


AGENDA
CITY OF HARTFORD
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2018
6:30 P.M.

1. Call to order.
2. Roll call.
3. Public comment period.
4. 2018 Construction Projects. (Memorandum attached)
5. Discussion and consideration of sidewalk on North Wacker Drive Bridge Project.
(Executive Summary attached)
6. Adjournment

NOTE: "PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES REQUIRING SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING SHOULD CONTACT THE CITY CLERK AT LEAST ONE (1) BUSINESS DAY PRIOR TO THE MEETING."

"MEMBERS OF THE COMMON COUNCIL MAY ATTEND THE ABOVE MEETING. PURSUANT TO STATE EX REL. BADKE V. GREENDALE VILLAGE BOARD; 173 WIS 2D 553, 494 N.W. 2D 408 (1993) SUCH ATTENDANCE MAY BE CONSIDERED A MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL. THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN SO THAT MEMBERS OF THE COMMON COUNCIL MAY ATTEND THE MEETING WITHOUT VIOLATING THE OPEN MEETING LAW."

MEMORANDUM

To: Public Works Committee
From: Jason W. Schall, City Engineer 
Date: 6/20/2018
Re: 2018 Construction Projects

The 2018 Construction Schedule includes a number of projects throughout the City of Hartford. Following is a list of the major projects for 2018:

- Maple Avenue Reconstruction – This project will include the complete reconstruction of Maple Avenue from Grand Avenue to Wheelock Avenue. This will include the complete replacement of sanitary sewer, water main, sidewalk, curb & gutter, asphalt pavement, and gravel base. It will also include the addition of new storm sewer along the street. The gas company is scheduled to begin replacing the gas main along this street in June. The City contractor will begin the project around mid-July.
- N. Wacker Drive Reconstruction – This project will include the complete reconstruction of N. Wacker Drive from W. State Street to just south of the railroad tracks. This will include the complete replacement of water main, curb & gutter, asphalt pavement, and gravel base. It will also include repairs to the storm sewer system and new sidewalk installation along portions of the street. Part of the water main replacement will include replacing the water main under the railroad tracks. The project is out for bid and construction is anticipated to begin around the end of July or beginning of August.
- N. Wacker Drive Water Main Replacement – This project will replace the water main under the Rubicon River at the N. Wacker Drive Bridge. This project was held over from last year. The water main is being designed to avoid any conflicts with the new bridge proposed for construction in 2020.
- Airport Runway Construction – The first phase of construction was bid in 2017 and the contractor began clearing trees late last year. Construction on the first phase of the runway began in April.
- Sealcoating and Thin Asphalt Resurfacing of various streets throughout the City. These projects will be completed sometime during the months of June, July, and August. Portions of the asphalt resurfacing project have been completed.
- Sidewalk Repair/Replacement Program – The program for 2018 includes the area south of E. Sumner Street, north of E. Lincoln Avenue, east of Grand Avenue, and west of S. Wilson Avenue. The sidewalk shaving portion of the work has been completed. The contractor has completed the sidewalk replacement and should finish any landscaping restoration by the end of the week.
- Engineering for 2019 Projects – The design for next year's street projects will be completed in 2018. This will allow earlier bidding for the 2019 projects which will hopefully result in lower construction costs.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TITLE: N. Wacker Drive Bridge Project – Sidewalk

BACKGROUND: The N. Wacker Drive Bridge is scheduled for replacement in 2020. The City applied and was approved to receive funds through the Wisconsin DOT Local Bridge Program for this project. The application was to replace the existing bridge with a similar size structure and to include sidewalk as part of the new bridge. Strand Associates was selected as the design engineer for this project and has been working on a proposed design for several months. There have been a number of issues with the design due to several unique characteristics of the bridge. A couple examples of these include the angle of the bridge across the river and the close proximity of the bridge to the W. Wisconsin Street intersection to the south.

State design standards required for a new bridge design have caused the proposed structure to exceed the estimated size of the new bridge used in the application. This has also increased the estimated cost of its construction. The DOT has a very thorough review process when project costs increase. As a result, the DOT requested that Strand Associates provide several alternatives to the bridge design. Unfortunately, the alternatives presented were even more expensive or unacceptable to the City. The current estimate for the project cost is \$175,000 - \$200,000 above the approved funding. The City pays for 20 percent of the project costs under the State Project Agreement.

The DOT then requested a meeting with Strand and the City to discuss other possible options for the bridge which took place last week. One of the suggestions from this meeting is to remove the sidewalk from the bridge project and design the bridge to minimum standards in order to reduce its overall size and therefore cut the cost. I don't believe removing the sidewalk is in the best interest of the City. The Common Council has expressed the desire to provide bike and pedestrian accommodations along N. Wacker Drive. The Council has approved projects along N. Wacker Drive to include these accommodations. I believe sidewalk should be included on the new bridge.

The DOT's high level of scrutiny for projects exceeding approved funding has left the City with three alternatives for the bridge replacement.

1. The City request (preferably by resolution) to keep sidewalk as part of the new bridge and request additional funds for the project. (Keeping in mind, the current atmosphere at the DOT will make approval of such a request difficult)
2. The City decides that sidewalk is not needed on the bridge. The cost of the project may still exceed the approved funding and the City would still request additional funds. Although, approval is still not guaranteed it may have a better chance.
3. The City decides to keep the sidewalk as part of the new bridge and chooses to pay for any costs exceeding the approved funding with City funds.

FISCAL IMPACT: Unknown at this time. The final cost will depend on whether the DOT approves the request for additional funds.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends Option 1 listed above. A resolution would then need to be prepared for the next Common Council meeting which would state the City's desire to include sidewalk on the new N. Wacker Drive bridge.

PREPARED BY: Jason W. Schall 6-20-18
Jason W. Schall DATE
City Engineer

REVIEWED BY: Darryl Kranz 6-20-18
Darryl Kranz DATE
Director of Public Works

APPROVED BY: Steve Volkert 6-21-18
Steve Volkert DATE
City Administrator

ROUTING: Public Works Committee - June 26, 2018
Common Council Meeting - July 10, 2018