



OPEN COUNCIL WORK SESSION

MUNICIPAL CENTER COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1616 HUMBOLDT AVENUE, WEST ST. PAUL, MN 55118
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2020
5:00 P.M.

OPEN COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Open Council Work Sessions are held in person in the Council Chambers and are open to the public with social distancing restrictions. Meetings will continue to be broadcast and streamed online for viewers to watch from the safety of their homes.

SEATING:

A limited number of attendees will be allowed in the Council Chambers to view live meetings. Seats are first-come first-serve. Due to the limited seating, overflow space will be available in the City Hall lobby and the Lobby Conference Room with screens playing the meeting live.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Review and Approve the OCWS Agenda
4. Review the Regular Meeting Consent Agenda
5. Agenda Item(s)

A. Presentation on Ranked Choice Voting

Documents:

[COUNCIL REPORT - PRESENTATION ON RANKED CHOICE VOTING.PDF](#)
[SAMPLE BALLOTS.PDF](#)
[CHARTER COMMISSION MINUTES 9-25-19.PDF](#)

B. Moreland Avenue Street Reconstruction CP 21-1

Documents:

[COUNCIL REPORT - OCWS MORELAND AVE STREET RECON CP 21-1.PDF](#)
[ATTACHMENT - MORELAND AVENUE EXISTING ROAD WIDTHS.PDF](#)
[ATTACHMENT - DELAWARE TO SMITH N SIDE SIDEWALK CONCEPT.PDF](#)
[ATTACHMENT - PROPERTY IMPACT SUMMARY HALL AVE TO ROBERT ST.PDF](#)
[ATTACHMENT - PROPERTY IMPACT SUMMARY BELLOWS ST TO HALL AVE.PDF](#)

C. 2021 Fee Schedule

Documents:

[COUNCIL REPORT - 2021 FEE SCHEDULE ADDITIONAL FEES.PDF](#)
[2021 ADDITIONAL CHANGES TO FEE SCHEDULE.PDF](#)

6. Adjourn

*If you need an accommodation to participate in the meeting, please contact the ADA Coordinator at
651-552-4108 or email ADA@wspmn.gov at least 5 business days prior to the meeting
www.wspmn.gov EOE/AA*

To: **Mayor and City Council**
From: **Ryan Schroeder, City Manager**
Date: **September 28, 2020**

Presentation on Ranked Choice Voting

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

During 2019, a member of the Charter Commission had requested that the Commission review Ranked Choice Voting. After a presentation received by the Executive Director of Fair Vote Minnesota, the Commission deferred action. Instead, the Commission suggested that input be received from the City Council. Council received that recommendation on January 21, 2020. Council requested that staff schedule an opportunity for a presentation for the Council late spring or early summer. Given COVID-19 impacts, followed by scheduled election activities, this opportunity has not presented until now.

Jeanne Massey, from Fair Vote MN, has offered to provide a primer to Council on September 28.

FISCAL IMPACT:

		Amount
Fund:		
Department:		
Account:		

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Based on discussion.

State of Maine Sample Ballot General Election, November 6, 2018

for
Abbot, Blanchard Twp, Guilford, Monson, Parkman, Sangerville, Shirley, Willimantic

Instructions to Voters

To vote, fill in the oval like this ●

To rank your candidate choices, fill in the oval:

- In the 1st column for your 1st choice candidate.
- In the 2nd column for your 2nd choice candidate, and so on.

Continue until you have ranked as many or as few candidates as you like.

Fill in no more than one oval for each candidate or column.

To rank a write-in candidate, write the person's name in the write-in space and fill in the oval for the ranking of your choice.

U.S. Senator	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice
Brakey, Eric L. Auburn Republican	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
King, Angus S., Jr. Brunswick Independent	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ringelstein, Zak Yarmouth Democratic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Rep. to Congress District 2	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
Bond, Tiffany L. Portland Independent	<input type="radio"/>				
Golden, Jared F. Lewiston Democratic	<input type="radio"/>				
Hoar, William R.S. Southwest Harbor Independent	<input type="radio"/>				
Poliquin, Bruce Oakland Republican	<input type="radio"/>				
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>				

Turn Over for Additional Contests

OFFICIAL BALLOT CITY GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

Judge

Judge

A STATE OF MINNESOTA B NOVEMBER 3, 2009 C CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

Ranked Choice Voting

Instructions

How to make your candidate choice

1. Pick your first choice candidate and completely fill in the oval next to that candidate under First Choice, like this:

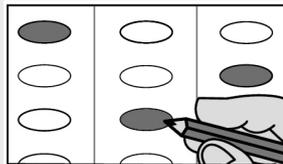
● CANDIDATE NAME

2. If you have a second choice candidate, completely fill in the oval next to that candidate under Second Choice.

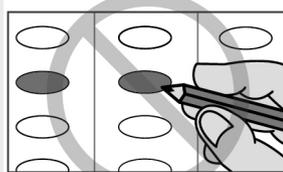
3. Your third choice candidate, if you have one, works the same way.

! All three choices (if you choose to have three) must be different from each other.

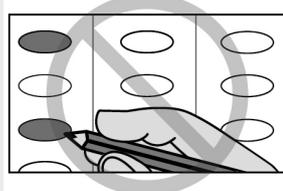
! If you make a mistake - or cross out or make a stray mark - ask for a new ballot. Otherwise your vote may not count.



Correct:
Correct: Choose different candidates in different columns.



Wrong:
Wrong: Voter chose the same candidate more than once.



Wrong:
Wrong: Voter chose more than one candidate in the same column.

Begin voting below ↓

CITY OFFICES

BEST BODY OF WATER IN MINNEAPOLIS

Mark your first, second and third choice candidates in the columns below. One to be elected.

1 First Choice	2 Second Choice	3 Third Choice
○ LAKE CALHOUN Walleye Party	○ LAKE CALHOUN Walleye Party	○ LAKE CALHOUN Walleye Party
○ CEDAR LAKE Lake Superior Agate Party	○ CEDAR LAKE Lake Superior Agate Party	○ CEDAR LAKE Lake Superior Agate Party
○ POWDERHORN LAKE Norway Pine Party	○ POWDERHORN LAKE Norway Pine Party	○ POWDERHORN LAKE Norway Pine Party
○ DIAMOND LAKE Lake Superior Agate Party	○ DIAMOND LAKE Lake Superior Agate Party	○ DIAMOND LAKE Lake Superior Agate Party
○ LAKE HARRIET Walleye Party	○ LAKE HARRIET Walleye Party	○ LAKE HARRIET Walleye Party
○ SHINGLE CREEK Lake Superior Agate Party	○ SHINGLE CREEK Lake Superior Agate Party	○ SHINGLE CREEK Lake Superior Agate Party
○ LAKE HIAWATHA Monarch Butterfly Party	○ LAKE HIAWATHA Monarch Butterfly Party	○ LAKE HIAWATHA Monarch Butterfly Party
○ LAKE OF THE ISLES Norway Pine Party	○ LAKE OF THE ISLES Norway Pine Party	○ LAKE OF THE ISLES Norway Pine Party
○ LAKE NOKOMIS Walleye Party	○ LAKE NOKOMIS Walleye Party	○ LAKE NOKOMIS Walleye Party
○ BROWNIE LAKE Lake Superior Agate Party	○ BROWNIE LAKE Lake Superior Agate Party	○ BROWNIE LAKE Lake Superior Agate Party
○ MINNEHAHA CREEK Monarch Butterfly Party	○ MINNEHAHA CREEK Monarch Butterfly Party	○ MINNEHAHA CREEK Monarch Butterfly Party
○ MISSISSIPPI RIVER Lake Superior Agate Party	○ MISSISSIPPI RIVER Lake Superior Agate Party	○ MISSISSIPPI RIVER Lake Superior Agate Party
○ WIRTH LAKE Norway Pine Party	○ WIRTH LAKE Norway Pine Party	○ WIRTH LAKE Norway Pine Party
○ LORING POND Walleye Party	○ LORING POND Walleye Party	○ LORING POND Walleye Party
○ WEBBER POND Monarch Butterfly Party	○ WEBBER POND Monarch Butterfly Party	○ WEBBER POND Monarch Butterfly Party
○ write-in, if any	○ write-in, if any	○ write-in, if any

