



RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF IMPLEMENTING CEDAR AVENUE POLICY GUIDANCE

WHEREAS, the Cedar Riverside Partnership has committed to focus on initiatives that have identifiable support through neighborhood and community planning (as expressed in such plans as the Cedar Riverside Small Area Plan and the Cedar Riverside NRP Action Plan), including safety, transit and transportation infrastructure, economic development, and youth;

WHEREAS, the Partnership adopted a resolution on July 15, 2009 to endorse an integrated framework for infrastructure investments and land use planning that was based on goals in the Cedar Riverside Small Area Plan;

WHEREAS, the Partnership updated its integrated framework for infrastructure investments and land use planning after the completion of the West Bank Station Area Implementation Study to include the priorities recommended in this study;

WHEREAS, the West Bank Station Area Implementation Study identifies the Cedar Avenue Streetscape as the third highest priority project and outlines the proposed work to "Develop a new, high quality streetscape from 7 Corners to I-94, including new sidewalks, durable and attractive detailing, furnishings, lighting, tree and containerized plantings, structural soils, permeable paving, etc.;"

WHEREAS, the Cedar Riverside Small Area Plan recognized Cedar Avenue as an area with high pedestrian traffic and high accident rates, including its status as one of the places with the highest pedestrian accident rates in the City of Minneapolis;

WHEREAS, the City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County are jointly funding the Cedar Avenue sidewalk reconstruction project that includes the replacement of the sidewalks, trees, tree grates; and the installation/rehab of lighting; additionally the project may include curb reconstruction to meet ADA requirements or where curbs are deteriorated and may include the removal of areaways if needed to complete the project;

WHEREAS, West Bank Station Area Implementation Study identified district stormwater management as an opportunity to explore further, the Central Corridor Stormwater and Green Infrastructure Plan recommend Cedar Avenue as a potential design site for further study of green infrastructure, and University District Alliance "Urban Design Framework: Using Greenways & Green Infrastructure" identified Cedar Avenue a potential "Living Street;"

WHEREAS, existing plans and policies recommend trees because a healthy tree canopy adds to the vibrancy of Cedar Avenue, shades sidewalks in the summer, provides air- and water-quality benefits, and increases the value of neighboring properties;



WHEREAS, shared goals for Cedar Avenue include meeting short-term need for sidewalks that are ADA accessible, fulfilling the long-term vision for Cedar Avenue, and engaging community members about Cedar Avenue;

WHEREAS, options being explored for Cedar Avenue by project staff include: changing the roadway design from four to three lanes, adding sustainable features such as stormwater bumpouts that could infiltrate water while providing more space for trees, removing the bus pullout, phasing the project components if needed, and seeking additional funding;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Cedar Riverside Partnership hereby expresses its support for continued work by the City and County to not only meet short-term needs for ADA access but also to fulfill the ideas for the long-term vision for Cedar Avenue as outlined in the West Bank Station Area Implementation Study;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Partnership supports the exploration of options for Cedar Avenue by project staff including: changing the roadway design from four to three lanes, adding green infrastructure such as stormwater bumpouts that could infiltrate water while providing more space for trees, reusing the bus pullout space to increase the planting and sidewalk space, phasing the project components if needed, and seeking additional funding.

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P. Pribbenow", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and extends to the right.

Paul Pribbenow, Chair

Date: November 16, 2012