

**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON**  
**WORK SESSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE**  
**109 E. OLIVE**  
**MONDAY, MAY 11, 2015, 5:45 – 6:45 P.M.**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment
4. Discussion Topic and Conceptual Approvals
  - a. Expansion of Request for Quote (RFQ) Scope of Work for repairs to the Linden Street Bridge, Jersey Ave. Bridge and Cottage Ave. Bridge to include underpasses preparation for future Constitution Trail expansion. (That the City Council vote to provide conceptual support of expanding the RFQ Scope of Work for engineering services to include engineering for future Constitution Trail underpasses at Linden St., Jersey Ave. and Cottage Ave. bridges over Sugar Creek.) Presented by David Lamb, Asst. Superintendent of Parks. (*Time 30 minutes. Presentation 10 minutes, Q/A 20 minutes.*)
  - b. Hershey Rd., Arrowhead Dr. and Clearwater Ave. On Street Parking Elimination. (That the City Council vote to provide conceptual support of the parking elimination) Presented by Jim Karch, Director of Public Works. (*Time 30 minutes. Presentation 10 minutes, Q/A 20 minutes.*)
5. Adjourn

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Work Sessions are devoted to the subjects of which the preliminary receipt and discussion of information is deemed appropriate. Although work sessions are primarily designed for informational purposes and discussion amongst the City Council, a polling of the City Council may be undertaken for conceptual approval and/or support. This polling may be done through motion and vote of the matter under discussion.



FOR COUNCIL: May 11, 2015

SUBJECT: Expansion of Request for Quote (RFQ) Scope of Work for repairs to the Linden Street Bridge, Jersey Ave. Bridge and Cottage Ave. Bridge to include underpasses preparation for future Constitution Trail expansion

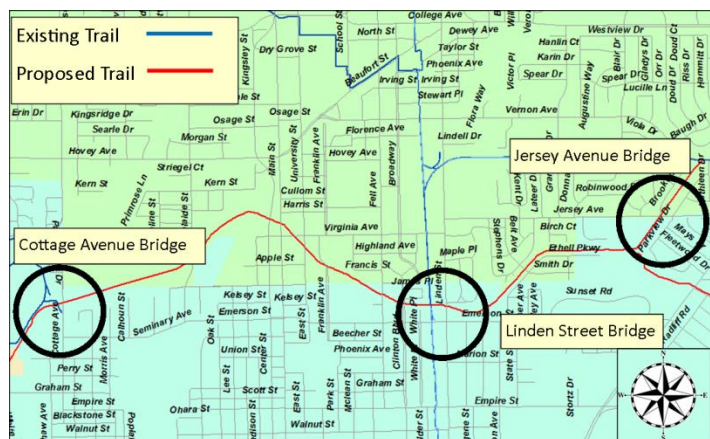
**RECOMMENDATION/MOTION:** That the City Council vote to provide conceptual support of expanding the RFQ Scope of Work for engineering services to include engineering for future Constitution Trail underpasses at Linden St., Jersey Ave. and Cottage Ave. bridges over Sugar Creek.

**STRATEGIC PLAN LINK:** 1. Financially Sound City Providing Quality Basic Services; and 5. Great Place—Livable, Sustainable City.

**STRATEGIC PLAN SIGNIFICANCE:** 1a. Budget with adequate resources to support defined services and level of services. 5b. City decisions consistent with plans and policies and 5d. Appropriate leisure and recreational opportunities responding to the needs of residents.

**BACKGROUND:** Public Works has identified three bridges in need of repair work. The bridges span Sugar Creek. One bridge, the Linden Street Bridge, needs deck replacement. It currently has restricted lane usage as a safety precaution. Construction currently is targeted for FY 2017. Engineering has proposed to design improvements for three bridges crossing Sugar Creek: on Linden Street, Jersey Avenue and Cottage Avenue. The latter two do not require immediate work and are tentatively budgeted for construction near the end of the decade. However, the Jersey and Cottage bridge projects should be made shovel-ready now in the event that unexpected funding for bridge repair becomes available. Stimulus money periodically becomes available, and shovel-ready bridge projects are favored.

The three bridges have a common element: None currently can facilitate a recreational trail underpass but all three are identified as intersecting with future portions of the Constitution Trail in the City’s trail plan. The Constitution Trail is projected to run along Sugar Creek and cross virtually the entire width of the Twin Cities. This east-west span represents a long-term vision. However, a major decision looms for the Bloomington City Council in regard to this vision. In conjunction with repair of the three bridges, the City can provide accommodations for the Constitution Trail to run underneath them. The additional engineering and construction work naturally would cause the City’s investment in the bridge repairs to rise. However, it is more economical to provide trail underpass features



now, during bridge reconstruction, than to retrofit the bridges with underpasses later. The bridges should last 50 years or more before additional major repairs are required. Fitting them now with trail underpasses responds directly to the Strategic Plan goals listed above.

The immediate issue before the Council regards the **Linden Street Bridge** because of its need for repair. *Attached maps and photographs give a visual overview of the project and the proposed trail expansion.*

Public Works must initiate repair of the bridge span regardless of how the City Council votes regarding the underpass question. Staff believes it will be more efficient and easier to prepare the bridge underpass at the same time as the repairs. However, doing so raises the cost of the bridge project by approximately 50 percent.

**Linden Street Bridge preliminary construction estimates:**

- \$600,000 for Linden Street Bridge repair.
- \$900,000 for Linden Street Bridge repair plus Constitution Trail underpass preparations including grading and retaining wall construction.

**Gauging Council interest:** Staff believes completing underpass preparations now will be in the long-term interest of the City. However, staff must first ascertain the level of City Council interest in and commitment to the trail expansion. If the City Council agrees to proceed with engineering design and construction of the trail underpass at Linden Street, staff will also include engineering design for trail underpasses at Jersey Avenue and Cottage Avenue, with those bridge repairs to be performed in out-years. If the Council decides to forego the underpass preparations at the bridges, City staff will proceed with preparations for standard repair of the bridges.

**Briarwood link:** Public Works and the Water Department are preparing “block by block” complete infrastructure rehabilitation for the Briarwood subdivision, which is directly northeast of the Linden Street Bridge. This will entail street, sidewalk, storm sewer, sanitary sewer and water improvements. Planning for the project is budgeted in the current fiscal year. Construction will occur, at the earliest, in FY 2017 under current plans. The City could use this opportunity to prepare for eventual construction of a trail section from the subdivision. This possibly could set the stage for approximately 800 feet of new trail construction (see accompanying map). The trail would run from the south edge of the subdivision to the north side of Sugar Creek, westward under the Linden Street Bridge, and continuing westward along the creek toward the existing north-south portion of the Constitution Trail.



