



Item 7b.

Sunfish Lake Engineer's Report for October 3, 2017

By: Don Sterna, PE, City Engineer

Date: September 29, 2017

1. Engineering Activities Undertaken in the Month of September.

The following Engineer's Report reflects the activities undertaken this past month, along with the anticipated engineering activity for the month of October.

- A. Charlton Road Improvements Update** – We have received the title work this past month from the City Attorney's office and if acceptable to the City Council, we are ready to begin preparing the easement documents for the project.
- B. 2017 Street Improvement Update** – The remaining turf re-establishment and site cleanup has been completed and final quantity resolution and payment will be finalized in October for payment approval at the November City Council meeting. The assessments will be certified with the County in October by the City Attorney.
- C. TH 110 Intersection Resolution Update with MnDOT** – TH 110 work was substantially completed in late September with all lanes opened in both directions. MnDOT is now working on restoring the emergency cross over at Sunfish Lane, culvert extensions and guardrail removal west of Sunfish Lane and the pavement overlay on Angell Road to improve sight lines. The only remaining issue is the median height at Charlton Road, which MnDOT has been discussing with Mendota Height Fire Department. I hope to have an update on this issue at the October Council meeting.
- D. TH 110 Proposed Renaming to TH 62** – MnDOT notified me that around July 2018, MnDOT will be renaming TH 110 to TH 62. MnDOT is begging the public outreach/information campaign next month. The following is how the costs are proposed to be handled and their proposed communication plan for your information.
 - **Purpose** – The highway corridor extends from I-494 in Minnetonka to I-494 in Inver Grove Heights. Currently, a driver on the corridor will encounter three different roadway names despite never leaving their travel lane in both the eastbound and westbound directions. The roadway is signed as TH 62 west of Fort Snelling, then TH 55 over the river and at TH 13 the roadway name changes yet again to TH 110. Over the years these name changes have been the source of many complaints from people taking the wrong road when going to or leaving the airport. The current naming convention adds to confusion for drivers unfamiliar with the area and the single designation will simplify routing on the corridor. Additionally, we chose to rename TH 110 over TH 62 because it is a remnant of an old naming convention for the 100 beltway system that surrounded the metro area.
 - **Cost** – MnDOT has programmed a sign replacement project on TH 62 and TH 55 in 2018. The signs in the corridor no longer meet standards for retro reflectivity and need to be replaced. Adding TH 110 would require new TH 62 signs to be installed, however the TH 110 signage that was replaced this year will be modified by adding "old" above the sign. These signs will remain in place for one year and will provide a period for motorists to become accustomed to the

name change. In addition, simplifying the name on the corridor will slightly reduce the number of signs.

- **Communication** – MnDOT is currently in the process of meeting each of the affected cities on the corridor to discuss the project impacts and mitigation. We have determined the number of address changes in each city and have put together a public engagement plan to provide information to the affected residents and businesses. Part of our process will include meeting with the affected businesses and residents this fall to provide them with a checklist and resource contacts as well as their new addresses.
- **Outreach** – We feel it is necessary to meet individually with businesses this fall, so they have the maximum amount of time to prepare for the change. MnDOT cannot offer any monetary reimbursement for the address change, therefore we are committed to providing as much information and time to the affected owners as possible so we can reduce any impact they may have. In addition to the handouts at individual and group meetings, we plan to develop a frequently asked questions web page to provide address change information to residents and businesses that cannot meet with us in person.

2. **Sunfish Lake Outlet** – The outlet is basically plugged at this point in the year and any further attempts of cleaning the pipe would be counterproductive since I will be closing the valve from the lake in late November to avoid a recurrence of the drainage issues encountered this spring. If improvements to Charlton Road are delayed, then we would clean the pipe in the spring.

3. **Building and Site Reviews** – One preconstruction site inspection and two final site inspections were performed at:

- 415 Salem Church Road for the installation of a new home (preconstruction)
- 27 Sunnyside Lane for the construction of a new home (final)
- 5865 South Robert Trail for the construction of a new home (final)

4. **Public Works Activities Undertaken in the Month of September.**

A. **2017 – 2018 Snow Plow Quotes** – In September, we requested to secure three (3) quotes and only received (2) snow plow quotes back for this upcoming winter season. The two contractors were Professional Snow Removal Service and Executive Contractors, Inc. Attached to the engineer's report is our Snow Plow removal summary of quotes we received for your information. Last year the City selected Executive Contractors, Inc. for their snow plowing services. We have reviewed the quotes and ran a comparison based on a 6-hour snow fall event using 14 tons of sand to determine which vendor provides the best value to the City and also took into account both companies performances over the past 2 years. Therefore, I am recommending that we select Executive Contractors, Inc. for this season's snow plowing.

5. **Anticipated Engineering Activities for the Month of October.**

A. **Charlton Road Improvements** – We have received the title work for the affected properties that we need to move forward with the next step in the process. The next step would be to prepare the easement documents that would be necessary to distribute for signatures to dedicate the property for construction of the improvements. This is the last critical step in the process. I anticipate that at the December Council meeting, we would be able to complete this step in the process. The remaining steps would involve a second public meeting with the residents, finalization of the Feasibility Report and completion of the final construction documents. I'll be discussing this item along with the final steps that we would have to follow to have a project ready to bid early next year.

6. Public Works Activities Planned for in the Month of October.

- A. **2017 City Improvement Project** – Will be preparing the paper work to finalize the construction contract and preparing for the final payment approval for the November City Council meeting.

At this time, there are no planned public work activities for the month of October.

The above constitutes the Engineering Report for the City of Sunfish Lake for October 3, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

WSB & Associates, Inc.



Donald W. Sterna, PE
City Engineer