

# Action Transmittal

Transportation Advisory Board



**Meeting Date:** December 21, 2023

**Date:** December 14, 2023

## Action Transmittal: 2024-03

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

**To:** TAC Funding & Programming 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvements from its Marie Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Safe Routes to School project (SP# 168-104-011).

### Recommended Motion

That the Funding & Programming Committee recommend approval of South Saint Paul's scope change request to remove the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvements from its Marie Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility (SP# 168-104-011).

### Summary

This requested scope change involves removing project elements already completed from South Saint Paul's Marie Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian project.

### 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue and improve non-motorized connectivity by upgrading sidewalks, improving ADA access, and installing bicycle lanes.

Some of this work – specifically improvements on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> 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 to retain 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.

## 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	January 17, 2024





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 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to 9<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to 9<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue. As a result, the City advanced the portion of the project located on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- The City completed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> 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

Pedestrian Scale Lighting

All Improvements  
Shown on This Page  
Have Been Completed  
by City

Pedestrian Access  
Route

New Dakota  
County Library

Street Trees

7th Ave N

Central  
Square  
Community  
Center

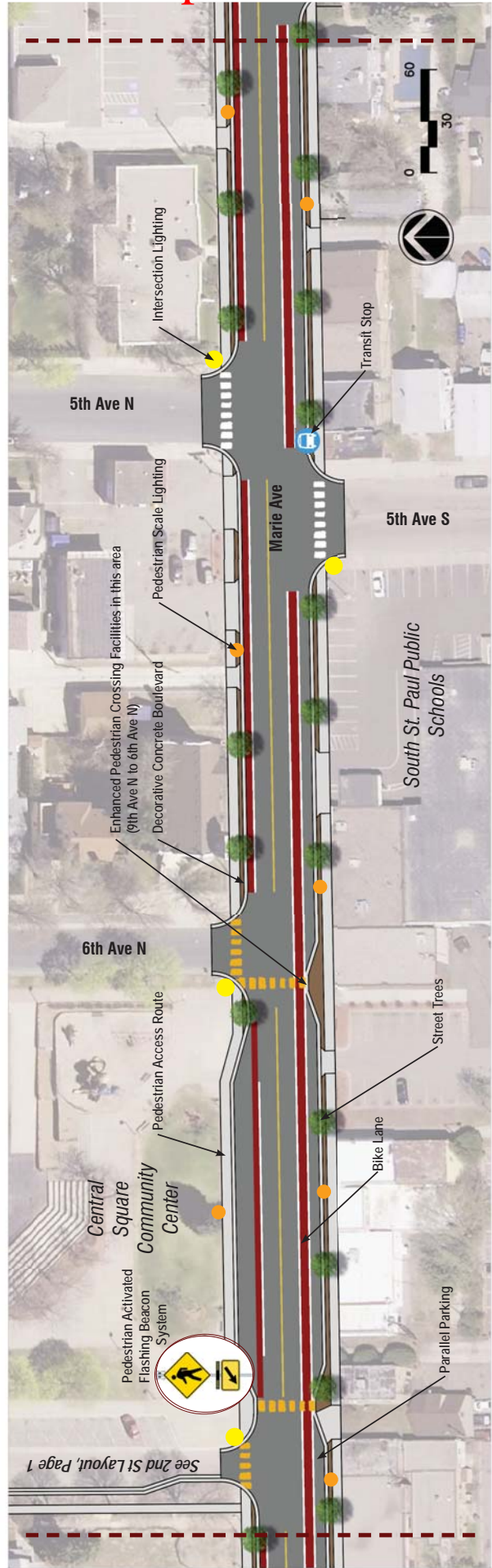
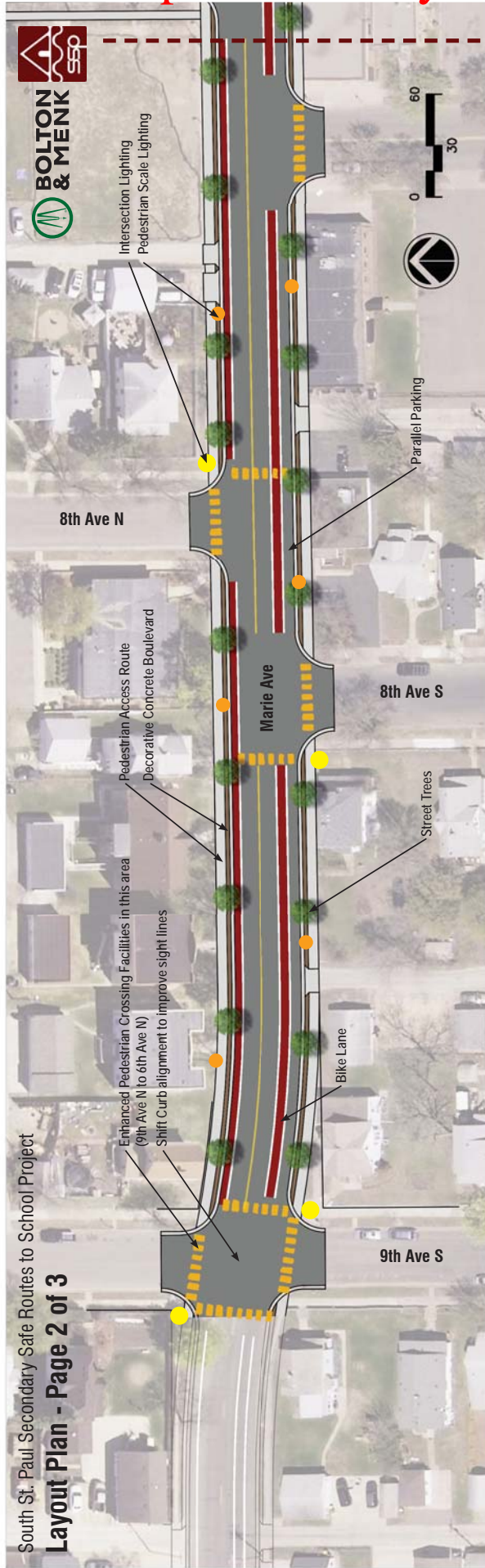


