



AGENDA BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

AGENDA DATE: April 24, 2018

SUBJECT: Reconstruction of Intersection of 16th Street and College Avenue

PREPARED BY: Matt Sadowski, City Development, Division of Planning and Redevelopment

SUMMARY: In the coming few years, 16th Street will be reconstructed. A component of that project will be the reconstruction of the intersection of 16th Street and College Avenue.

PROJECT BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS:

During the March 12, 2018 meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, members considered the potential effect on a historic district and on historic structures brought on by the proposed 16th Street reconstruction project, as expressed through concept plans. This review was prompted by a letter received by City Development staff on March 7, 2018, and by a Landmarks Commission member.

The letter sought comments related to the Southside Historic District and the project’s effect on the intersection of the 16th Street and College Avenue. The Southside Historic District is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

In regards to the effect of the 16th Street project at its intersection with College Avenue, Commission members felt the concept design did nothing to recognize the historic district. The concepts illustration of encroachment concrete pavement (whether stamped to simulate brick or left smooth) into the College Avenue brick pavement was unacceptable to Commission members. The members emphasized that the College Avenue brick pavers were specifically called out as a significant detail contributing to the character of the Southside Historic District.

Commission members felt that the treatment of the 16th Street and College Avenue intersection should be prioritized in the following manner:

- Most Appropriate... Entire intersection (all four crosswalks paths and traffic lanes) paved using the original brick paver currently stockpiled by the City for College Avenue projects (Fig. 1).
- Moderately Appropriate... All four crosswalk paths paved with the original brick paver currently stockpiled by the City for College Avenue projects (Fig. 2).
- Least Appropriate... 16th Street fully paved in concrete with College Ave. crosswalks paths paved/re-established with original brick paver currently stockpiled by the City for College Avenue projects.
- Inappropriate... First 2 options using concrete pavement with a brick imprint(Fig. 3).
- Inappropriate... Standard concrete intersection (cross-walks & traffic lanes) (Fig. 4).

Commission members also felt if to be more appropriate, and more durable, that the handicap access ramps tactile feature be composed of textured concrete rather than metallic panel inlays (Fig. 5).

Since that meeting City Development Staff met with representative of the 16th Street design team: Julie Olsen and Bob Warren of Graef-USA, John Vogel of Heritage Research, and City Engineer John Rooney. From that meeting City Development staff felt the best alternative, when considering durability, traffic volume, and cost was the “Moderately Appropriate” alternative coupled with textured concrete handicap access ramps.

City Engineer John Rooney would like to speak with Commission members regarding the considerations in choosing “Moderately Appropriate” alternative.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Pass a motion supporting the “Moderately Appropriate” alternative (Fig. 2) coupled with textured concrete handicap access ramps and finding that said improvements would have no adverse impact on the Southside Historic District.

FISCAL NOTE:

Yet to be determined but the City is costs sharing with the Wisconsin DOT on the 16th Street project.



(Fig. 1) MOST APPROPRIATE

Full Historic Brick Intersection, Crosswalks and traffic lanes



(Fig. 2) MODERATELY APPROPRIATE

Full Historic Brick Crosswalks



(Fig. 3) INAPPROPRIATE

Brick Imprint In Concrete



(Fig. 4) INAPPROPRIATE
Full Concrete Intersection Crosswalks
And Travel Lanes



(Fig. 5) HANDICAP ACCESS RAMP
Texture Integral To The Pavement Product

