

City of Ramsey
Agenda
Public Works Committee
Tuesday October 15, 2013
Immediately Following Personnel Committee
Lake Itasca Room, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Citizen Input**
- 3. Approve Agenda**
- 4. Approve Minutes**
 1. Approve September 17, 2013 meeting minutes.
- 5. Committee Business**
 1. Consider Stop Sign Request for Potassium St and 143rd Circle
 2. Clarify Policy for Traffic Control on Modified Intersections
- 6. Committee/Staff Input**
- 7. Adjournment**

Public Works Committee

4. 1.

Meeting Date: 10/15/2013

Submitted For: Grant Riemer, Engineering/Public Works

By: MaryJo Warner, Engineering/Public Works

Title:

Approve September 17, 2013 meeting minutes.

Purpose/Background:

To review and approve the attached meeting minutes from the previous Public Works Committee meeting.

Timeframe:

5 minutes.

Observations/Alternatives:

Mary Jo Warner and Grant Riemer

Funding Source:

n/a

Recommendation:

To approve meeting minutes.

Action:

To have final approved meeting minutes on file in permanent records.

Attachments

Minutes

Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Grant Riemer	MaryJo Warner	10/10/2013 02:14 PM
Kurt Ulrich	Kurt Ulrich	10/10/2013 03:45 PM
Form Started By: MaryJo Warner		Started On: 10/08/2013 08:26 AM
Final Approval Date: 10/10/2013		

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

The Public Works Committee conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Chairperson Randy Backous
 Councilmember Mark Kuzma
 Councilmember Chris Riley

Also Present: City Administrator Kurtis Ulrich
 Public Works Superintendent Grant Riemer
 Human Resources Manager Colleen Lasher
 Public Works Utility Supervisor John Nelson

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Backous called the regular meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 5:50 p.m.

2. CITIZEN INPUT

There was none.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

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

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

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.01: Approve July 16, 2013, Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Kuzma, to approve the following minutes:

Regular Meeting Minutes dated July 16, 2013

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

5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

5.01: Consider Allowing the Use of High Density Polyethylene Pipe for Water Service Line

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reviewed the staff report and recommendation the City Council amend City Code Section 58-113(a) to allow the use of High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) pipe in lieu of soft copper for water service lines from the curb stop to the residence. He reviewed the benefits of using HDPE including lower cost, less likelihood of theft, and ease of splicing. He indicated HDPE has a longer life than copper and involves no health risks. Public Works Superintendent Riemer explained that copper will still be used from the main to the curb stop for ease of locating.

Councilmember Riley asked if there is any argument to not use HDPE.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated he cannot think of one, noting it saves contractors thousands of dollars. He stated it will be wrapped with 12-gauge wire so it can be located.

Councilmember Kuzma stated his question was how long it would last and staff has indicated 100 years or longer, which is a longer life than copper.

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Kuzma, to recommend that the City Council amend City Code Section 58-113(a) to allow the use of High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) pipe in lieu of soft copper for water service lines from the curb stop to the residence.

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

6. COMMITTEE / STAFF INPUT

6.01: Signal Timing on Highway 10 Corridor

Public Works Superintendent Riemer provided a traffic simulation of Highway 10 and its intersections at Ramsey Boulevard NW, Armstrong Boulevard NW, Sunfish Lake Boulevard, Main Street, Fair Oak Avenue, and Thurston Avenue that was developed based on traffic counts. He reviewed the staff report and response of Kevin Schwartz of Mn/DOT indicating a limited number of cars are allowed to enter the Highway corridor from intersecting roads because the corridor is over capacity and any changes to the timing at one signal effects the traffic volumes on the whole corridor.

Chairperson Backous asked why traffic timing is not changed in Big Lake and/or Elk River to allow Ramsey traffic to access Highway 10 more quickly, noting the wait can be over six minutes.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer advised that Mn/DOT has hired a consultant to study the signal timing on Highway 10 to see if any improvement could be made. But if changes are made, it is most likely to be during non-rush hour periods.

Chairperson Backous stated it appears Mn/DOT is saying they cannot do anything.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated the road is over capacity and needs to be improved.

Chairperson Backous stated he thinks something can be done farther west in Elk River or beyond.

Informational; no action required.