As seen in photographs (see memo attachment), the existing north-south stretch of trail is above grade, spanning Sugar Creek with a trail bridge. Therefore, the new section of trail would have to take a northward turn and continue for some distance in order to intersect with the existing trail. Staff has not yet prepared specifications and estimates as to the scope of the project. However, the initial planning demonstrates that the Linden Street underpass could come into use in the creation of a significant stretch of trail expansion.

**Bicycle Master Plan:** The Bicycle Master Plan, which is before council this evening, looks at cycling routes from both recreational and multi-modal vantage points. In its current form, the Bicycle Master Plan concurs with the trail plan regarding an east-west trail along Sugar Creek. The bicycle route study, in other words, is validating the City's previous groundwork in regard to a Sugar Creek trail.

**Intergovernmental cooperation:** The Bloomington-Normal Water Reclamation District (BNWRD) controls the right-of-way along Sugar Creek and parts of the proposed trail expansion are in Bloomington and parts in Normal. The three entities will need to work cooperatively on project details. BNWRD, the Bloomington City Council and the Normal City Council will at some stage be presented with intergovernmental agreements.

**COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED:** Professional staff, elected leaders and community residents from Bloomington-Normal have been and continue to be involved in trail planning. Community, Council and staff are involved in the Bloomington Bicycling Master Plan.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** The current council memo is asking for an increase in Scope of Work regarding the engineering services for three bridges. If necessary, Public Works will bring forward a new Council memo if there is a change in budgeted funds from the State Motor Fuel Tax Fund for these projects.

Respectfully submitted for Council consideration.

Prepared by: Stephen Arney, Public Works Administration

Reviewed by: Jim Karch, PE, CFM, Director of Public Works  
Robert Moews, Superintendent of Parks  
David Lamb, Assistant Superintendent of Parks

Financial & budgetary review by: Chris Tomerlin, Budget Analyst  
Carla A. Murillo, Budget Manager

Legal review by: Jeffrey Jurgens, Corporation Counsel

Recommended by:



David A. Hales  
City Manager

**Attachments:** Attachment 1. Maps  
Attachment 2. Proposed Underpasses

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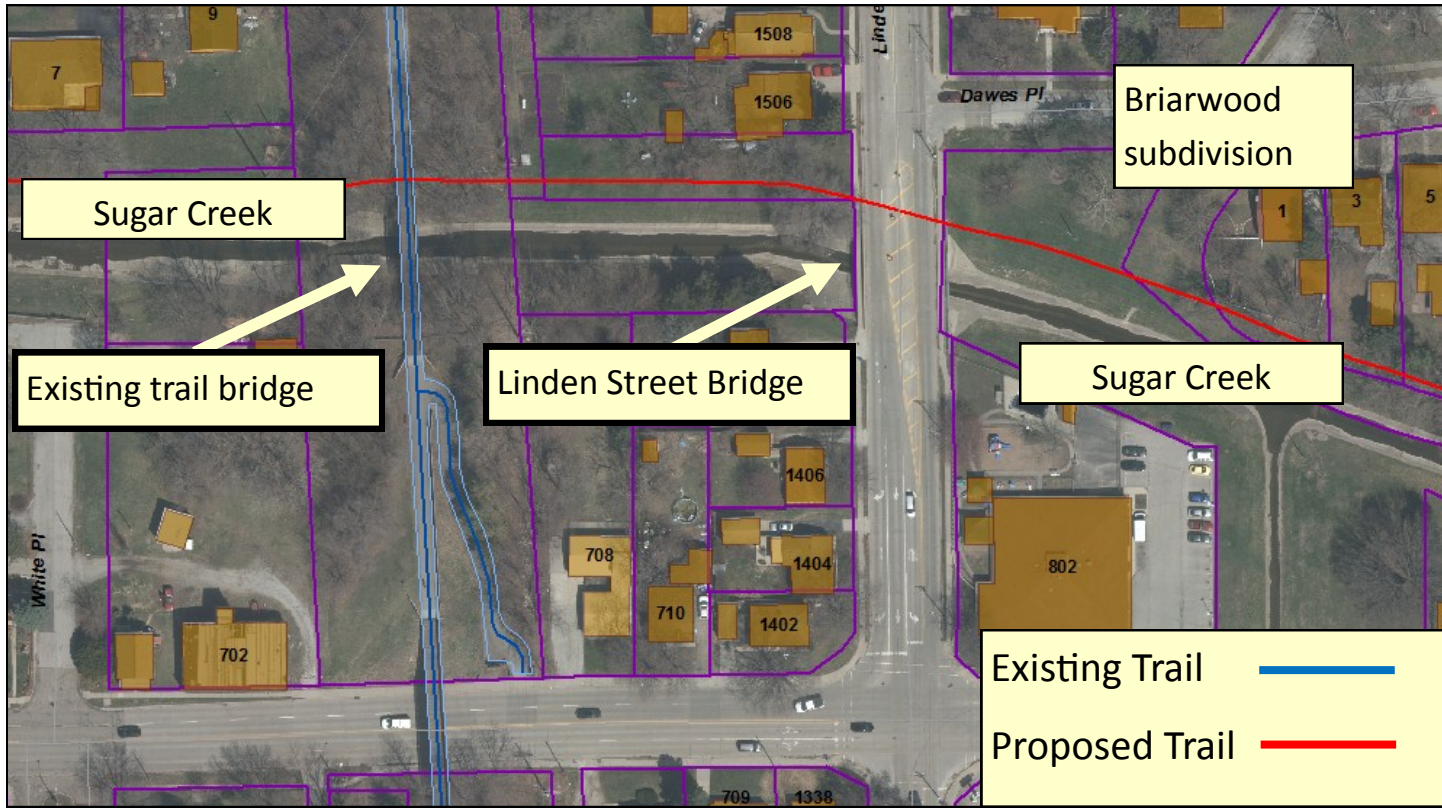
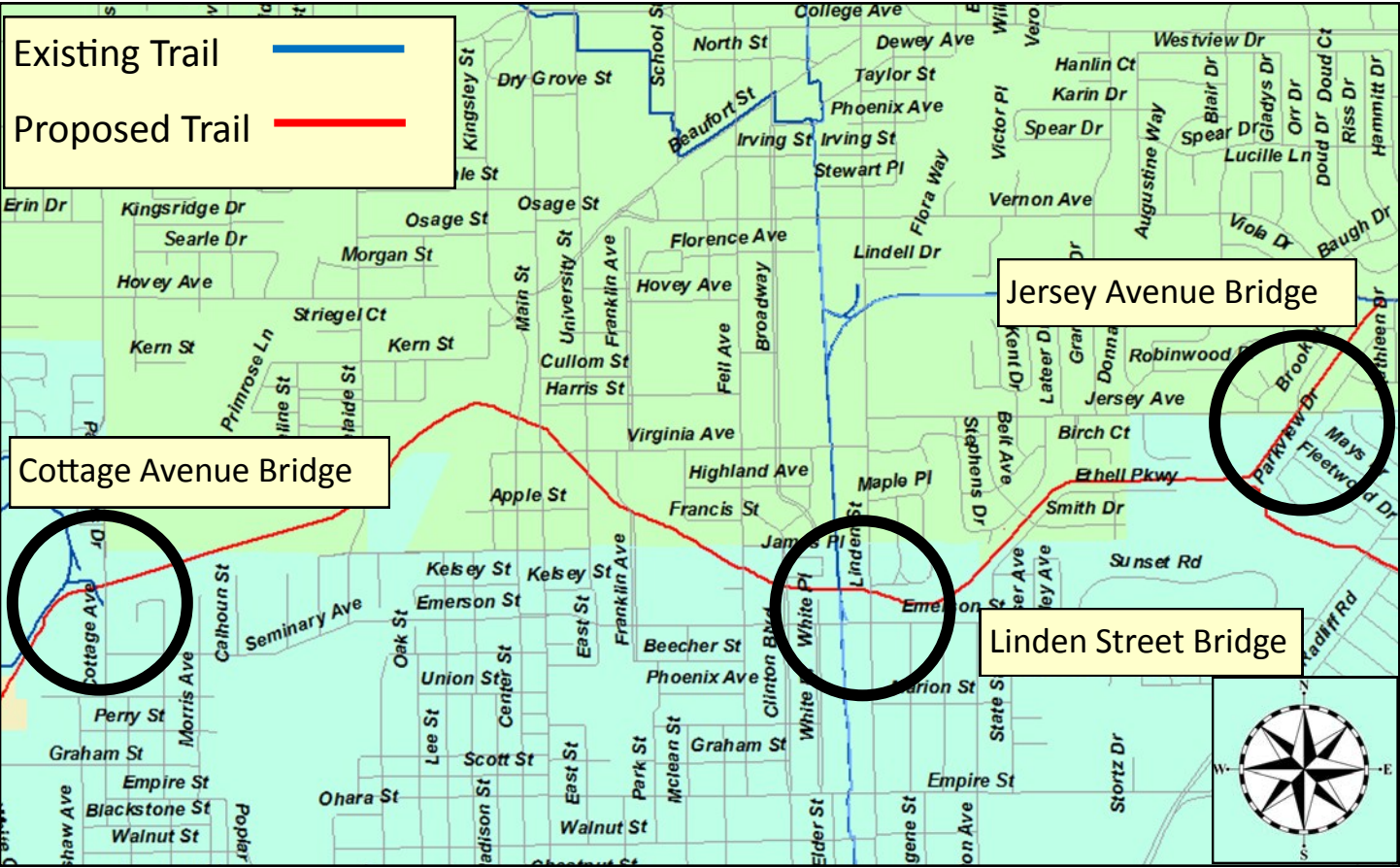
**Motion:** That the City Council vote to provide conceptual support of expanding the RFQ Scope of Work for engineering services to include engineering for future Constitution Trail underpasses at Linden St., Jersey Ave. and Cottage Ave. bridges over Sugar Creek.

