

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

10-0311R

RESOLUTION TO RESCIND THE DESIGNATION AND ESTABLISHMENT AS ONE WAY STREETS THAT PART OF 12TH AVENUE EAST AND 14TH AVENUE EAST FROM LONDON ROAD TO FOURTH STREET FROM ONE WAY TRAFFIC TO TWO WAY TRAFFIC.

CITY PROPOSAL:

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the provisions of Section 33-17 of the Duluth City Code, 1959, as amended, the segment of 12th Avenue East between London Road and Fourth Street and the segment of 14th Avenue East between London Road and Fourth Street are no longer one way streets. This resolution will become effective only after said street segments have been posted with proper signage, striping and traffic signal modifications indicating the change in designation.

Approved:

Approved for presentation to council:

Department Director

Chief Administrative Officer

Approved as to form:

Approved:

Attorney

Auditor

ENG CP:jh 6/3/2010

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: There have been several studies done for the Endion/East Hillside neighborhood, and these studies have recommended that 12th and 14th avenues East be converted from one way to two way traffic. Both 12th and 14th avenues East were part of the former trunk highway system through Duluth. Once I-35 was constructed to 26th Avenue East, the need to carry large volumes of traffic on these corridors no longer existed. Converting these avenues to two way traffic will help provide a neighborhood feel and allow for less circuitous travel for both residents and businesses in this area.

These two avenues have been part of an extensive public involvement process during the previous studies, and the two way conversion has been generally supported by the public. The studies include the Endion land use and transportation plan (2008), the Duluth comprehensive plan (2006), the Duluth charrette (2005) and the East Hillside transportation study (2003). A public meeting specific to this conversion was held on May 27, 2010, to answer questions and no objections were raised. Individual letters about the May 27 meeting had been sent to adjacent property owners. In addition, city staff attended an East Hillside Community Club meeting on June 1, 2010, and meeting attendees indicated that they were in favor of the conversion. Feedback from businesses has been supportive of the conversion. This conversion is recommended by the engineering division and the planning division.

Additionally, URS performed traffic modeling of the two way conversion to determine signal requirements. Six of the seven existing signal systems (12th Avenue East and First Street, 12th Avenue East and Second Street, 12th Avenue East and Third Street, 14th Avenue East and Superior Street, 14th Avenue East and Second Street and 14th Avenue East and Third Street) can be removed and two way stops can be installed at the cross walks. These signal systems must be bagged for one year prior to permanent removal.

The signal system at 12th Avenue East and Superior Street must remain in place and be modified for four directions of traffic. This signal will be modified on a temporary basis in 2010 and a new signal will be installed in 2012.

Engineering has \$100,000 allocated in the 2010 budget for one way conversions, and a new signal will cost \$300,000 in 2012. This project is actually a cost savings to the city when life cycle costs are used for comparison. All seven of the existing signal systems are old and in need of major maintenance and eventual replacement. By removing six signal systems the city is saving on annual electrical and maintenance costs and eventual replacement costs estimated at \$1.8 million.