6.02: 2013 Public Works Department Operations and Staffing Survey Results

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reviewed the staff report and presented survey results of neighboring communities relating to Public Works staffing levels. He stated Ramsey is operating at the top with efficiencies and staff is not currently working over-time hours.

Chairperson Backous stated this survey does not taking into account work of prisoners or contractor services so it is difficult to compare “apples to apples.”

Public Works Superintendent completed presentation of the survey results and indicated it has become difficult for Ramsey to find people for fall seasonal work.

Human Resources Manager Lasher agreed and stated it will continue to be a challenge.

Councilmember Riley complemented staff for running a lean operation.

Public Works Utility Supervisor Nelson commented on the high water use during summer months.

Chairperson Backous asked Public Works Superintendent Riemer if he will be asking to hire additional staff.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated the 2014 budget includes hiring a Utility Operator so that position will be brought forward. He commented that some residents want to live on dirt roads of a rural design.

Chairperson Backous asked about the cost to maintain gravel roads.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated gravel roads may not be more costly to maintain but the City receives more complaints relating to dust during summer months.

Chairperson Backous congratulated Public Works Superintendent Reimer for making it work with a lean level of staffing.

Informational; no action required.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer answered questions of the Committee relating to the condition and rating of several roads.

7. ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion carried.

The regular meeting of the Public Works Committee adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Riemer
Public Works Superintendent

Drafted by Carla Wirth
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.

Public Works Committee

5. 1.

Meeting Date: 10/15/2013

Submitted For: Grant Riemer, Engineering/Public Works

By: Grant Riemer, Engineering/Public Works

Title:

Consider Stop Sign Request for Potassium St and 143rd Circle

Purpose/Background:

The purpose of this case is to consider the installation of stop sign at the intersection of Potassium St and 143rd Circle

Timeframe:

15 Minutes

Observations/Alternatives:

On September 24, 2013 the City of Ramsey received a petition from residents living near the intersection of Potassium St and 143rd Circle requesting a stop sign at that intersection. City policy requires 5 signatures from property owners within 500 feet of the traffic control modification. That criteria has been met. Normal procedure after the petition is received and verified is to check for sight line obstructions, take 48 hour traffic counts to establish a 24 hour average and request accident history from the Ramsey police department for the intersection. That information is as follows:

Traffic Counts

Potassium St north of 143rd Circle-548 cars/24 hours

143rd Circle west of Potassium St-116 cars/24 hours

143rd Circle east of Potassium St-598 cars/24 hours

Peak hour traffic-42 cars

Accident history

2 accidents have been recorded for this intersection. In 2007 two cars slid into each other in a newly fallen snow. In 2011 a car south bound on Potassium St cut the corner short and struck a car west bound on 143rd Circle.

Sight line obstructions-staff found sight lines to be clear in all directions

Warrants for stop signs-The MUTCD (Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices) states that a Stop sign may be warranted at an intersection where one or more of the following conditions exist:

1. Intersection of a less important road with a main road where the application of the normal right of way rule is unduly hazardous.
2. Street entering a through highway or street.
3. Unsignalized intersection in a signalized area
4. Other intersections where a combination of high speed, restricted view, and serious accident record indicate a need for control by the Stop sign.

Staff feels that the intersection does not warrant a stop sign at this time, because of the documented traffic volumes and accident history.

Funding Source:

General Fund Budget cost center 0260

Recommendation:

Staff recommendation is that the Public Works Committee deny the request for the installation of a Stop sign at the intersection of Potassium St and 143rd Circle

Action:

Motion to accept staff recommendation and forward on to council for approval or

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

Attachments

Petition

Location Map

Form Review

Inbox

Kurt Ulrich

Form Started By: Grant Riemer

Final Approval Date: 10/10/2013

Reviewed By

Kurt Ulrich

Date

10/10/2013 03:45 PM

Started On: 10/07/2013 02:02 PM

RECEIVED

SEP 17 2013

BY: *YRON 1:45pm*

July 19, 2013

Ramsey City Council
7550 Sunwood Dr NW
Ramsey, MN 55303

Request a STOP sign petition for the intersection of Potassium St NW and 143rd Circle NW

Dear Mayor and Council, everyday the persons who live on 143rd Circle and those near this intersection have close encounters with drivers who fail to yield the right of way to us who are traveling on 143rd Circle. If it were not for us homeowners in this area collisions would occur daily. Drivers cut in front of us, they cut the corner into oncoming traffic and have a total disregard for the right of way laws.