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_

	Aye	Nay	Other		Aye	Nay	Other
Alderman Black				Alderman Mwilambwe			
Alderman Buragas				Alderman Painter			
Alderman Fruin				Alderman Saget			
Alderman Hauman				Alderman Schmidt			
Alderman Lower							
				Mayor Renner			



# Linden Street Bridge & Constitution Trail overview







Linden Street Bridge looking west (downstream)

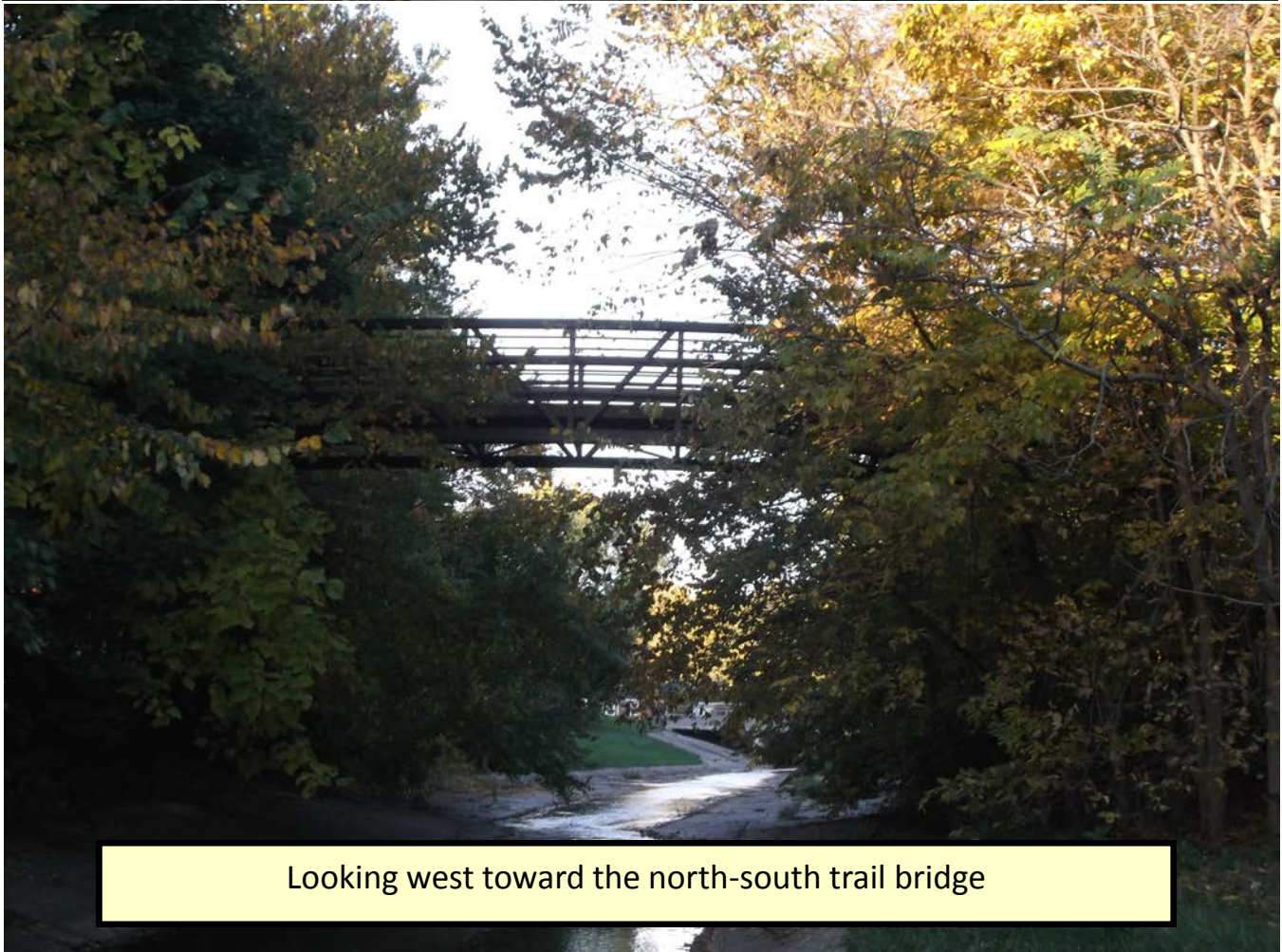


Linden Street Bridge looking east (upstream)



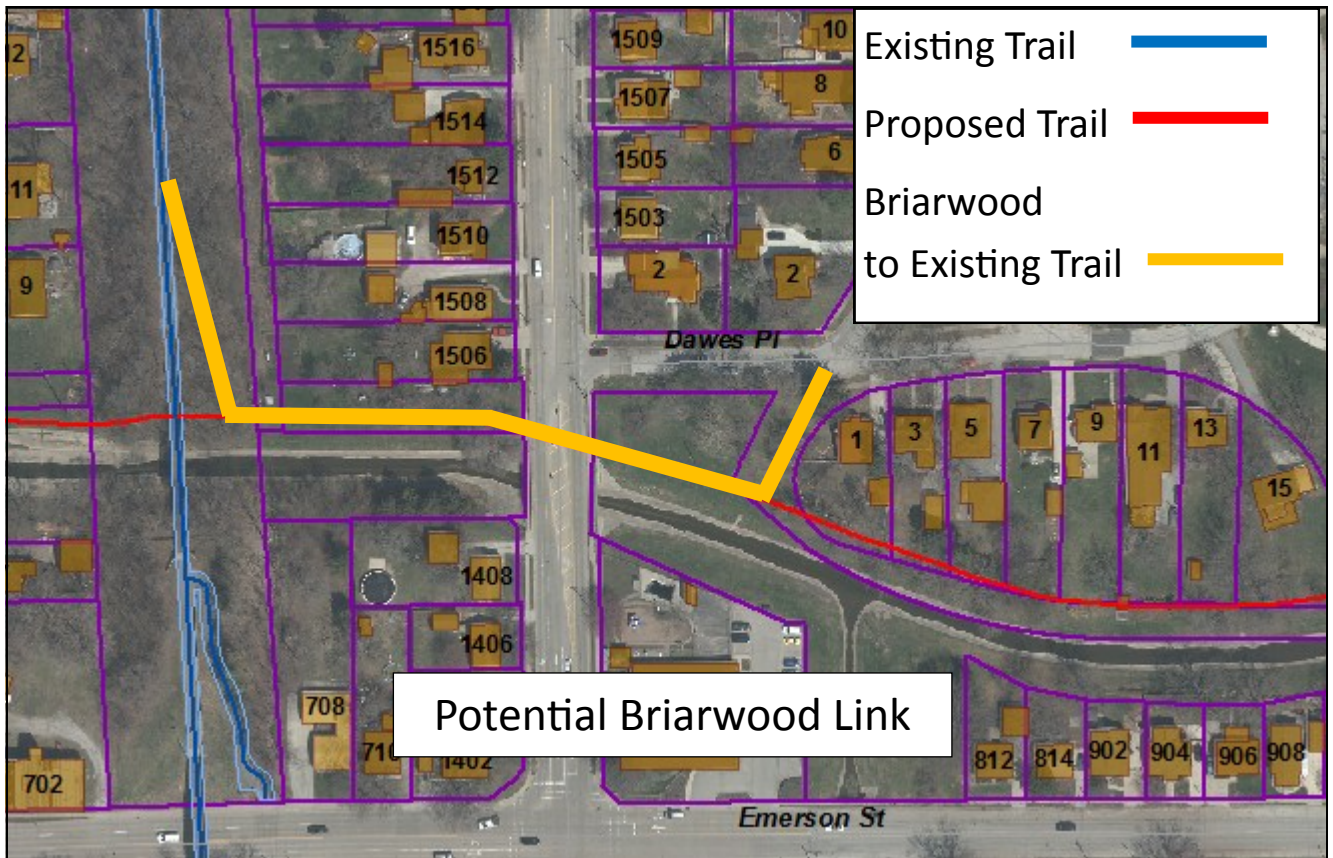


Looking west from near the Linden Street Bridge toward north-south trail leg



Looking west toward the north-south trail bridge





## **Proposed Trail Underpasses East-West Sugar Creek Trail Connection**

### **History:**

The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department currently manages 28 miles of trail within City limits. The Public Works Department has identified 3 bridges in need of repair. Linden Street, Jersey Avenue, and Cottage Avenue. The Linden Street Bridge needs immediate deck replacement and currently has restricted lane usage.

All three bridges intersect with proposed portions of Constitution Trail. This proposed trail is identified in both the *Parks Master Plan Update* in 2010 and the McLean County Regional Planning Commission *Regional Greenways Plan* in 2009. The Parks Master Plan Update prioritizes this section of trail as priority “high.” The Regional Greenways Plan identifies this connection as “preserving green space” and an opportunity for trail expansion that is already under public ownership by Bloomington-Normal Water Reclamation District (BNWRD).

This is a long term planning decision that came to the forefront due to the need to repair the bridges. Currently the department has other trail development priorities. These include resurfacing, acquiring section from Lincoln to Lafayette and Lafayette to Hamilton.

### **Implications:**

Staff believes that it is more efficient and economical in the long run to design and construct these bridges with the trail underpass instead of trying to retrofit the trail to the bridges in the future.

Repair estimates for Linden Street are **\$600,000 without underpass and \$900,000 with underpass**. The bridge repair schedule is as follows:

Linden Street	FY2015
Jersey Avenue	FY2019
Cottage Avenue	FY2020



FOR COUNCIL: May 11, 2015

SUBJECT: Hershey Rd., Arrowhead Dr. and Clearwater Ave. On Street Parking Elimination

**RECOMMENDATION/MOTION:** That the City Council vote to provide conceptual support of the parking elimination.

**STRATEGIC PLAN LINK:** Goal 2. Upgrade City Infrastructure and Facilities. Goal 5. Great Place – Livable, Sustainable City.

