

Public Meeting Summary
Superior Street Reconstruction – City of Duluth

Tuesday, May 24, 2016 – 4:30 to 7:30 pm

Radisson Hotel

Introduction

The seventh public meeting (the first of three during the detail design phase) for the Superior Street Reconstruction design process was held at the Radisson Hotel. The meeting's purpose was to present current street and streetscape layout plans consistent with 30% completion of detail design. An estimated 65-70 citizens and business representatives attended.

Meeting format was an open house before and after a 5:00 PM summary presentation. General questions and discussion followed the presentation. The open house format provided an opportunity for one to one discussions pertaining to building specific questions or topics of individual concern. Presentation boards illustrated the preferred preliminary roadway and streetscape layouts, streetscape furniture, sidewalk materials and lighting. Attendees were encouraged to post comments on the presentation graphics regarding their thoughts, identification of errors or inconsistencies, and constructive comments for changes.

Presentation

Brad Scott, LHB, served as the meeting moderator and he opened the meeting with an overview of the project status, its schedule and future meetings and opportunities for public input. Jim Benning, City of Duluth Director of Public Works, provided an overview of the project need and intent. Brad Scott, consultant team Project Manager, presented an overview of the street layout and a representative cross section of the street and sub-surface utilities. Kristi Stokes, Greater Downtown Council (GDC) emphasized the need for communications between the project and businesses and property owners. To that end, the GDC and the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) will be assisting the city and the consulting team in reaching out to business and property owners with a survey to identify their issues and concerns regarding project access and related project considerations. Barry Warner, SRF Consulting Group, provided an update on the streetscape layout and element design status. He emphasized the desire for ongoing input in the selection of streetscape furniture and materials.

Feedback

During the general question and answer period following the presentation, the majority of the questions were directed toward project need, its timing, construction activities, communication during construction, and post construction street/streetscape maintenance. Comments included the need for landscape maintenance and watering, and whether or not an irrigation system should be considered.

Following the question and answer session, the meeting returned to an open house format. Topics addressed in one to one conversations with staff and the design team, and written comments on the graphics included;

- A request for additional thought regarding transit shelter placement to minimize activity conflicts with potential outdoor dining.
- A request to examine drainage issues for the Electric Fetus building basement.
- The desire to maximize bump out space for business activities and civic events.
- A desire for a variety of seating types and furniture styles.
- Numerous comments regarding individual preferences between style alternatives for benches, trash receptacles, bicycle parking and planters.
- A letter was received regarding lighting performance criteria.

The meeting sign in sheets are attached.