Continue voting next side →

A W1 P1 B 1360 C Typ:01 Seq:0001 Spl:01

VOTE FRONT AND BACK OF BALLOT

© Election Systems & Software, Inc. 1981, 2002

W1 P1



ATTENTION VOTER: See other side for voting instructions

BEST PARK IN MINNEAPOLIS Mark your first, second and third choice candidates in the columns below. Three to be elected.

1 First Choice	Fill in one oval completely.	2 Second Choice	Make your second choice here.	3 Third Choice	Make your third choice here.
<input type="radio"/>	SHINGLE CREEK PARK	<input type="radio"/>	SHINGLE CREEK PARK	<input type="radio"/>	SHINGLE CREEK PARK
<input type="radio"/>	ARMATAGE PARK	<input type="radio"/>	ARMATAGE PARK	<input type="radio"/>	ARMATAGE PARK
<input type="radio"/>	MARSHALL TERRACE PARK	<input type="radio"/>	MARSHALL TERRACE PARK	<input type="radio"/>	MARSHALL TERRACE PARK
<input type="radio"/>	PERSHING PARK	<input type="radio"/>	PERSHING PARK	<input type="radio"/>	PERSHING PARK
<input type="radio"/>	PEARL PARK	<input type="radio"/>	PEARL PARK	<input type="radio"/>	PEARL PARK
<input type="radio"/>	POWDERHORN PARK	<input type="radio"/>	POWDERHORN PARK	<input type="radio"/>	POWDERHORN PARK
<input type="radio"/>	NORTHEAST PARK	<input type="radio"/>	NORTHEAST PARK	<input type="radio"/>	NORTHEAST PARK
<input type="radio"/>	LONGFELLOW PARK	<input type="radio"/>	LONGFELLOW PARK	<input type="radio"/>	LONGFELLOW PARK
<input type="radio"/>	MATTHEWS PARK	<input type="radio"/>	MATTHEWS PARK	<input type="radio"/>	MATTHEWS PARK
<input type="radio"/>	LYNDALE FARMSTEAD PARK	<input type="radio"/>	LYNDALE FARMSTEAD PARK	<input type="radio"/>	LYNDALE FARMSTEAD PARK
<input type="radio"/>	THEODORE WIRTH PARK	<input type="radio"/>	THEODORE WIRTH PARK	<input type="radio"/>	THEODORE WIRTH PARK
<input type="radio"/>	KENWOOD PARK	<input type="radio"/>	KENWOOD PARK	<input type="radio"/>	KENWOOD PARK
<input type="radio"/>	ELLIOT PARK	<input type="radio"/>	ELLIOT PARK	<input type="radio"/>	ELLIOT PARK
<input type="radio"/>	LORING PARK	<input type="radio"/>	LORING PARK	<input type="radio"/>	LORING PARK
<input type="radio"/>	BRYN MAWR PARK	<input type="radio"/>	BRYN MAWR PARK	<input type="radio"/>	BRYN MAWR PARK
<input type="radio"/>	BETHUNE PARK	<input type="radio"/>	BETHUNE PARK	<input type="radio"/>	BETHUNE PARK
<input type="radio"/>	NORTH COMMONS PARK	<input type="radio"/>	NORTH COMMONS PARK	<input type="radio"/>	NORTH COMMONS PARK
<input type="radio"/>	FAIRVIEW PARK	<input type="radio"/>	FAIRVIEW PARK	<input type="radio"/>	FAIRVIEW PARK
<input type="radio"/>	FOLWELL PARK	<input type="radio"/>	FOLWELL PARK	<input type="radio"/>	FOLWELL PARK
<input type="radio"/>	COLUMBIA PARK	<input type="radio"/>	COLUMBIA PARK	<input type="radio"/>	COLUMBIA PARK
<input type="radio"/>	BELTRAMI PARK	<input type="radio"/>	BELTRAMI PARK	<input type="radio"/>	BELTRAMI PARK
<input type="radio"/>	write-in, if any	<input type="radio"/>	write-in, if any	<input type="radio"/>	write-in, if any

CITY QUESTIONS

To vote for a question, completely fill in the oval next to the word "YES" for that question. To vote against a question, completely fill in the oval next to the word "NO" for that question.

**CITY QUESTION
CHARTER AMENDMENT NO.
9,000,000
A PROPOSAL TO MAKE THE
BICYCLE THE OFFICIAL VEHICLE
OF MINNEAPOLIS**

Should the City of Minneapolis adopt the bicycle as its official vehicle?

YES

NO

Sample Ballot

Judge _____

State Partisan Primary Ballot
 Precinct Saint Paul W4-P1
 Ramsey County, Minnesota
 August 14, 2018

Judge _____

Instructions to Voters: To vote, completely fill in the box(es) next to your choice(s) like this:

This ballot card contains a partisan ballot and a nonpartisan ballot. On the partisan ballot you are permitted to vote for candidates of one political party only.



Republican Party

Federal Offices

United States Senator
For term expiring January 3, 2025
Vote for One

Rae Hart Anderson 1/3/2025

Jim Newberger 1/3/2025

Merrill Anderson 1/3/2025

Roque "Rocky" De La Fuente 1/3/2025

United States Senator
Special Election for term expiring
January 3, 2021
Vote for One

Nikolay Nikolayevich Bey 1/3/2021

Bob Anderson 1/3/2021

Karin Housley 1/3/2021

United States Representative
District 4
Vote for One

Greg Ryan

State Offices

Governor and
Lieutenant Governor
Vote for One Team

Mathew (Matt) Kruse and Theresa Loeffler

Jeff Johnson and Donna Bergstrom

Tim Pawlenty and Michelle Fischbach

Attorney General
Vote for One

Robert Lessard

Sharon Anderson

Doug Wardlow

Continue voting on the nonpartisan ballot.

Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party

Federal Offices

United States Senator
For term expiring January 3, 2025
Vote for One

Stephen A. Emery 1/3/2025

Amy Klobuchar 1/3/2025

David Robert Groves 1/3/2025

Leonard J. Richards 1/3/2025

Steve Carlson 1/3/2025

United States Senator
Special Election for term expiring
January 3, 2021
Vote for One

Nick Leonard 1/3/2021

Richard W. Painter 1/3/2021

Ali Chehem Ali 1/3/2021

Christopher Lovell Seymore Sr. 1/3/2021

Gregg A. Iverson 1/3/2021

Tina Smith 1/3/2021

United States Representative
District 4
Vote for One

Reid Rossell

Betty McCollum

Muad Hassan

State Offices

Governor and
Lieutenant Governor
Vote for One Team

Lori Swanson and Rick Nolan

Tim Walz and Peggy Flanagan

Tim Holden and James P. Mellin II

Olé Savior and Chris Edman

Erin Murphy and Erin Maye-Quade

Attorney General
Vote for One

Debra Hilstrom

Matt Pelikan

Tom Foley

Keith Ellison

Mike Rothman

Continue voting on the nonpartisan ballot.

Do not vote for candidates of more than one party.

12143

Sample Ballot

State and County Nonpartisan Primary Ballot
 Precinct Saint Paul W4-P1
 Ramsey County, Minnesota
 August 14, 2018

Instructions to Voters: To vote, completely fill in the box(es) next to your choice(s) like this:
 This ballot card contains a partisan ballot and a nonpartisan ballot. On the partisan ballot you are permitted to vote for candidates of one political party only.

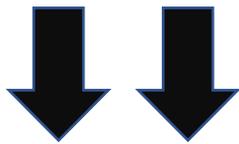


City Offices

**Council Member
Ward 4
City of Saint Paul
Vote for One**

1	2	3	4	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitra Jalali Nelson
1	2	3	4	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	David Martinez
1	2	3	4	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shirley Erstad
1	2	3	4	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Write-in, if any



Ranked Voting Instructions to Voters

Mark your choices by filling in the target like this
¹
 using a ball point pen.

To properly mark your Ranked Voting ballot:

- To vote for your first-choice candidate,
¹
 fill in the target next to their name.
- To vote for your second-choice candidate, if any,
²
 fill in the target next to their name.
- To vote for your third-choice candidate, if any,
³
 fill in the target next to their name.
- You may rank up to four candidates in this manner.
- Do not fill in more than one target for a candidate in the same row.
- Do not fill in more than one target per choice in the same column.
- If you do not understand these instructions, see an election judge.

Judicial Offices

**2nd District Court
Judge 11
Vote for One**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Adam Yang
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jeffry Martin
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gregory J. Egan IV
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scott Michael Flaherty

**2nd District Court
Judge 20
Vote for One**

<input type="checkbox"/>	G. Tony Atwal Incumbent
<input type="checkbox"/>	Elliott Nickell
<input type="checkbox"/>	P. Paul Yang

**2nd District Court
Judge 28
Vote for One**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Seamus R. Mahoney
<input type="checkbox"/>	Calandra Revering
<input type="checkbox"/>	Elena L. Ostby Incumbent

12143

Vote front and back of ballot

SAMPLE CITY AND SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT

SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA

NOVEMBER 3, 2015

Follow these Ranked Voting instructions carefully:

- Select only one candidate for each of your choices
- You are not required to choose more than one candidate
- Do not select the same candidate for more than one choice
- To vote, completely fill in the oval next to the candidate of your choice, like this:

CITY OFFICES

COUNCIL MEMBER

WARD 2

VOTE FOR ONE

1st choice Select one	2nd choice (if any) Select one	3rd choice (if any) Select one
<input type="radio"/> REBECCA NOECKER	<input type="radio"/> REBECCA NOECKER	<input type="radio"/> REBECCA NOECKER
<input type="radio"/> DARREN TOBOLT	<input type="radio"/> DARREN TOBOLT	<input type="radio"/> DARREN TOBOLT
<input type="radio"/> BILL HOSKO	<input type="radio"/> BILL HOSKO	<input type="radio"/> BILL HOSKO
<input type="radio"/> PAT FEARING	<input type="radio"/> PAT FEARING	<input type="radio"/> PAT FEARING
<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL C JOHNSON	<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL C JOHNSON	<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL C JOHNSON
<input type="radio"/> SHARON ANDERSON	<input type="radio"/> SHARON ANDERSON	<input type="radio"/> SHARON ANDERSON
<input type="radio"/> _____ write-in, if any	<input type="radio"/> _____ write-in, if any	<input type="radio"/> _____ write-in, if any
4th choice (if any) Select one	5th choice (if any) Select one	6th choice (if any) Select one
<input type="radio"/> REBECCA NOECKER	<input type="radio"/> REBECCA NOECKER	<input type="radio"/> REBECCA NOECKER
<input type="radio"/> DARREN TOBOLT	<input type="radio"/> DARREN TOBOLT	<input type="radio"/> DARREN TOBOLT
<input type="radio"/> BILL HOSKO	<input type="radio"/> BILL HOSKO	<input type="radio"/> BILL HOSKO
<input type="radio"/> PAT FEARING	<input type="radio"/> PAT FEARING	<input type="radio"/> PAT FEARING
<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL C JOHNSON	<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL C JOHNSON	<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL C JOHNSON
<input type="radio"/> SHARON ANDERSON	<input type="radio"/> SHARON ANDERSON	<input type="radio"/> SHARON ANDERSON
<input type="radio"/> _____ write-in, if any	<input type="radio"/> _____ write-in, if any	<input type="radio"/> _____ write-in, if any

St Paul 2-1

Turn over ballot to vote on school board offices

VOTE FRONT AND BACK OF BALLOT

SAMPLE CITY AND SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT

SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NOVEMBER 3, 2015

Judge _____

Judge _____

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: 

SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICES

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER
VOTE FOR UP TO FOUR

- ZUKI ELLIS
- KEITH HARDY
- AARON ANTHONY BENNER
- STEVE MARCHESE
- MARY VANDERWERT
- JON SCHUMACHER
- LINDA FREEMAN
- GREG COPELAND
- SCOTT RASKIEWICZ
- _____
write-in, if any

Turn over ballot to vote on city office

MINUTES
WEST ST. PAUL CHARTER COMMISSION
Wed., Sept. 25, 2019
5:30 P.M.
MUNICIPAL CENTER
LOBBY CONFERENCE ROOM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Mark Tessmer, Commissioners Aaron Van Moorlehem, Doug Fromm, Tim Valento, Tim Haubrich, Jim McKie, Jim Probst, Matthew Schempp, Karen Vavreck, Andrea Friesen

MEMBERS ABSENT: Wendy DeVore

OTHERS PRESENT: Council Liaison Anthony Fernandez (who left at 6:00 p.m. and was replaced by Lisa Eng-Sarne), City Attorney Kori Land, City Clerk Shirley Buecksler, City Manager Ryan Schroeder

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tessmer called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

3. ADOPT AGENDA

Motion by Probst/Haubrich to adopt the agenda. All ayes.

4. CONSENT

A. Approve Meeting Minutes of Sept. 11, 2018

Motion by Friesen/Vavreck to approve the minutes. All ayes.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Ranked Choice Voting

Chair Tessmer introduced the topic indicating there was a request made by Commissioner Schempp to learn more about Ranked Choice Voting.