**STRATEGIC PLAN SIGNIFICANCE:** Objective 2a - Better quality roads and sidewalks. Objective 5a - Well-planned City with necessary services and infrastructure.

**BACKGROUND:** Council approved a contract with Knight E/A, Inc. on October 28, 2013, for design services related to the intersection improvements at Hershey Road and Arrowhead Drive, Hershey Road and Clearwater Avenue, as well as at General Electric Road and Keaton Place / Auto Row. Utilization of Motor Fuel Tax funding has required the following tasks to be performed –

- environmental clearances obtained,
- traffic analysis / study completed,
- completed intersection design studies (IDS),
- design development of construction plans, specifications and estimates.

The proposed Hershey Road corridor and intersection improvements were presented at a public meeting on December 1, 2014. As a result of this meeting, Staff came away with two action items.

- (A) Investigate providing driveway turnaround/bump outs for those residents adjacent to Arrowhead Drive and Clearwater Avenue who will lose street parking. In these cases, on-street parking *must be eliminated* due to the proposed improvements.
- (B) Poll the residents adjacent the Hershey Road improvements to determine if it is desirable to eliminate on-street parking at all times (currently allowed on the weekends). In this case, parking *could be eliminated* along a stretch of Hershey Road but parking elimination is not required as part of the signalization project. This is the parking elimination referenced in the recommended motion. The poll also allowed the residence to indicate if they desire a driveway turnaround/bump out on their property if on-street parking was eliminated along Hershey Road.

Staff discussed this issue at a Staff Traffic Advisory Committee (STAC) meeting and at a meeting of the Staff Planning and Land Development (SPALD) committee. These committees voted to approve the preparation and mailing of letters to the impacted residents associated with both of these action items.



Polling results:

(A) For parking that *must be* eliminated, six (6) of the nine (9) impacted properties along Arrowhead Drive and Clearwater Avenue have indicated they desire driveway turnaround/bump outs. One (1) resident is reviewing and finalizing a response. Staff is working to contact the remaining two (2) residents to determine their response. The driveway turnaround/bump outs are being incorporated into the design development of the construction plans at this time.



(B) For parking that *could be* eliminated, the Hershey Road ballots were mailed to seventeen (17) residents adjacent the Hershey Road improvements. To date, fourteen (14) ballots have been returned; ten (10) ballots vote for removal of parking along Hershey Road and indicate interest in receiving a driveway turnaround/bump out; four (4) ballots vote to allow parking along Hershey Road to remain on the weekends – current arrangement.



The Hershey Road parking removal issue was reviewed by the STAC on March 11, 2015. STAC voted to recommend to Council the removal of on-street parking along Hershey Road adjacent the improvements and construct driveway turnaround/bump outs for those residents that desire them.

Installation of driveway turnaround/bump outs will require coordination with multiple residents that will result in the need for additional design development. This additional design development will include –

- meeting with individual property owners,
- driveway turnaround/bump out layout,
- potential tree removal, grading,
- probably design and installation of retaining walls at certain locations,
- obtaining improvement agreements and temporary easements from the residents for construction,
- submitting variances to the City’s Zoning Board of Appeals for construction of the driveway turnaround/bump outs in the front yards of the properties.

In order to minimize disruption to the adjacent Stevenson Elementary School, the majority of the construction activities are being scheduled to occur during the summer months when District 87 is out of session. Therefore the coordination, design development, obtaining the temporary easements, and variance requests most likely will delay the bidding date and start of construction for this project until FY2017.

**COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED:** Illinois Department of Transportation, December 1, 2014 Public Meeting, Hershey Road residence mail / voting information, Various conversations/meetings with residents.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** It is anticipated that the cost of the driveway turnarounds/bump outs will be paid out of the Motor Fuel Tax-Street Construction & Improvement fund. Final costs cannot be determined until after coordination with residents has been finalized. There are two projects proposed in the FY 2016 Budget for Traffic Signals: Hershey Road @ Arrowhead and Hershey Road @ Clearwater Avenue. These projects are budgeted at \$625,000 each. It is anticipated the cost for any action taken on this memo will be covered by the FY 2016 Proposed Budget. If costs exceed the FY 2016 Proposed Budget, a budget amendment may be necessary. Stakeholders can locate these projects in the FY 2016 Proposed Budget Book titled "Other Funds & Capital Improvement Program" on pages 203 and 217-220.

Respectfully submitted for Council consideration.

Prepared by: Robert Yehl, PE, Assistant City Engineer

Reviewed by: Jim Karch, PE, CFM, Director of Public Works

Reviewed by: Steve Rasmussen, ACM

Financial & Budgetary review by: Chris Tomerlin, Budget Analyst  
Carla A. Murillo, Budget Manager

Legal review by: Jeffrey Jurgens, Corporation Counsel

Recommended by:



David A. Hales  
City Manager

**Attachments:** Attachment 1. Letter to Arrowhead Drive and Clearwater Avenue Residents  
Attachment 2. Letter/Poll to Hershey Road Residents  
Attachment 3. Public Meeting Handout  
Attachment 4. Power Point

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Motion: That the City Council vote to provide conceptual support of the parking elimination.

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_

	Aye	Nay	Other		Aye	Nay	Other
Alderman Black				Alderman Mwilambwe			
Alderman Buragas				Alderman Painter			
Alderman Fruin				Alderman Sage			
Alderman Hauman				Alderman Schmidt			
Alderman Lower							
				Mayor Renner			





**Public Works Department**  
115 E. Washington St., PO BOX 3157  
Bloomington, IL 61702-3157  
Phone: 309-434-2225  
Fax: 309-434-2201

January 12, 2015

Dear residents and property owners:

The City is preparing plans to upgrade the intersections of Hershey Road at Clearwater Avenue and Hershey Road at Arrowhead Drive by adding left turn lanes and traffic signals.

A consequence of adding the left turn lanes will be removal of some on-street parking along Clearwater Avenue and Arrowhead Drive. The City of Bloomington desires to minimize the impact of the project. Therefore, the City is offering to install driveway turnarounds on properties adjacent to locations where on-street parking is removed for those property owners who wish to have them.

The driveway turnaround will be a standard, L-shaped concrete stub with room for one vehicle to turn around. ***There will be no charge to the property owners.***

Construction is anticipated to begin later this year, so it is urgent that you contact us to let us know whether you want a driveway turnaround. Renters will want to contact the property owners, as it is the responsibility of the property owners to request a driveway turnaround.

