



City of Cedar Rapids
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
City Hall – Council Chambers
Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Council Member Scott Olson, Chair

Committee Members Present: Council members Scott Olson and Justin Shields.

Committee Members Absent: Council member Ralph Russell

City Director Team: Jen Winter, Public Works Director; Emily Muhlbach, Communications Coordinator; Sandra Fowler, Assistant City Manager Development Services; Steve Hershner, Utilities Director; Jeff Pomeranz, City Manager.

Presenters: Steve Hershner, Utilities Director; Bruce Jacobs, Utilities Engineering Manager; Nate Kampman, City Engineering; Matt Myers, Traffic Engineering Manager; Dave Wallace, Sewer Utilities Engineering Manager; Doug Wilson, Paving for Progress Program Manager.

1. Approval of Minutes from October 18, 2016 meeting.

ACTION: All in favor.

Noted that 2017 meetings will be held at City Services Center.

2. **Update** – Paving for Progress – Doug Wilson

Final summary of projects completed during the 2016 construction season provided. Before and after photos of projects presented.

Response to Committee questions:

Is 18th Street SW from Wilson Avenue to 33rd Avenue in the plan? Not in current plan and will be re-evaluated in the spring.

How long do resurface roads last? 15-20 years but can last longer with proper maintenance

West Post Road SW towards Beverly Road SW is not in current plan but needs to be addressed.

IDOT has provided dataset and consultant reviewing plan. City crews are looking at projects that can be completed.

When will we have certification of sales tax funding higher than anticipated? Not yet certified.

If savings from bids, potentially apply to maintenance for techniques like micro surfacing? Street Maintenance division doing a lot of overlay and patching. Next year will look into bringing in a milling machine.

3. **Update** – Street Maintenance – *Jen Winter*

Information on current street maintenance work provided.

4. **Update** – Traffic Engineering – *Matt Myers*

Information on current pavement marking, signing and signals provided. In addition, signal changes are being pursued to improve timing along Collins Road.

Response to Committee questions:

What street conversions will be completed in 2017?

- 2nd Avenue from bridge to 7th Street and PCI to 19th Street
- 3rd Avenue design work taking place from PCI-19th Street
- 4th & 5th Avenue near library
- 2nd and 3rd Avenue west of river will be completed internally

What is the schedule of Railroad conversions? All crossings from 1st Avenue through 5th Avenue SE should be completed in 2017 which will meet the Federal Railroad Administration definition of a half-mile of track for quiet zone designation. We have scheduled a meeting with Federal Railroad Administration in February to review our construction plans and address their concerns. Our goal is to construct these improvements, and with the proper notification, allow the city to designate this length of track as a Quiet Zone.

Painted lines still look very good going into winter, will crews be able to keep on schedule next year? Will evaluate in early spring the striping/painting schedule for summer 2017. We will evaluate on how we can focus on the arrows and other legend markings next spring.

Will you be looking at more durable paint options? We are looking at additional training and review of durable marking options. Paint cost 10 cents/foot and durable marking is 30-50 cents/foot with 3 to 5-year life.

Have retro kits arrived for downtown street lighting? Lights, outlets and circuits being repaired on the old system. We have been communicating with Casey Prince of Economic Alliance to ensure the holiday lights are powered. Lights along trail are maintained by Parks & Recreation. Are faded street signs being replaced? We do replace about 1,000 signs per year. Focus is on Paving for Progress areas and working with their team to ensure the signing looks as good as the pavement. The standards being used are for increased font size and using reflective material for street name signs.

5. **Update** – Sewer Utilities– *Dave Wallace*

Presentation provided a recap of the construction year. Upcoming projects include:

- Continue Prairie Creek trunk sanitary sewer from J Street towards Hawkeye Downs
- Waconia Avenue SW extend Sanitary Sewer near ADM
- Automation of (60) flow meters
- Grande Avenue Sanitary Sewer repairs
- 18th Street SW detention basin between Wilson Avenue & 16th Avenue
- Best Management Practices
- Cottage Grove Parkway Storm Sewer Extension and reduction of flash flooding
- Private Source Infiltration and Inflow Reduction Policy will be presented to this committee in February/March

6. **Update** – Upcoming Utility Projects to be Filed – *Bruce Jacobs*

Filing plans and specifications for Water and WPC Plant projects provided. Water Main Projects planned in conjunction with Paving for Progress and other Public Works projects also presented. Included update on proposed tank replacement at Glass Road provided.

Response to Committee questions:

How many more tanks need to be replaced? Glass Road tank will replace existing Glass Road tank and the Blairs Ferry tank located at intersection of Blairs Ferry and Rockwell Drive. In 2005 when Mt Vernon tank was reconditioned it was noted that it will need new roof.

Will water main replacements decrease number of breaks? Working in coordination with Paving for Progress to replace age and break history water mains. Not all water mains being replaced are the highest on replacement list, but are aged, so effect should be noticeable at some point if not right away.

7. **Presentation** – Source Water Supply and Nitrate Removal Study – *Bruce Jacobs*

Conclusions and recommendations provided from study conducted to reflect a proactive approach to future water supply needs and drinking water nitrate regulations. Present to Council in January 2017.

Response to Committee questions:

How many cities use surface water versus wells in Iowa? Keokuk, Dubuque and U of I use surface water source.

Are nitrate levels in good shape? Our finished water does not exceed 10 mg per liter but we do see higher levels in the river sometimes.

Has a study like this been done previously? Not recently that we are aware of.

Where will funding come from? There are no grants available so would be managed internally with bond issuance and water rates as necessary.

8. **Presentation** – Collins Road Improvements – *Nate Kampman*
Revisions to the project and estimated construction timeline provided.

Response to Committee questions:

Is project 80% state funded? There are 8 different grants plus IDOT matching so 80% would be a good estimate.

With highway 100 opening do you predict increase in traffic to Collins Road? Should be small increase as traffic already to the area, should relieve traffic from Edgewood Road and I-380.

9. **Public input**
None

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Holmes, Administrative Assistant II
City of Cedar Rapids Public Works Department