Jeanne Massey & Liz Johnson (Executive Dir. and Dep. Dir. of FairVoteMN) explained that Ranked Choice Voting (“RCV”) is attempting to address the problem of low Primary voter turnout in nonpartisan local elections. RCV changes the ballot to let the voters rank candidates in order of preference. Rankings then allow an “instant runoff” instead of requiring a Primary plus a General Election. She mentioned in Minnesota, St. Paul, Minneapolis and St. Louis Park offer RCV in local elections because it is only available to charter cities.

Commissioner Vavreck is concerned about the length of time it takes to get results. For example, in St. Paul it took 4 days to get results. She likes having a Primary and a General Election. She is concerned that we are trying to fix something that is not broken. She said as an election judge she has seen many voters come in and just vote for state or national offices but never vote in the local elections so they do not read to the bottom of the ballot. Ms. Massey explained that there is an education piece for voters to go all the way down the ballot, but it is easy for voters to understand once given the opportunity to do it. As far as counting the ballots, Minneapolis and St. Paul's equipment was not updated to compile RCV quickly or easily. Dakota County has different voting equipment altogether, but it is capable of doing RCV but tallying the rankings would still require counting of ballots/names because there is no statewide certification process. Commissioner Vavreck pointed out there would need to be training for voters and for the election judges too. Ms. Massey said there could be community partners who could assist with the education process.

Commissioner Probst is concerned about trying to educate the senior population and the process being so frustrating for them so that they will not vote. Ms. Massey said their education piece touches all demographics at a grass roots level. She said polling numbers show that 92% "get it." Commissioner VanMoorlehem was also concerned about educating the voters and asked if FairVoteMN offers education. Ms. Massey said they help fundraise, host tables at community events, door-knock and recommend newspaper ads but if the city sends out sample ballots, that is the most effective. Ms. Massey stated that St. Louis Park allocated a budget toward RCV elections, hiring outreach and education staff. Ms. Massey recommends that the City send out a sample ballot to every voter.

Commissioner Valento asked if there was any limit on the number of candidates on a ballot. Ms. Massey explained that sometimes it was only limited by the mechanics of the ballot as to how many candidates could be shown, but otherwise, no, there is no limit.

There was a question about whether RCV caused more ballot errors. Ms. Massey stated that ballots are rejected if people try to vote incorrectly and there is no difference when RCV is used. Commissioner Fromm confirmed that there are a lot of ballot rejections in primaries so he suspected it would be the same for RCV elections.

Ms. Massey explained the different methods for adopting a Charter amendment, which would offer general legislative authority to allow RCV and then the specific rules around RCV would be adopted by ordinance.

It was mentioned that cities have adopted it and repealed it (Burlington ,VT and Aspen, CO).

President Tessmer asked about the cost of changing the City's voting equipment and who pays for that. Ms. Massey said she does not know if there will be a community cost.

Andy Lokken, Dakota County Elections Director stated that the County Board has taken no position on RCV. He offered clarification that there will still be a Primary in West St. Paul for state and national elections, the local candidates would be the only ones not on it. City Clerk Buecksler suggests that if RCV is considered it should start at the state or federal level. As it

stands now, West St. Paul is already different from other cities in Dakota County because the County issues all of West St. Paul's absentee ballots. Processing of those ballots still comes back to the city; however, this step of the County issuing them makes West St. Paul different than other cities. City Clerk Buecksler said the most important thing to her about working with Dakota County Elections and other cities within this county is consistency. The County expects all of the City Clerks to be consistent with one another in procedures and election processes. By being consistent, all of the cities in Dakota County are able to stand by what they do and the procedures they take and support each another, should there ever be a recount or an audit. This is not the same in every county. If West St. Paul changes to RCV, City Clerk Buecksler said it would cause West St. Paul to become an island on its own, completely different from the other cities, and the County would not be able to support the city with this type of voting. There are only 3 charter cities in Dakota County and neither Hastings nor South St. Paul are considering it. The County trains all the clerks; the clerks train all the election judges but the RCV training would be a special component just to West St. Paul and there is no general training for that.

Commissioner Probst asked what burdens would be on the city clerk. City Clerk Buecksler said she has limited part-time help for counting absentee ballots. Right now, the County issues absentee ballots so RCV would change that. Dir. Lokken commented that absentee ballots would need to be manually counted. City Clerk Buecksler said if she has to do manual counting of ballots, she does not know how she would manage it with her small staff.

Commissioner McKie thinks we are a few years off before we could implement RCV until the state decides to adopt it. He is glad for the education but does not see this as an issue that the Charter Commission needs to decide today.

Pres. Tessmer asked Dir. Lokken about the cost of the machines. Dir. Lokken said that the software used by Dakota County is certified at the federal level and is unique so the equipment would have to be adapted for RCV and then the vendor would take it through the certification process and the vendor would likely charge the local jurisdiction for the special software and the cost of certification. There would be training costs for the Dakota County election software staff as well, since the machines would be different.

Commissioner Friesen asked if Dir. Lokken has been watching St. Louis Park to see how it is working there. Dir. Lokken said they are very different election software systems so you cannot compare them.

Commissioner Valento stated he is very happy for the education but since the City will have to hold a Primary anyway, there was no benefit for West St. Paul. He agreed that this is a few years off.

Ms. Massey stated St. Paul/Minneapolis decided to do it because they have odd-numbered year local elections and wanted to eliminate the Primary for those local elections.

Commissioner Haubrich asked about the interest at the legislature. Ms. Massey said there is an interest and there is a legislator from Bloomington supporting a bill for local elections ("local options bill").

City Clerk Buecksler said she sees the advantage for those cities with odd-numbered year primaries because it eliminates one election for them. For West St. Paul, however, it would not eliminate any steps in the process because West St. Paul only holds even-year elections. If West St. Paul changes the local races to RCV but the federal and state races are not, there would be two types of voting on the same ballot, which City Clerk Buecksler believes would confuse the voter.

Commissioner VanMoorlehem said he hears 2 question – is it right and is it right for West St. Paul? He is thinking it might be right but maybe not right for now. Maybe at a later time it will be ripe. The Commission supports educating the Council on RCV.

Motion by VanMoorlehem/Valento to table the consideration of a Charter amendment for RCV and refer the draft minutes to the Council and recommend that they bring in FairVoteMN to educate them on RCV. All ayes.

B. Potential Charter Amendment – Sidewalk Assessments

City Attorney Land explained the issue for sidewalk maintenance, specifically snow removal, and seeking legislative authority at the local level in the Charter for assessing these costs.

Commissioner Haubrich asked what IGH or Rosemount do for their portion of Robert Street sidewalk. City Manager Ryan Schroeder indicated every city is different so there is no uniformity.

Commissioner VanMoorlehem would like to see draft language to address the Robert Street snow removal situation specifically. Commissioner Tessmer suggested making the language generic to address maintenance of major commercial corridors that have significant pedestrian traffic. President Tessmer would rather see language such as “maintenance” so repair and snow removal could be added to the specific City Code provision if the City Council chooses to do so.

Commissioner Fromm agreed that the language should be broad so that the Council can take it the direction they want to in the City Code without having to amend the Charter with every change.

City Attorney Land was directed to come back with language for consideration at the next meeting.

C. Election of Officers

President Tessmer said he will step down as Chair. Commissioner VanMoorlehem said he would be willing to be Chair.