If you want a driveway turnaround or have questions, please contact Bloomington Assistant Engineer Bob Yehl.

Bob Yehl, PE  
Public Works Department  
115 E. Washington St.  
PO BOX 3157  
Bloomington IL 61702-3157  
(309) 434-2225  
byehl@cityblm.org

If we do not hear from you by Wednesday, January 28, 2015, we will assume you are not interested in gaining a driveway turnaround.

Thank you for your time,

Kevin Kothe, PE  
City Engineer  
Bloomington Public Works Department  
kkothe@cityblm.org

*"Providing good stewardship of the public infrastructure and equipment safely through competitive services and excellent customer relations."*



**Public Works Department**  
115 E. Washington St., PO BOX 3157  
Bloomington, IL 61702-3157  
Phone: 309-434-2225  
Fax: 309-434-2201

January 12, 2015

Dear residents and property owners:

In 2015, the City anticipates that the intersections of Hershey Road at Clearwater Avenue and Hershey Road at Arrowhead Drive will be converted to signalized intersections. As the City prepares plans for the construction projects, it has reexamined the issue of allowing weekend on-street parking along this section of Hershey Road.

In the opinion of the Bloomington Public Works Department, it would be safer for residents and the traveling public if on-street parking is removed. We now turn to property owners for their opinions and to make a proposal.

To reduce impact of removing on-street parking, the City is willing to build driveway turnarounds for adjacent residential driveways along the affected stretch of Hershey Road. ***This would be done at no cost to residents/property owners.*** The turnaround would be a standard, concrete stub with room for one vehicle to turn around. This idea arose from discussions during a public meeting about the project on December 1, 2014, at Stevenson Elementary School.

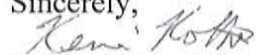
See the survey sheet on the back. Please fill it in promptly and return it to the City no later than Wednesday, January 28. Only one submission per property is allowed. Renters should discuss the idea with the property owners, who have authority over their properties. The survey offers each respondent one of three options:

- Remove on-street parking and build a turnaround on my property.
- Remove on-street parking but don't build a turnaround on my property.
- Do not remove on-street parking.

Once we assess responses, we will determine a recommended course of action and again communicate with property owners.

Do not hesitate to contact us with questions. The project engineer is Assistant City Engineer Bob Yehl, [byehl@cityblm.org](mailto:byehl@cityblm.org)

Sincerely,



Kevin Kothe, PE

City Engineer for the City of Bloomington  
[kkothe@cityblm.org](mailto:kkothe@cityblm.org)

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Your opinion matters to us.

Should the current weekend parking be removed from Hershey Road adjacent to your property, and do you want a turnaround built at no cost to you in your front yard adjacent to your driveway?

SELECT ONE

[ ] Yes, remove all on-street parking on Hershey Road in front of my property, and I am interested in the City building a turnaround for the driveway of my property at no cost to me.

[ ] Yes, remove all on-street parking on Hershey Road in front of my property, but I don't want the City to build a turnaround for the driveway on my property.

[ ] No, do not remove the remaining on-street parking along Hershey Road.

(Anonymous responses will not be tallied)

Respondent's property address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Respondent's daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_

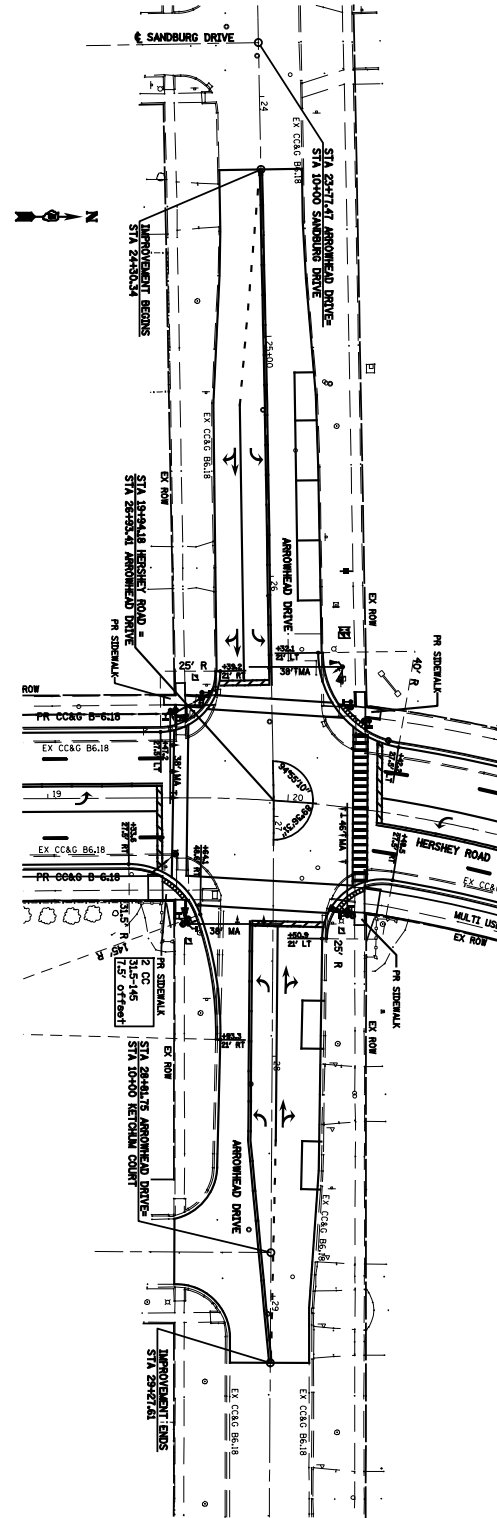
Respondent's e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

"Providing good stewardship of the public infrastructure and equipment safely through competitive services and excellent customer relations."



