

Department of Public Works

City Hall
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403
262.636.9121 - Public Works
262.636.9191 - Engineering



Mark H. Yehlen, P.E.
Commissioner of Public Works / City Engineer

Thomas M. Eeg, P.E.
Asst. Comm. of Public Works / Operations

John C. Rooney, P.E.
Asst. Comm. of Public Works / Engineering

January 4, 2012

Legistar Item: 12-7240

To: Alderman Sandy Weidner, Chairman
Public Works and Services Committee

From: John C. Rooney *JCR*
Assistant Commissioner of Public Works/Engineering

Re: Intersection of Albert Street and W. High Street on Northwestern Avenue (STH38),
WisDOT Project 2290-17-00

The subject intersection is being considered for a roundabout by the City of Racine and their consultant, Strand Associates. This intersection does not meet traffic signal warrants and therefore is not being given consideration by WisDOT for a roundabout at this location.

However, the proposed roundabout provides many opportunities at this corridor to upgrade safe pedestrian crossing to three schools in the area and to Marino Park. It also will provide a traffic calming measure for a problematic area that has required targeted speed enforcement by the Racine Police Department. In addition, the roundabout provides opportunities for aesthetic treatments that will be included as part of the overall corridor. Lastly, with the proposed intersection of Summit Avenue and Hamilton Street being eliminated from Northwestern Avenue, it will provide better access to Northwestern Avenue from Albert Street, and also eliminate the undesirous skewed intersection of W. High Street.

Preliminary opinion of probable construction cost to upgrade from the existing condition to a roundabout increases the cost of the project by \$470,000.

After negotiation with WisDOT, I will bring back a revised State Municipal Agreement detailing the proposed cost share for this proposed improvement.

If the Committee approves, I am hereby requesting authorization for the Assistant Commissioner of Public Works/Engineering to negotiate with WisDOT to cost share the additional construction and real estate costs required for this much needed improvement.