMITTAL No. 2018-25**

DATE: March 23, 2018

TO: **Technical Advisory Committee** 

TAC Funding & Programming Committee FROM:

Joe Barbeau, Senior Planner (651-602-1705) PREPARED BY:

SUBJECT: Scope Change Request for St. Paul's Expo Area Schools Safe

Routes to School Project

REQUESTED

The City of St. Paul requests a scope change to its Expo Area Schools Safe Routes to School project (SP # 164-591-002) to

eliminate some of the sidewalks.

RECOMMENDED

**MOTION:** 

ACTION:

That the Technical Advisory Committee recommend to TAB approval of the scope change request to eliminate some of the sidewalks from the City of St. Paul's Expo Area Schools Safe Routes to School project (SP # 164-591-002) and reduce the funding award from \$498,400 to \$479,539 based on the revised

cost estimate.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: The City of St. Paul was awarded \$498,400 in Surface Transportation Block Grant funds for the 2018 fiscal year in the Safe Routes to School category of the 2016 Regional Solicitation. The City was awarded funding to construct several sidewalks near the Expo Elementary school. This included North/South sidewalls along Saratoga Street, Warwick Street, and Pascal Street, along with East/West sidewalks along Eleanor Avenue and Hartford Avenue. The City wishes to adjust to scope to remove the 443-foot-length of sidewalk along Eleanor Avenue and the 484foot length along the west side of Saratoga Street. The original application stated that 1.12 miles (5,914 feet) in sidewalk length were to be paved. The two lengths proposed for elimination total 927 feet, or 16% of the 5,914 feet discussed in the original application.

RELATIONSHIP TO REGIONAL POLICY: Projects that receive funding through the Regional Solicitation process 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. Additionally, federal rules require that any federally-funded project scope change must go through a formal review and TIP amendment process if the project description or total project cost changes substantially. The scope change policy and process allow project sponsors to adjust their projects as needed while still providing substantially the same benefits described in their original project applications.

A TIP amendment does not accompany this request because the project description will not change and the funding change does not meet the threshold for a TIP amendment.

#### **STAFF ANALYSIS:**

Scoring: This project scored 958 points out of 1,100. The other two projects in the category, which were both funded, scored 711 points and 700, points, respectively. Given those factors, the project was not re-scored.

<u>Funding</u>: The City did not propose a federal funding amount. As discussed above, the sponsor is requesting removal of 16% of the sidewalk from the scope. Options for federal funding allotment include:

- 1. Reducing the federal award proportionately based on the feet of sidewalk removed (i.e., 16% of the total project). This would reduce the federal amount from \$498,400 to \$418,656.
- 2. Keeping the federal funding at 80% of the \$599,424 total updated budget cited in the request. This would reduce the federal funding from \$498,400 to \$479,539.
- 3. Removing 80% of the amount (\$86,461) cited in the request as the cost of the removed sidewalk. This would reduce the federal amount from \$498,400 to \$429,321.

**Table 1: Funding Options** 

| Options                           | Original<br>Award | Decrease<br>in Funding | New<br>Award |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Option 1-Proportionate reduction  | \$498,400         | \$79,744               | \$418,656    |
| Option 2-80% of new total         | \$498,400         | \$18,861               | \$479,539    |
| Option 3-80% reduction of removed | \$498,400         | \$68,969               | \$429,431    |

**COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND ACTION:** At its March 22, 2018, meeting, the Funding & Programming Committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the scope change request with the federal funding award set at 80% (\$479,539) of the \$599,424 updated budget cited in the request (i.e., Option 2 in Table 1).