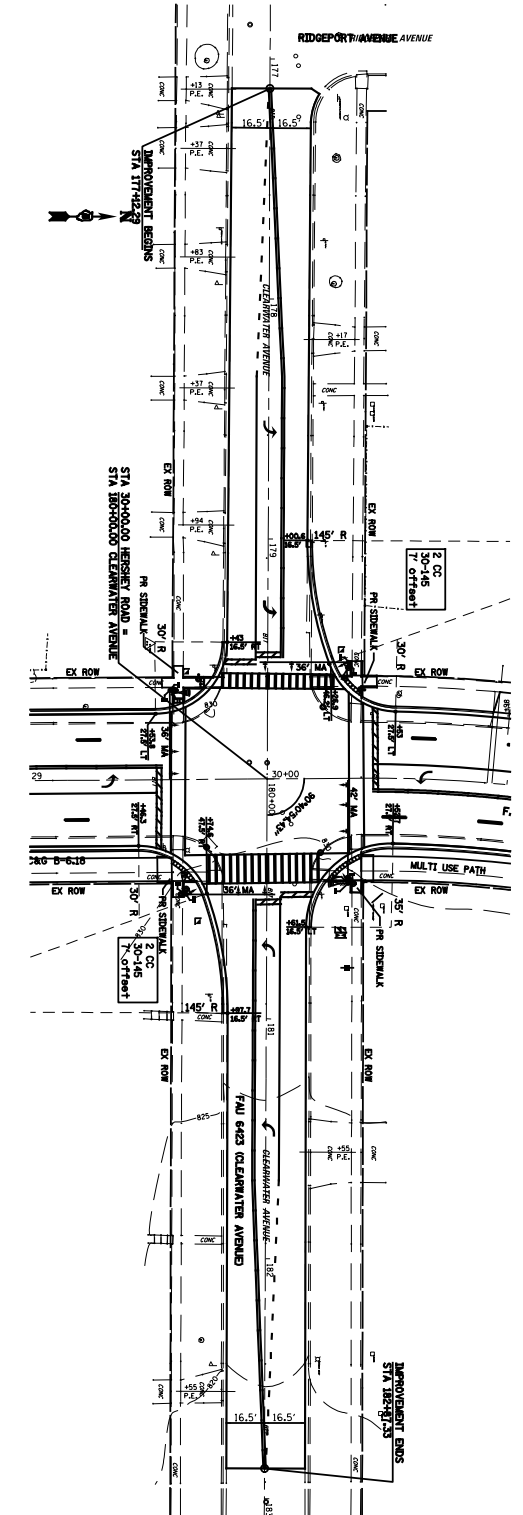
**Proposed Improvements Include:**

- Traffic Signals
- Two-way Left Turn Lane
- Left Turn Lanes
- Audible Pedestrian Signals
- Flashing Yellow Left Turn Arrows
- Increased Corner Radii for City Busses
- New Accessible Ramps at All Crosswalks
- Multi-use Path along Hershey Road



**Proposed Improvements Include:**

- Traffic Signals
- Two-way Left Turn Lane
- Left Turn Lanes
- Audible Pedestrian Signals
- Flashing Yellow Left Turn Arrows
- Increased Corner Radii for City Busses
- New Accessible Ramps at All Crosswalks
- Multi-use Path along Hershey Road





**HERSHEY ROAD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS – ARROWHEAD DRIVE TO CLEARWATER AVENUE**



**Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT):**

Hershey Road =	16,100 vpd (2014)
	23,900 vpd (2034)
Arrowhead Drive =	3100 vpd (2014)
	3260 vpd (2034)
Clearwater Avenue =	4550 vpd (2014)
	4680 vpd (2034)

**Functional Classifications:**

Hershey Road – Minor Arterial  
 Arrowhead Drive – Local Street  
 Clearwater Avenue – Major Collector



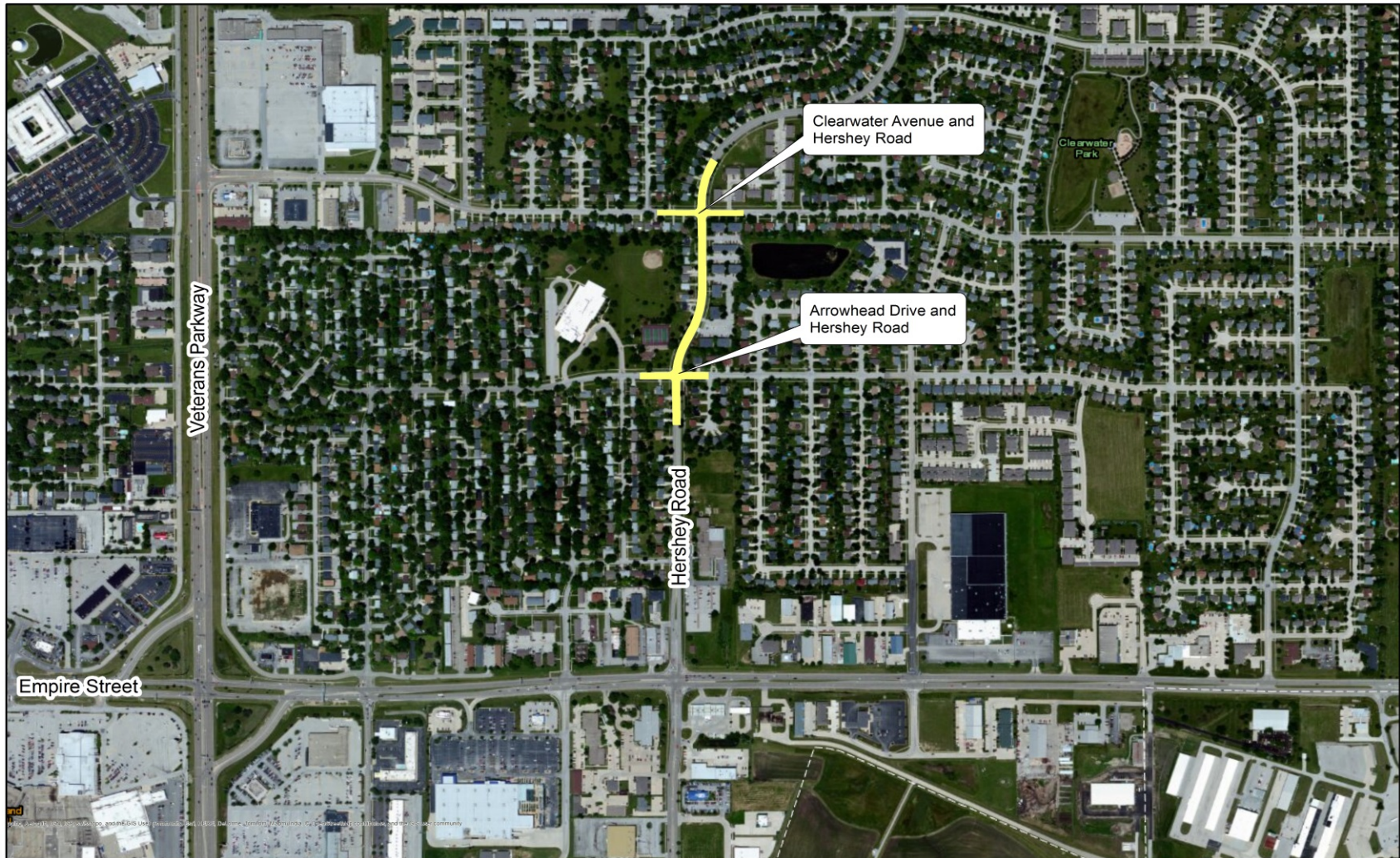
# Hershey Road intersection improvements

For the Bloomington City Council  
May 11, 2015 Work Session





# 2 intersections will get traffic signals





# The plan:

Traffic signals, plus left-turn lanes on all approaches



Existing



Proposed

At left: Photo of vehicles leaving the Stevenson School portion of Arrowhead Drive and approaching Hershey-Arrowhead.