We are asking for a sign to be placed at this very busy corner so every day we do not have to question "is today the day that I get hit" we look around at several intersections in the area that have 3 or 4 STOP signs who intersections are the same as ours. We realize that there is a 4 way Stop up the road on 143rd Lane. However this does us no good the intersection of Potassium and 143rd Circle.

Contact person for this petition is James Singewald 763-213-9311

Residents:

- James Singewald 5950 143rd Cir NW
- Mike Kennedy 5961 143rd Cir NW
- Lisa Kennedy 5961 143rd Circle NW
- Melinda Anderson 14341 Potassium St NW
- Jeff Anderson 14341 Potassium St NW
- STEVE Collin 5920 143rd Circle NW
- Matt Colton 5920 143rd Circle NW
- Ryan Beaver 5910 143rd Circle NW
- Michelle Botko 14299 Nean Street Ramsey
- Francis Botko 14299 Nean Street Ramsey
- Walt Strangberg 5971 143rd Cir NW Ramsey
- John Cabold 5951 143rd Cir NW Ramsey
- Masey RABOLD 5951 143rd Cir NW Ramsey
- Mitch Singewald 5950 143rd Cir NW Ramsey
- Robert Wallace 5941 143rd Circle N.W. Ramsey, Mn.
- Lude Wallace 5941 143rd Cir. NW Ramsey, Mn
- Therina Wallace 5941-143rd Circle NW Ramsey, Mn
- Margaret Wallace 5941 143rd Circle NW Ramsey, MN
- Joe Wallace 5941 143rd Circle NW Ramsey MN
- Melissa Beaver 5910 143rd Circle NW Ramsey, MN
- Darryl & Bernice Hale 5960 143rd Cir NW. Ramsey, MN 55303



Keyword: Search



Search

Results

Tools

Address Locator

Measure Distance

Markup Tools

Street View/Bird's Eye

Walk Score®

Point Editor

Zoom In

Zoom Out

Pan

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Prev

Next

Legend



X: 461386.9393, Y: 171477.6726

Opacity

Zoom

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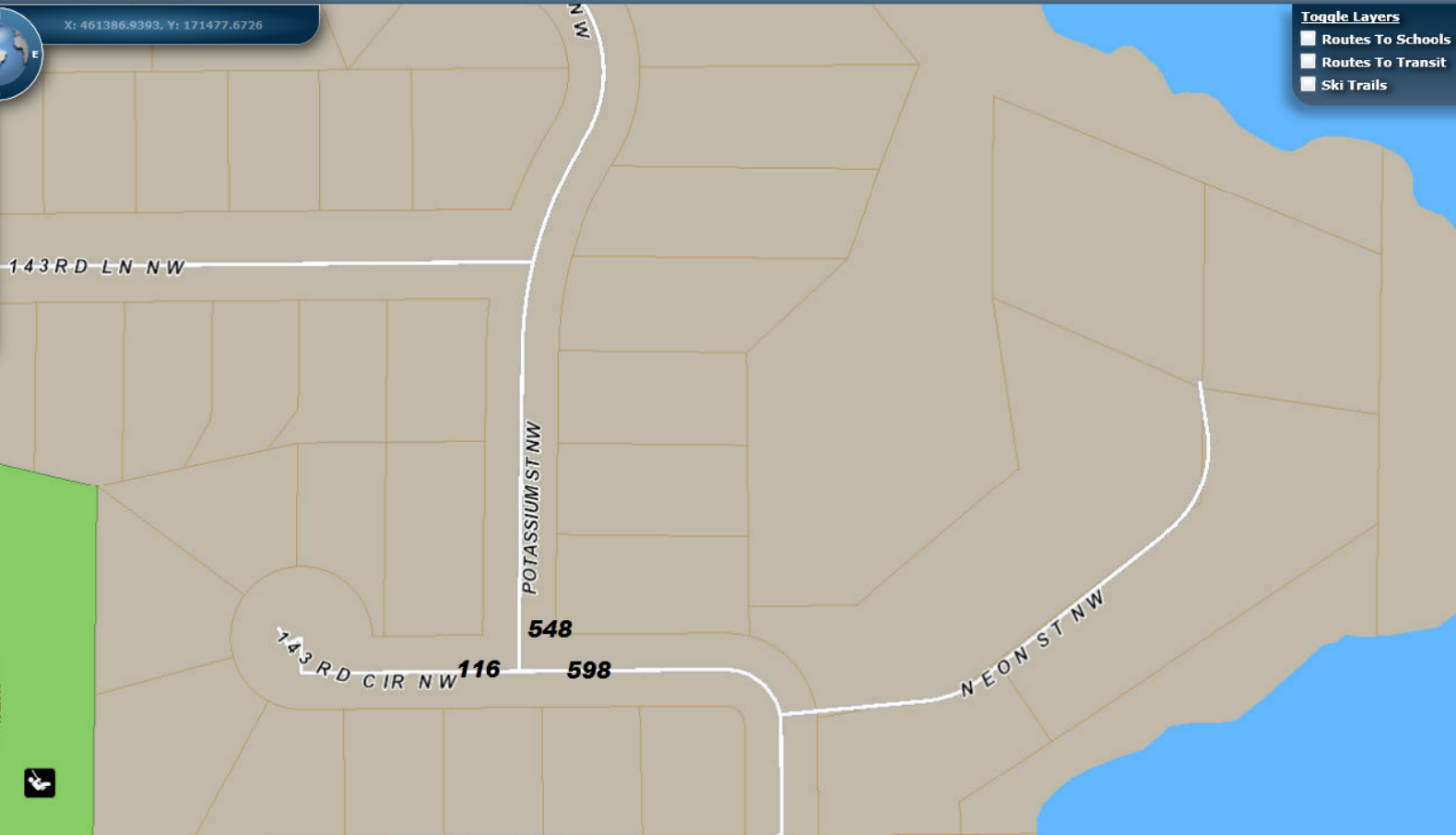
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Toggle Layers