#### ROUTING

| то                                  | ACTION REQUESTED   | COMPLETION DATE |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| TAC Funding & Programming Committee | Review & Recommend | 3/22/2018       |
| Technical Advisory Committee        | Review & Recommend |                 |
| Transportation Advisory Board       | Review & Approve   |                 |



#### CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor

Paul Kurtz, City Engineer 800 City Hall Annex 25 W. Fourth Street Saint Paul, MN 55102-1660 *Telephone:* 651-266-6203 *Fax:* 651-266-6222

February 15, 2018

Mr. Paul Oehme Chair, TAC Funding and Programming Committee Metropolitan Council 390 Robert Street North St. Paul, MN 55101-1805

Subject: Scope Change Request

Expo Safe Route to School Improvements

SP 164-591-002 City of Saint Paul

Dear Mr. Oehme,

The City of Saint Paul respectfully requests that the Funding and Programming Committee consider a scope change for the above referenced project. The project's current program year is 2018 and includes the construction of new sidewalk and ADA compliant pedestrian ramps.

Two segments of sidewalk a being proposed for removal on the Expo SRTS project. The attached map shows the portions of sidewalk being removed. The portions are the west side of Saratoga between Hartford and Scheffer (6' wide and 484' in length) and the south side of Eleanor between Snelling and Pascal (6' wide and 443' in length). These segments require extensive grading, a number of driveway replacements, a number of step replacements and will have a major impact on the existing trees in the neighborhood. The community has identified Pascal and Hartford as the priority corridors for sidewalk for Safe Routes to School and would rather have the segments of Saratoga and Eleanor removed from the project than impact the trees in the area. It should also be noted that sidewalk currently exists on the opposite side of these street so a SRTS route is being maintained along these streets. The total sidewalk length being removed is 927' at an estimated cost of \$86,461. The new estimated construction cost is \$599,424.



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We request the Funding and Programming Committee's support for the requested scope change. If additional information is needed, please contact me at 651-266-6210 or by email at <a href="mailto:elizabeth.stiffler@ci.stpaul.mn.us">elizabeth.stiffler@ci.stpaul.mn.us</a>.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Stiffler, PE City of Saint Paul Project Manager

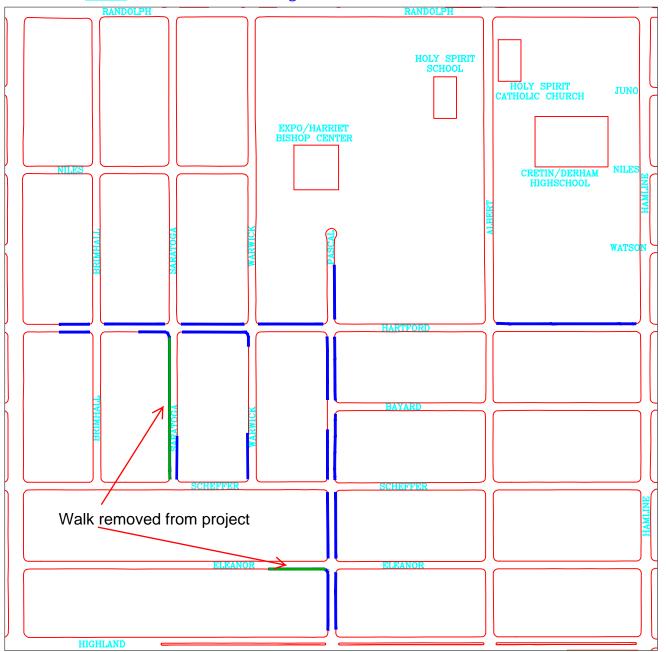
#### Enclosure

Cc: Scott, Eue, MnDOT State Aid Colleen Brown, MnDot State Aid Joe Barbeau, Metropolitan Council Paul Kurtz, City of Saint Paul



# City of Saint Paul Department of Public Works

Street Design and Construction Division





2018

### SRTS SIDEWALK INFILL PROJECT

SIDE WALK CONSTRUCTION IN 2018

PROJECT MAP



PREPARED BY STREET ENGINEERING DIVISION

FOR THE CITY OF ST. PAUL, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

SRTS 2018

