

**City of Ramsey**  
**Agenda**  
**Public Works Committee**  
**Tuesday April 16, 2013**  
**5:00 pm**  
**Lake Itasca Room, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Citizen Input**
- 3. Approve Agenda**
- 4. Approve Minutes**
  1. Approve March 19, 2013 meeting minutes.
- 5. Committee Business**
  1. Cost Estimate for Pedestrian Crosswalk at Alpine Dr and Zirconium St
- 6. Committee/Staff Input**
  1. Review of 2012-2013 Winter Maintenance Activities
- 7. Adjournment**

**Public Works Committee**

**4. 1.**

**Meeting Date:** 04/16/2013

Submitted For: MaryJo Warner

By: MaryJo Warner, Engineering/Public Works

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Title:

Approve March 19, 2013 meeting minutes.

Background:

The Public Works Committee held its regular meeting on March 19, 2013.

Notification:

Observations/Alternatives:

Funding Source:

n/a

Staff Recommendation:

Action:

Motion to approve Public Works Committee meeting minutes dated March 19, 2013.

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**Attachments**

Minutes

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**Form Review**

**Inbox**  
Grant Riemer  
Kurt Ulrich

**Reviewed By**  
MaryJo Warner  
Kurt Ulrich

**Date**  
04/11/2013 04:08 PM  
04/11/2013 04:16 PM  
Started On: 04/10/2013 10:46 AM

Form Started By: MaryJo Warner

Final Approval Date: 04/11/2013

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE  
CITY OF RAMSEY  
ANOKA COUNTY  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The Public Works Committee conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 19, 2013 at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present:     Chairperson Randy Backous  
                            Councilmember David Elvig  
                            Councilmember Mark Kuzma

Also Present:         City Administrator Kurtis Ulrich  
                            Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Mark Riverblood  
                            Public Works Superintendent Grant Riemer  
                            Development Services Manager Timothy Gladhill  
                            Interim Engineer Shane Nelson  
                            Councilmember John LeTourneau  
                            Councilmember Chris Riley

**1.     CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Backous called the regular meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 5:30 p.m.

**2.     CITIZEN INPUT**

There was none.

**3.     APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Elvig, to approve the agenda, as presented.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers Kuzma and Elvig. Voting No: None.

**4.     APPROVE MINUTES**

**4.01:   Approve November 20, 2012 Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Elvig, to approve the minutes from the November 20, 2013, Public Works Meeting.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers Kuzma and Elvig. Voting No: None.

## **5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

### **5.01: Nominate Chair and Vice-Chair for the Public Works Committee**

Chairperson Backous called for nominations for 2013 Public Works Committee Chair and Vice Chair.

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Elvig, to nominate and elect Randy Backous as Public Works Committee Chair.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers Kuzma and Elvig. Voting No: None.

Motion by Councilmember Elvig, seconded by Chairperson Backous, to nominate and elect Mark Kuzma as Public Works Committee Vice Chair.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers Elvig and Kuzma. Voting No: None.

### **5.02: Consider Interim Trail in the Right-of-Way of US Highways 10 and 169**

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood reviewed the staff report and six options detailed in the staff report. Staff's recommendation is Option 2, to move forward with mowing the trail and see how well it is used. If the trail is well used, Class V can be placed.

Councilmember Elvig stated support for staff's recommendation because it will determine whether the trail will be used.

Chairperson Backous asked about bicycling in areas of the ditch.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated it will depend on how well the turf holds together since some ditch areas are sandy.

Councilmember Kuzma noted there are a lot of people in that area and he supports staff's recommendation since it allows testing how often it will be used.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated staff contacted Mn/DOT to receive concurrence that it is permissible to mow and/or maintain an "interim" trail within the right-of-way between these two City streets and he anticipates there will be no problems.

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Elvig, to recommend that the City Council address the request for a temporary trail within the right-of-way of Highways 10 and 169 between Bowers Drive and Llama Street by altering driveway/ditch approaches, etc. such that a trail may be mowed by the City a few times a year at minimal expense and direct staff

to investigate the permanent grant funded bituminous trail for construction in 2013 with reimbursement of Federal monies at some point in 2015.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers Kuzma and Elvig. Voting No: None.