- Routes To Schools
- Routes To Transit
- Ski Trails

Public Works Committee

5. 2.

Meeting Date: 10/15/2013

By: Grant Riemer, Engineering/Public Works

Title:

Clarify Policy for Traffic Control on Modified Intersections

Purpose/Background:

The purpose of this case is to clarify our policy for the installation of traffic control devices on an intersection that has been modified by adjacent development. With the Seasons of Ramsey town home development nearing completion traffic patterns will be changed on two existing intersections. Town Center Drive and 147th Lane on the west and Rhinestone St and 147th Lane on the east. Both of these intersections have been basically 90 degree turns since the area was developed, with no conflicting traffic movements. As development increases in future years this scenario will play out numerous times throughout the city. Staff is seeking direction on what criteria should be used in under these circumstances. Under our current policy we require a petition from the surrounding area before we initiate a traffic study and give a recommendation.

Timeframe:

15 Minutes

Observations/Alternatives:

Alternative #1 Follow the traffic engineer's plan for development (if available)

Alternative #2 Staff initiate the traffic study and follow the warrant recommendations in the MUTCD (Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices)

Alternative#3 Wait for the residents to request traffic control and follow our current policy.

Funding Source:

General Fund Budget-Cost Center 0260 (Traffic Engineering)

Recommendation:

Staff recommends alternative #1 Follow the traffic engineer's plan for development if provided. Staff recommends alternative #2 as a fall back alternative-Staff initiate the traffic study and follow the warrant recommendations in the MUTCD (Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices)

Action:

Motion to accept staff recommendation and forward on to council for approval or

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

Attachments

147th Lane

Form Review

Inbox
Bruce Westby

Reviewed By
Bruce Westby

Date
10/10/2013 01:55 PM

Kurt Ulrich
Form Started By: Grant Riemer
Final Approval Date: 10/10/2013

Kurt Ulrich

10/10/2013 03:59 PM
Started On: 10/09/2013 09:37 AM



Keyword: Search



Search

What do you want to find?
(check all that apply)

- Parks
- Rivers/Lakes
- Regional Trails
- Fairground
- Nature Centers
- Boat Launch
- Picnic Shelter/Pavilion
- Recommended Walking and Biking Routes to Schools
- Recommended Bike Routes to Northstar Transit Stations
- Recreation Centers
- Schools
- Community Gardens
- Off Leash Dog Areas
- Fishing Pier
- Public Service Locations

What activity do you want to do?

- Limit search results by address
- Limit search results within city
- List all within County

Search Reset

Results

Tools

Legend