Motion by Commissioners McKie/Fromm to approve Commissioner VanMoorlehem as Chair. All ayes.

Commissioner Fromm offered to step in as Vice Chair.

Motion by Commissioners McKie/Friesen to approve Commissioner Fromm as Vice Chair. All ayes.

6. OLD BUSINESS

7. SET NEXT MEETING DATE

The Commission decided to set the next meeting date for February 26, 2020 at 5:30.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Friesen/Probst. All Ayes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

DRAFT

To: **Mayor and City Council**
Through: **Ryan Schroeder, City Manager**
From: **Ross Beckwith, Public Works & Parks Director/City Engineer**
Date: **September 28, 2020**

Moreland Avenue Street Reconstruction CP 21-1

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The 2021 Street Improvement Project includes reconstruction of Moreland Avenue from Delaware Avenue to Robert Street. St. Paul Regional Water will also be replacing their watermain as part of the project.

There are currently three different road widths of 32-feet, 36-feet and 42-feet along Moreland Avenue as shown on the *Moreland Avenue Existing Widths* attachment. It is proposed to reconstruct Moreland to a 32-foot wide section for the most part. One exception is through the commercial area near Robert Street where the width would remain at 36-feet like other commercial areas. The second area, Delaware Avenue to Smith Avenue, will be dependent on what ultimately is constructed through this sidewalk gap area. A 32-foot street allows for two 12-foot driving lanes and an 8-foot parking lane. The south curb line would remain in the same location and the north curb line would shift south, resulting in a slightly wider boulevard on the north side. Benefits of narrowing the roadway to 32-feet include:

1. Reducing impervious surface by 8%
2. Decreasing project costs
3. Reducing future maintenance costs
4. Providing natural traffic calming
5. Providing a wider boulevard on the north side to better separate pedestrians from the roadway and increase area for boulevard trees
6. Reduce the distance needed for bikes/peds to cross the street

Currently, parking is allowed on one side of Moreland Avenue, mainly the north side, with the exception of Galvin Avenue to Charlton Street where it is on both sides. A 32-foot roadway section would include an 8-foot parking lane on the north side. There would be no parking on the south side. The existing sidewalk on the north side of the road also complements parking on the same side. In addition, Moreland Elementary is on the north side so they would continue to have parking along the street.

The majority of the existing sidewalk on the north side is 4-feet wide. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires a minimum 5-foot wide sidewalk. It is proposed to remove and replace the existing walk with a 5-foot sidewalk. The one-foot widening would be to the south, which fits with a wider boulevard created by narrowing the roadway.

We also explored the option of adding an additional sidewalk on Moreland Avenue along the south side. The boulevard on the south side is narrow and temporary easements would be needed from 12 properties between Charlton Street and Smith Avenue. There are also a significant amount of private utility poles that would need relocating and retaining walls to construct. The estimated cost of a sidewalk on the south side is \$380,000 plus the cost of the 12 temporary easements.

There is currently a sidewalk gap on Moreland Avenue between Smith Avenue and Delaware Avenue. The current City and County Capital Improvement Programs show Delaware Avenue reconstruction in 2025. That project will bring trail to one or both sides of Delaware Avenue. It is proposed to close this pedestrian gap with this reconstruction project. Both sides of Moreland were analyzed for feasibility of construction, impact to adjacent properties and cost. After a thorough review, the north side is more feasible as the south side would require more property acquisition and larger retaining walls with geo-grid reinforcement that would extend well into private property.

The current roadway width between Delaware Avenue and Moreland Avenue is 32-feet wide. The side slopes are steep and the overall right-of-way is narrower than the rest of the corridor. If a sidewalk were added and the road stayed 32-feet wide, some of the driveway grades would be more than double from their existing slope to greater than 20%. That is not practical. There would also be retaining walls running down the majority of these blocks in entirety. The two most realistic options for this stretch are:

1. Re-construct a 32-foot wide roadway with parking on the north side and not build any sidewalk.
2. Construct a 26-foot wide roadway, which eliminates on-street parking, and add a 5-foot sidewalk on the north side. See the *Delaware Ave. to Smith Ave. North Side Sidewalk Concept* attachment.
3. Between Ottawa Avenue and Smith Avenue, a 32-foot roadway and 5-foot walk is buildable, but it would be invasive and expensive. It would entail property easements of 500 square feet and large retaining walls all the way up to (and possibly connecting with) two houses. A structural analysis would be required on the two houses prior to moving forward with this option.

Fortunately, these three blocks are short and the houses have side streets to park on (with the exception of the two on Delaware Avenue) so the . A 26-foot roadway would significantly decrease the amount of retaining walls and temporary easements needed along this section.

Similar to the 2018 Street Improvement Project on Bernard Street, boulevard trees will be impacted throughout the Moreland Avenue corridor. Many of the roots will be disturbed with the roadway excavation and sidewalk widening and staff reviewed each tree on the corridor. As a result, 23 trees are proposed to be removed from City right-of-way. If not removed with the project, it is likely they will die within the next few years due to the root impacts. Of the 23 trees identified, 15 are ash trees. Removing and replacing (with different species) boulevard ash trees is part of the adopted 2012 Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Management Plan. Typically, reconstruction projects do not include tree replacement. However, a wider boulevard on the north side allows more room to replant, and diversifying our tree varieties aligns well with our EAB plan. Tree planting also coincides our Greensteps Program Best Practice #16 for Community Forests and Soils. A 2-inch tree costs about \$400-\$500 installed depending on the variety.

The easternmost block of Moreland Avenue as it approaches Robert Street is a commercial area. Staff has met with these property owners to discuss the project and possible changes. It is intended to keep the existing 36' wide street through most of this commercial area, which is consistent with other areas in the

city and allows truck turning and queuing in the roadway. There are seven driveways along the Signal Hills shopping center on the north side of Moreland Avenue. It is proposed to close two of these and relocate others to better serve the needs of their property. There is also a driveway further west for Signal Hills, which connects an alley to the Kmart building. Signal Hills has asked to keep that access in place for the time being. On the south side of Moreland Avenue, business accesses and on-street parking changes are not proposed. See the *Property Impact Summary Gorman Ave. to Robert St.* attachment.

Currently, the boulevards on both sides are mostly impervious concrete or asphalt as shown below.



Greensteps Best Practice #17 is Stormwater Management, which promotes the reduction of impervious surface and this project allows the opportunity to make such changes. With the recent construction of More Space at 68 Moreland Avenue came landscaping rock with shrubs and trees in the front of their property. This low maintenance option increases infiltration and brings some ‘green’ to this stretch of Moreland Avenue. In discussions with the property owners along this stretch, they were open to something similar which would only require pulling weeds on occasion. There was not much interest in a grass boulevard, as it would require frequent maintenance and watering. Estimated costs of different options for the boulevard in this commercial area include:

- Topsoil (6”) and sod \$11,000
- Topsoil (24”) and rock mulch (4”) with perennials \$42,000 (similar to More Space)
- Concrete (4”) \$52,000

With a sidewalk proposed on the north side throughout the corridor, there is no intention of having any sort of sidewalk/hardscape on the south side of the commercial area. The businesses on the south side are not the type that attract foot traffic and therefore do not support the need for hardscape.