### **5.03: Review AVL System and Consider Purchase**

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reviewed the staff report and pros and cons for each alternative. He explained that the AVL System will allow staff to determine how much salt is put down, will reduce truck idle time/gasoline costs, track vehicle maintenance, and track route management as streets are plowed so if asked, staff can indicate the percentage of streets that have been plowed.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated it would be useful for residents to see an interactive map, posted to the City's website, of routes that are plowed so they can see progress.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated it may be possible to update such a map periodically, such as once an hour.

Councilmember Elvig stated he is concerned with broadcasting live plowing in case residents intend to hinder plowing.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer continued presentation of AVL System features to track vehicles, time, and materials (sand/salt) used.

Chairperson Backous asked about the feasibility of having a second site to pick up salt/sand.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer explained that is possible but would double the risk of site contamination. He answered questions of the Committee relating to the number of truck routes being eight, rotation of starting points, and that trucks run about ten hours. Public Works Superintendent Riemer displayed charts depicting plowing routes and times for March 4 and 5, 2013, noting material usage totals and feature for maintenance tracking.

Councilmember Kuzma stated this is a sophisticated program and asked if it is currently being tested in Ramsey.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated the City has one system in the sweeper and explained it is easy to remove and use in different equipment. He explained how the program also sends alerts for maintenance and is flexible in allowing you to change the intervals it sends reports and alerts.

Councilmember Elvig noted the costs are \$5,000 for hardware plus \$4,000 per year.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer explained the software data is kept on PreCise servers. He presented the costs of \$4,995.50 for the Precise MRM System hardware and \$4,025.91 for total annual costs for PreCise MRM software/data. If approved, the equipment would be relocated from plow trucks in the winter months to mowers in the summer months.

Councilmember Kuzma asked if this will help with scheduling man hours.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated it will help more with tracking material use and whether a street was plowed or missed. In addition, it helps to track staffing levels and to gain efficiencies. He indicated staff recommends the purchase of the Precise MRM system and installation in all large plow equipment and sidewalk cleaning machine.

Motion by Councilmember Elvig, seconded by Councilmember Kuzma, to recommend that the City Council purchase the Precise MRM system and installation in all large plow equipment and sidewalk cleaning machine.

Further discussion: Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood noted there has been past discussion relating to instituting a special services district in The COR and this equipment will allow the City to document activity to justify such an additional service fee. Councilmember Riley asked whether there had been any push back from staff. Public Works Superintendent Riemer clarified this equipment does not track employees; it tracks equipment and use of materials. He noted it would also track equipment use after hours, which would be a theft deterrent.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers Elvig and Kuzma. Voting No: None.

## **6. COMMITTEE / STAFF INPUT**

### **6.01: Update on Turf Restoration at 7046 166<sup>th</sup> Avenue (Mack and Shayle Dominquez)**

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reviewed the staff report and indicated he sent them a letter reminding that the City would be out in the spring to re-mulch existing soil, remove debris, top dress with four inches of suitable black dirt, and re-seed.

Councilmember Kuzma stated while campaigning, he received complaints about the quality of restoration and poor quality grass seed.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated the seed mix had been changed as well as amount of black dirt and the City will now replace whatever had been disturbed, sod for sod and seed for seed.

Councilmember Riley stated he also heard from residents who were very unhappy with the quality of restoration and if one person's yard is being fixed, he would ask about the others with the same concern.

Chairperson Backous explained that this property is what precipitated the change in policy for better soil and seed mix.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Chairperson Backous, to adjourn the Public Works Committee meeting.

Motion carried.

The regular meeting of the Public Works Committee adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Grant Riemer  
Public Works Superintendent

Drafted by Carla Wirth  
*TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*

**Public Works Committee**

**5. 1.**

**Meeting Date:** 04/16/2013

**By:** Grant Riemer, Engineering/Public Works

**Title:**

Cost Estimate for Pedestrian Crosswalk at Alpine Dr and Zirconium St

**Background:**

At the July 21, 2009 Public Works Committee received a request for providing cross walks that would offer access to Alpine Park to the residential neighborhoods to the north. This proposal was revisited at the 9/18/2012 Public Works Committee. The chief concern is the ability to access the park safely across Alpine Drive which has a 45 mile per hour speed limit and a daily traffic count of 2400 vehicles per day. The Alpine Acres subdivision neighborhood includes 22 single family units fronting on 153rd Way that accesses Alpine Drive via Zirconium Street, and 16 single family units fronting on 153rd Court which accesses the west end of the park.