9th Ave N

See Marie Ave Layout, Page 2

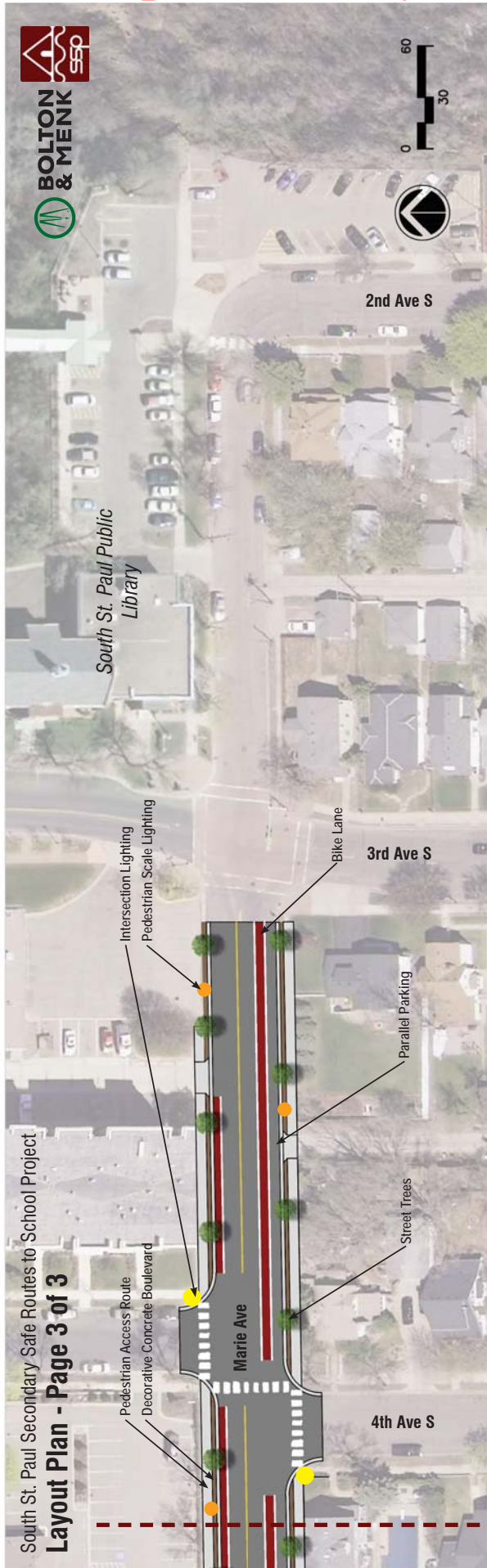
Marie Ave

# Improvements yet to be Completed





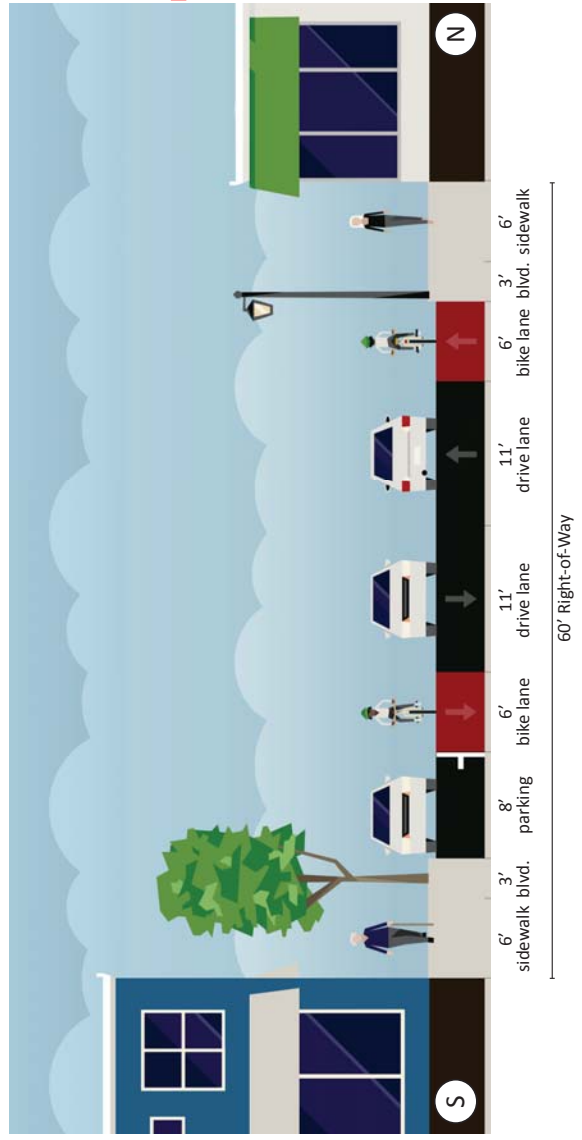
# Improvements yet to be Completed



South St. Paul Secondary Safe Routes to School Project

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Typical Section



Streetscape Elements