Street lighting exists today between Hall Avenue and Robert Street. These poles will be replaced with City standard poles, like those on Marie Avenue, and will be converted to LED. The wiring will also be updated and installed into a conduit as it currently is direct buried in the boulevard.

For a project open house during COVID, staff is planning to mail each resident an information packet explaining the project and showing the proposed changes to their block. See the *Property Impact Summary Stryker Ave. to Gorman Ave.* attachment for an example. In addition, there would be a frequently asked questions sheet to address common open house questions for reconstruction projects like hours of work, construction timeline, mail delivery, etc. This information would also be on the

website for everyone to view. City staff is always willing to meet on-site with any residents that are looking to discuss the project or their property in more detail.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The feasibility report is nearly complete and contains construction cost estimates.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is looking for input on various aspects of the Moreland Avenue design.

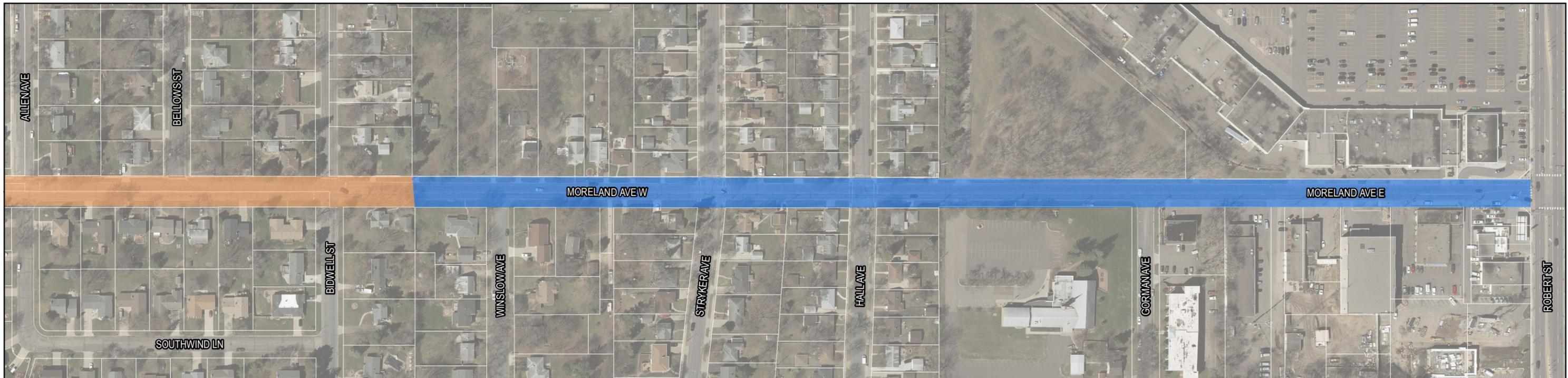
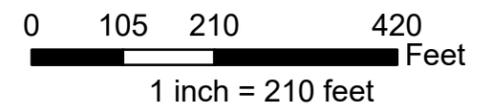
Attachments: Moreland Avenue Existing Widths
Delaware Ave. to Smith Ave. North Side Sidewalk Concept
Property Impact Summary Gorman Ave. to Robert St.
Property Impact Summary Stryker Ave. to Gorman Ave.



Road Width

- 32 Feet
- 36 Feet
- 40 Feet

NOTE: WIDTH TRANSITIONS FROM 40' TO 36'
BETWEEN BIDWELL ST AND WINSLOW AVE



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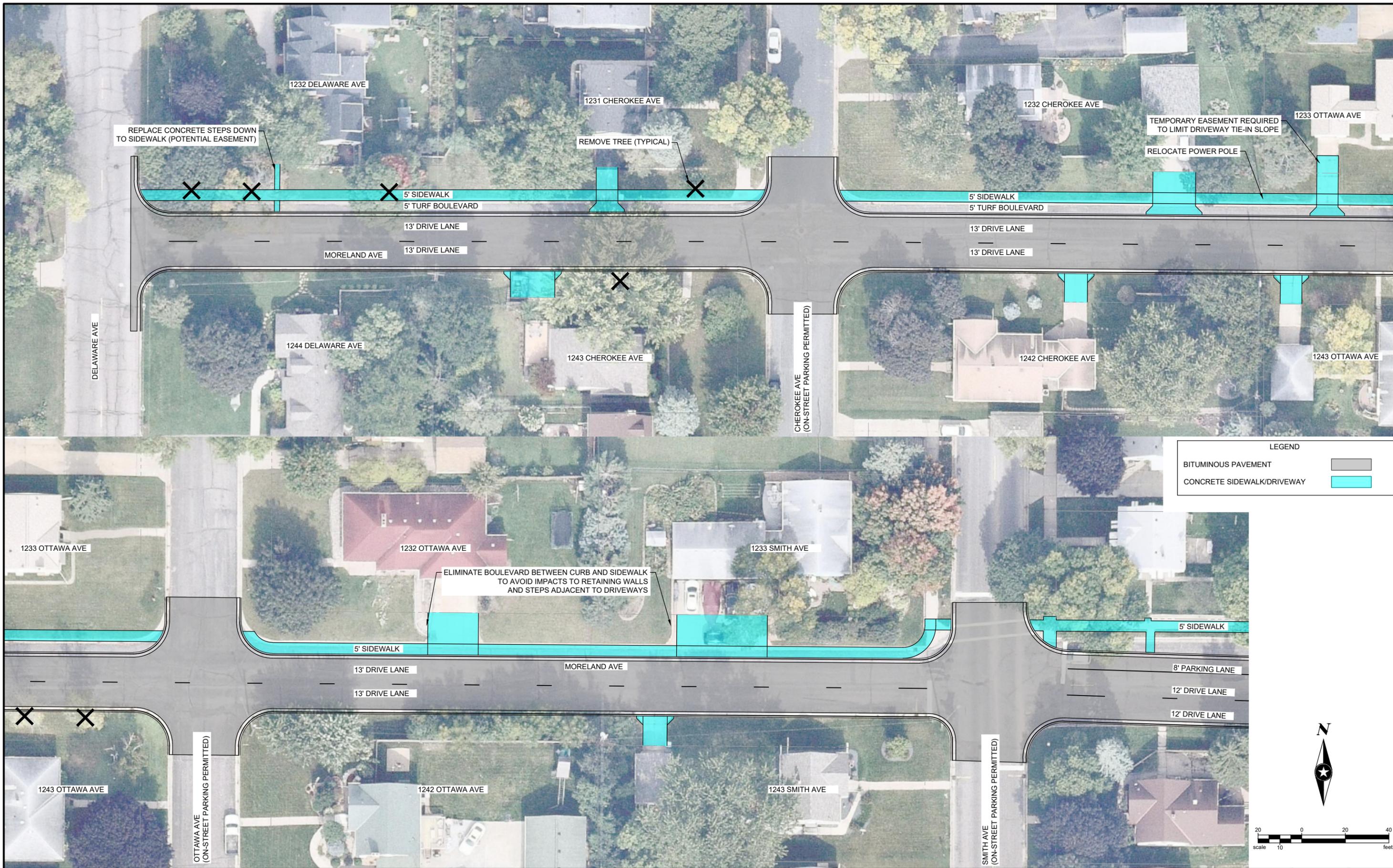
Project: WSTPL 154512
Print Date: 9/10/2020

User Name: msteuernagel
Projection: NAD 1983 HARN Adj MN Dakota Feet
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MORELAND AVENUE EXISTING WIDTHS

2021 Street Improvement
West St. Paul, Minnesota

This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey map and is not intended to be used as one. This map is a compilation of records, information, and data gathered from various sources listed on this map and is to be used for reference purposes only. SEH does not warrant that the Geographic Information System (GIS) Data used to prepare this map are error free, and SEH does not represent that the GIS Data can be used for navigational, tracking, or any other purpose requiring exacting measurement of distance or direction or precision in the depiction of geographic features. The user of this map acknowledges that SEH shall not be liable for any damages which arise out of the user's access or use of data provided.