A crosswalk providing access to the western portion of the neighborhood was installed at the intersection of Alpine Drive and 153 Court at a relatively modest cost of \$2,200. However, a crossing location for the eastern neighborhood was found to be more problematic and no action was taken by the Committee. A possible location having an adequate, but not ideal sight distance had been identified at a point approximately 200 feet west of the intersection with Zirconium Street. This location has the advantage of requiring a minimal distance of "extra travel" for pedestrians from the eastern neighborhood that wish to go to the playground area which is east of Zirconium Street. A crossing at this location would require; a) 200 feet of trail, b) cross walks with signage, c) concrete steps down the grade, and pedestrian ramps. The estimated cost for these improvements is \$38,000. There is also a question of compliance with the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) since steps would not make this access usable to wheelchair users. Staff contacted the Department of Justice, which administers the act, and was advised that a facility (the park) required only one accessible point. However, if an access were to be considered the main entrance, then a handicap access should be seriously considered. This would not be the case since there are two other access points on both the east and west sides of the park.

**Notification:**

**Observations/Alternatives:**

Staff would like to propose a different scenario for the crosswalk and trail leading to the main park entrance. A crosswalk would still be installed at the point 200' west of Zirconium St and connected by a 10' crushed aggregate trail. Once pedestrians crossed the road to the south side of Alpine Dr they would take a 10' crushed aggregate trail east to the main entrance that would connect them to the parks internal trail system. The reasoning behind the crushed aggregate trail is twofold. First this will be a limited use trail, which in reality is only serving the one neighborhood to the north Alpine Estates. Second is cost. Public works has a stock pile of reclaimed asphalt at the shop that would be suitable for this project, so there would be no additional cost for the material. The crosswalk proposed by staff would be a standard fluorescent yellow/ green design, with advance warning signs included. A LED lighted crosswalk was explored for this location as an option, but remains cost prohibitive. Two LED lighted crosswalk signs are approximately \$5,000.00. A LED crosswalk, similar to the one used on Main St. in Anoka, with in-pavement lighting is approximately \$28,000.00, plus installation. Cost for the basic crosswalk and trail are as follows:

Standard crosswalk signage w/stripping- \$1,500.00

4 ADA approved pedestrian ramps /curb cuts at \$2,000.00 or \$8,000.00 total (estimated)

150 tons of recycled material (con-bit)-no cost

Labor/equipment to install trail component-\$6,000.00

Total cost of project-\$15,500.00

Funding Source:

General fund - PW operating budgets cost centers 0311,0260,0452

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends installing standard pedestrian crosswalk signage, striping with connecting trails to provide access to Alpine Park for residents of Alpine Estates

Action:

Motion to accept staff recommendation to install standard crosswalk signage 200' west of Zirconium St to include 200' of aggregate trail on the north side of Alpine Dr and 900' of aggregate trail on south side of Alpine Dr.  
Cost -\$15,500.00

or

Motion to reject staff recommendation and choose an alternative based on committee discussion

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Attachments

Location map

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Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Kurt Ulrich	Kurt Ulrich	04/11/2013 04:15 PM
Form Started By: Grant Riemer		Started On: 04/10/2013 09:25 AM
	Final Approval Date: 04/11/2013	

## Pedestrian Access Proposal – Zirconium Street to Alpine Park



- ..... Crosswalk 200' feet west of Zirconium Street
- Red denotes Con-Bit based trail surface
- ★ Star represents new ADA pedestrian ramp (curb cut)

**Public Works Committee**

**6. 1.**

**Meeting Date:** 04/16/2013

Submitted For: Grant Riemer

By: Grant Riemer, Engineering/Public Works

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Title:

Review of 2012-2013 Winter Maintenance Activities

Background:

Staff will present a short Power Point presentation recapping the 2012-2013 snow season and explain the operation in more detail for new Public Works Committee members

Notification:

Observations/Alternatives:

Funding Source:

N/A

Staff Recommendation:

Action:

Informational only, no action required

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Form Review

**Inbox**  
Kurt Ulrich

**Reviewed By**  
Kurt Ulrich

**Date**  
04/11/2013 04:10 PM  
Started On: 04/05/2013 02:22 PM

Form Started By: Grant Riemer

Final Approval Date: 04/11/2013