August 13, 2019

RE: 2020 Pavement Management Project

Public Meeting, Thursday, September 5, 2019, 6 -7:30 p.m.

Dear Resident:

A number of streets in your neighborhood have been scheduled for rehabilitation during the 2020 construction season as part of the city’s Pavement Management Project. The project is entirely within the Fern Hill neighborhood.

You are invited to attend a public meeting for this project scheduled for:

Thursday, September 5, 2019
6 -7:30 p.m., Presentation at 6:15 p.m.
Community Room, First Floor, City Hall
5005 Minnetonka Blvd, St. Louis Park

The purpose of this meeting is to gather feedback from the neighborhood. At this meeting, you will learn more about the project and view preliminary maps showing the proposed street and utility improvements. There will be a short presentation followed by the opportunity to talk to staff and discuss any additions you would like us to evaluate. This is the time to share your observations about drainage, sidewalks, trails, traffic questions, etc. In addition, we would like your help to identify locations where building new sidewalk would be beneficial to getting around the neighborhood. This feedback will influence what is brought forward for final plans.

There will be no improvements or construction in the neighborhood until there has been an opportunity for public input on the project. There will be future open houses this winter to review preliminary and final plans. The pavement management project is funded through existing city funds. There are no special assessments to property owners for this project.

Throughout the public participation process, the staff is committed to keeping residents informed, listening to and acknowledging concerns, and providing feedback on how your input influenced the final plans.

If you have questions or cannot attend the meeting and would like to make arrangements to discuss the project at another time, please contact me at awiesen@stlouispark.org or 952.924.2673. I look forward to working with you and your neighbors.

Sincerely,

Aaron Wiesen, P.E.
Project Engineer

Attachments- 2019 Pavement Management Project Overview; Project Map
CC: Debra Heiser, Engineering Director, Ward 1 Councilmember, City Manager, Nextdoor: Fern Hill
Pavement Management Program overview

In 2002, the City of St. Louis Park started its Pavement Management Program (PMP), a comprehensive street maintenance plan implementing the right maintenance at the right time in a road’s lifecycle to reduce the overall cost of keeping the city’s streets in good condition. The goals of the PMP are to proactively address the condition of city streets, to extend pavement life and to enhance system-wide performance in a cost effective and efficient way.

To implement the plan, the city is divided into eight geographic areas of comparable pavement square footage. Boundaries are further defined using neighborhoods. Local street maintenance, sidewalk maintenance and pavement rehabilitation projects are planned based on these eight PMP areas. The streets are evaluated annually and street segments are programmed based on condition and budget.

Each year, the PMP rehabilitates about five miles of the 140 miles of local streets in St. Louis Park. As a result, it takes about 30 years to address all of the city streets. The plan is updated annually to reflect current pavement condition.

Project scope

While pavement condition drives the annual PMP projects, the scope of work for the project goes beyond replacing the pavement. Once a street segment is selected for rehabilitation, the condition of all infrastructure in the right of way is reviewed for other possible upgrades as part of the project. The condition of existing watermain, sanitary sewer, storm sewer and sidewalks are evaluated, and repairs are included in the annual project. In addition, private utility companies, such as gas main and electric, are invited to replace their facilities within the project area. By repairing utilities under the road at the same time, the new pavement is not disturbed again after the rehabilitation, therefore extending the life of the street.

The PMP project also offers an opportunity to build new infrastructure and improvements, including new sidewalk, bike facilities, storm water quality improvements, and street tree plantings.

Completing all of this work under one construction contract minimizes inconvenience to the public while saving money in the long term through using one construction contract. Project costs are funded by the city; no private properties are assessed for the work.
Next year’s proposed work is described below.

**Street rehabilitation**

Pavement will be removed and replaced on street segments that are identified for rehabilitation. This is usually done through a process called reclamiation, which involves grinding up the existing pavement, redoing the gravel under the pavement and placing new pavement. In addition, based on condition, segments of curb and gutter are removed and replaced. This work usually takes about six to eight weeks to complete.

**Watermain replacement and pavement rehabilitation**

On street segments that are scheduled for watermain replacement, new watermain will be installed prior to pavement replacement. This work includes installation of temporary watermain to provide service during construction, new watermain pipe, new water services to the curb stop, removal and replacement of the majority of the curb, and driveway aprons. Once the underground work is complete, the road will be rebuilt, new gravel will be installed and new pavement is placed on top of the gravel. This work usually takes about 10 to 12 weeks to complete from start to finish.

**Sanitary and storm sewer rehabilitation**

Sanitary and storm sewer pipes, manholes and catch basins will be repaired on an as-needed basis for all street segments.

**Sidewalk repair**

For all street segments with existing sidewalks, any damaged sidewalks will be removed and replaced. The curb ramps at intersections will be replaced to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

**Storm water quality improvements**

Opportunities to improve storm water quality will be identified as part of the project. These improvements can include reducing hard surfaces, building areas for the runoff to soak into the ground, and manholes that remove pollutants from the storm water.

**Street Widths**

The removal of curb on one side of the street for watermain replacement provides the opportunity to reduce street widths. The typical street width in the city is 28 feet wide. The city would propose to narrow any 30 foot wide watermain street to 28 feet wide. Some of the benefits of narrower streets are traffic calming, storm water improvements and safety.

**New sidewalk and trail**

As a part of the project development, the city council has asked staff to review the sidewalk and trail network for connectivity and to evaluate the feasibility of building new connections as a part of the overall project. Staff reviews the following when identifying potential sidewalk and trail locations:

- **Gap sidewalks**: Any gap in the sidewalk system will be evaluated for inclusion in the project. A gap is considered a section of sidewalk that is missing near an existing sidewalk on a continuous street block. Gap sidewalks segments are shown on the attached map.
- **Resident feedback sidewalks**: The city is looking for your input on other new sidewalk or trail locations to evaluate. We want to hear your feedback on your experience walking through the neighborhood. Are there locations where a new sidewalk or trail would be beneficial to getting around? This resident feedback will influence what is brought forward for final plans.