LEGEND

- BITUMINOUS PAVEMENT
- CONCRETE SIDEWALK/DRIVEWAY

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scale 10 feet

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DESIGNER: _____										
CHECKED BY: _____										
DESIGN TEAM	NO.	BY	DATE	REVISIONS						

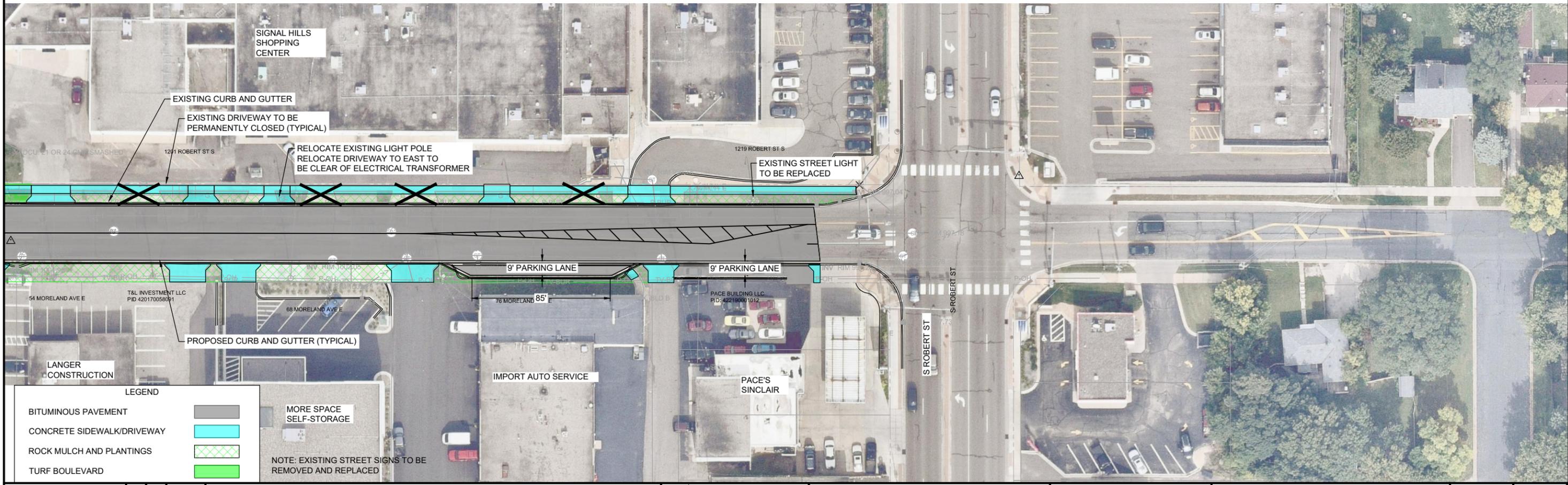
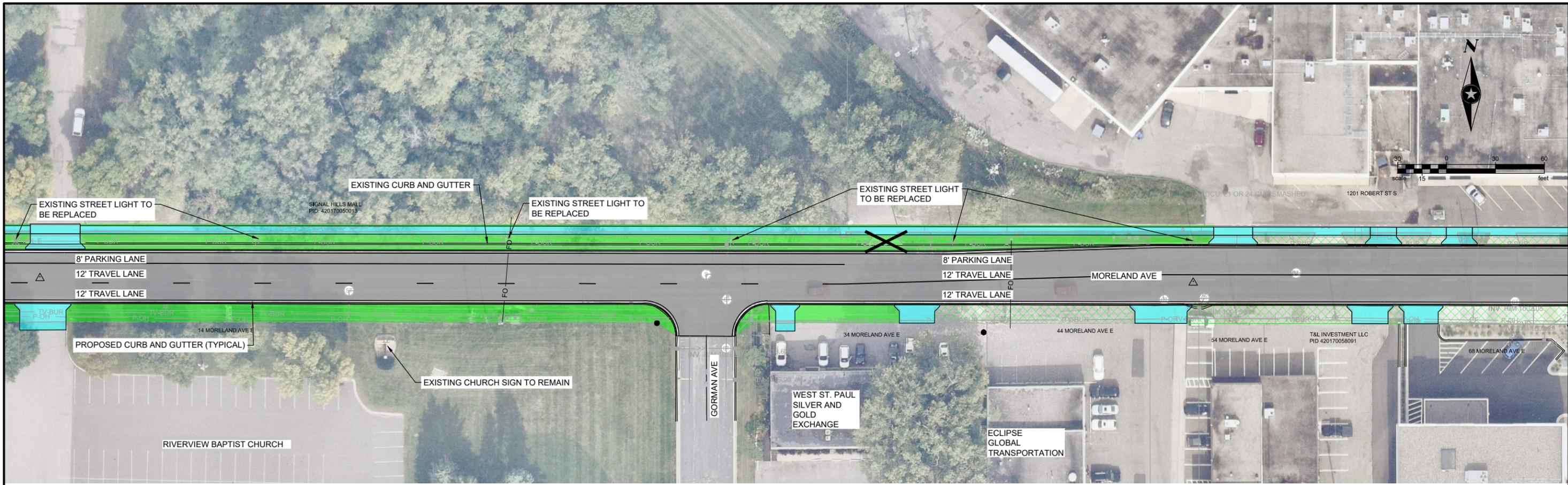
PHONE: 651.490.2000
 3535 VADNAIS CENTER DRIVE
 ST. PAUL, MN 55110-5196
 www.sehinc.com

Date: _____ Lic. No. _____

**WEST ST. PAUL,
MINNESOTA**

DELAWARE AVE TO SMITH AVE
NORTH SIDE SIDEWALK CONCEPT

FILE NO.
154512



LEGEND

BITUMINOUS PAVEMENT		MORE SPACE SELF-STORAGE	
CONCRETE SIDEWALK/DRIVEWAY		NOTE: EXISTING STREET SIGNS TO BE REMOVED AND REPLACED	
ROCK MULCH AND PLANTINGS			
TURF BOULEVARD			

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DESIGNER:				
CHECKED BY:				
DESIGN TEAM	NO.	BY	DATE	REVISIONS

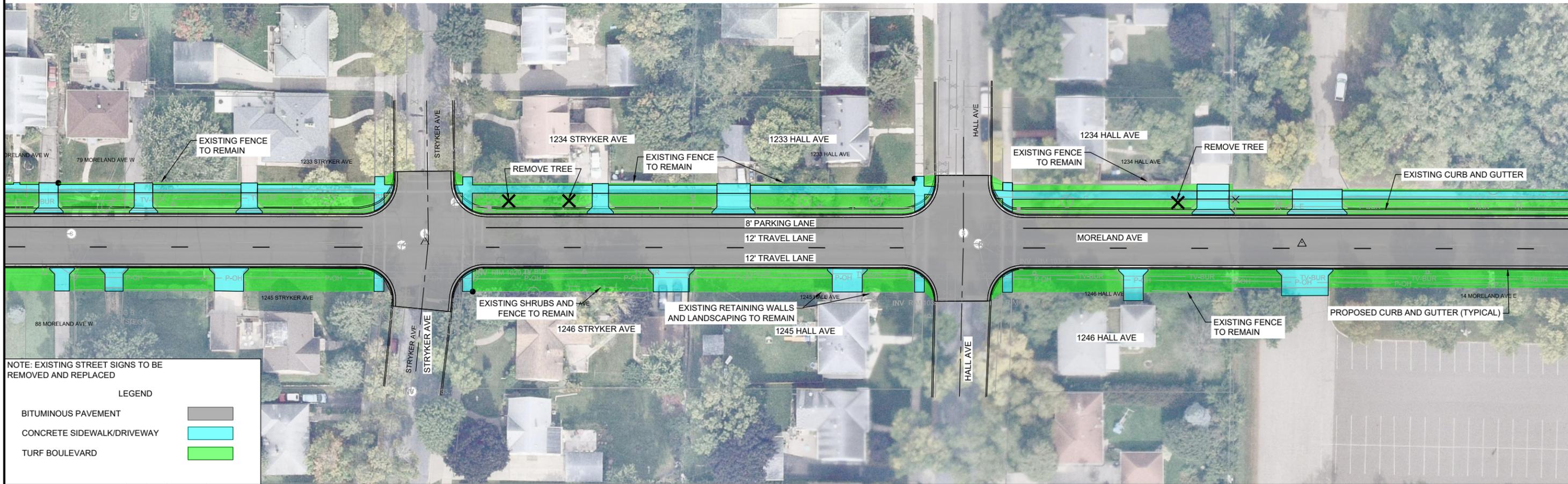
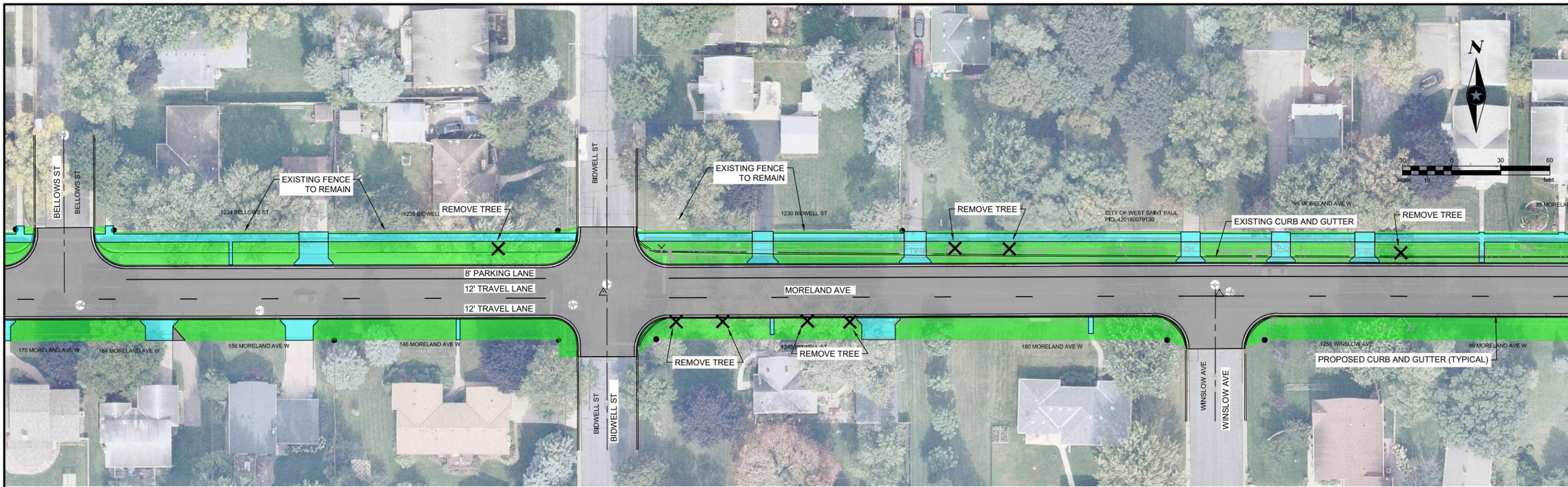
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**WEST ST. PAUL,
MINNESOTA**

**PROPERTY IMPACT SUMMARY
HALL AVE TO ROBERT ST**

FILE NO.
154512



NOTE: EXISTING STREET SIGNS TO BE REMOVED AND REPLACED

LEGEND

- BITUMINOUS PAVEMENT
- CONCRETE SIDEWALK/DRIVEWAY
- TURF BOULEVARD

DRAWN BY: _____				
DESIGNER: _____				
CHECKED BY: _____				
DESIGN TEAM	NO.	BY	DATE	REVISIONS

SEH
 PHONE: 651.490.2000
 3535 VADNAIS CENTER DRIVE
 ST. PAUL, MN 55110-5196
 www.sehinc.com

Date: _____ Lic. No. _____

**WEST ST. PAUL,
MINNESOTA**

PROPERTY IMPACT SUMMARY
BELLOWS ST TO HALL AVE

FILE NO.
154512



City Council Report

To: **Mayor and City Council**
Through: **Ryan Schroeder, City Manager**
From: **Charlene Stark, Finance Director**
Date: **September 28, 2020**

2021 Fee Schedule-Additional Fee

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

At the Open Council Workshop on August 17, I brought forward several changes to the 2021 fee schedule. There are two additional fees we are adding to the schedule for consistency and complete documentation of fees charged.

Storm Water Review Escrow-this is a \$10,000 cash escrow to be paid by any developer doing work in the City which impacts storm water. The escrow reimburses third party review of storm sewer and storm water treatment systems to ensure they are designed in accordance with the City's Surface Water Management Plan. Typically, there is computer modeling involved in these storm water designs. The City is currently being reimbursed for this third party storm water review. Adding this to the fee schedule makes it more transparent. Unused escrow is returned to the developer.

Vacations-all costs to process the vacation of a property (survey, legal, etc.) is charged back to the recipient of the vacated property.

FISCAL IMPACT:

		Amount
Fund:		
Department:		
Account:		

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss the additions to the fee schedule. This is to be on the consent agenda for tonight's Council meeting.

Fee Description	2020 Adopted Fees	2021 Proposed Fees	change
Inflation Factor - March 31st - Implicit Price Deflator (IPD), State and Local			
Storm Water Review Escrow			
New development Escrow for third party consultant fees	-	10,000.00	10,000.00
Vacations			
All costs to process the vacation of a property	-	TBD	