At right: Image graphically manipulated to show how the road will look post-construction.

# Project need

## 1. Traffic Volumes

Hershey Road Corridor, current and projected

Average Annual Daily Traffic	2014	2034
Hershey Road	16,100 vpd	23,900 vpd
Arrowhead Drive	3,100 vpd	3,260 vpd
Clearwater Avenue	4,550 vpd	4,680 vpd

**Signals are justified by study at both intersections**

**Traffic Warrants: Warrant 3, peak hour, is met**



# Other reasons for project

1. Increasing delay at Arrowhead Drive and Clearwater Avenue
2. “Recurring Accident” analysis shows changes will prevent collisions.
3. Pedestrian Safety (including safety of Stevenson Elementary School students and Stevenson Park patrons)



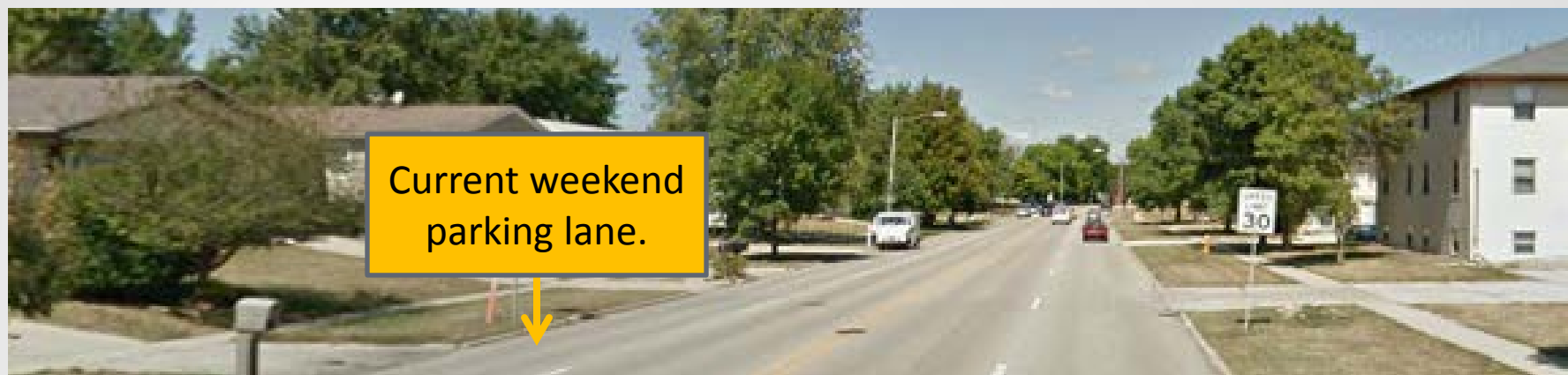
# Some residences will lose adjacent on-street parking



Red boxes show properties that will lose adjacent on-street because of need to widen the intersections/streets.

The City will build concrete slab turnarounds/bump-outs for driveways at no cost to residents/property owners who want them.

# Parking issue II: Should the City end weekend parking in west lane of Hershey?



Current weekend parking lane.

## Offer:

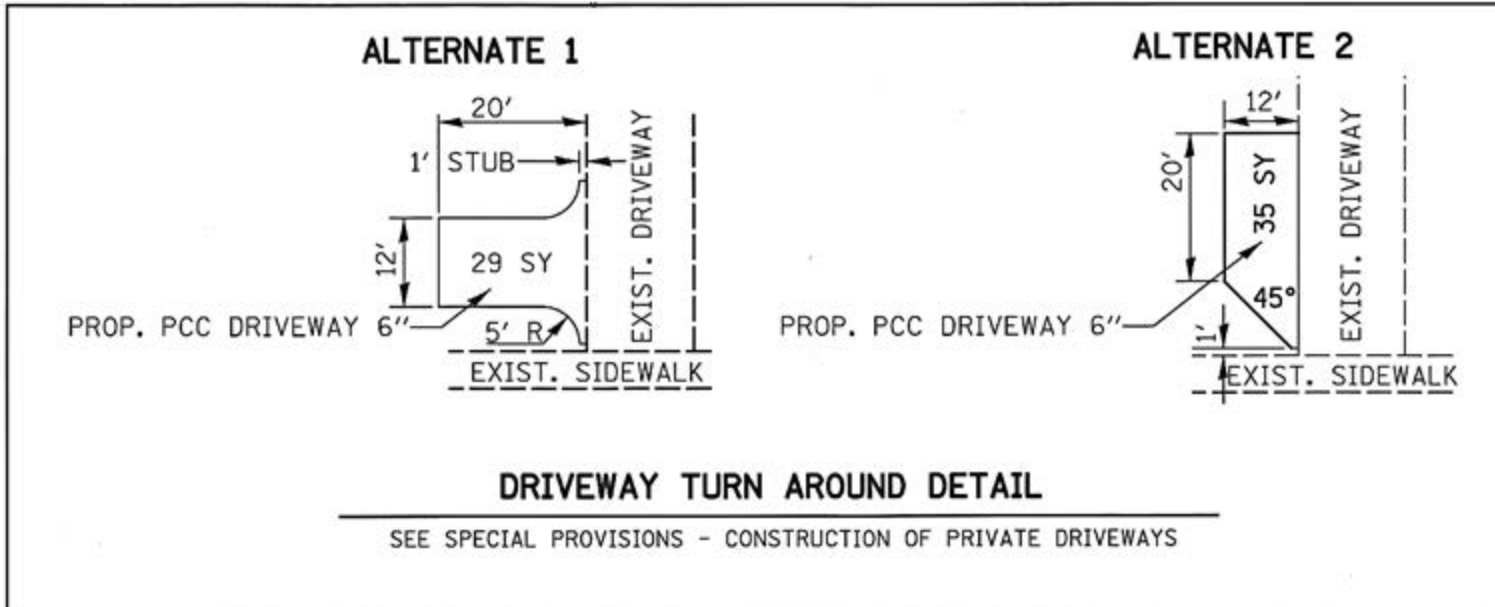
City would build concrete pads adjacent to driveways to add parking capacity in driveways and a driveway turnaround while eliminating weekend-only parking in the west lane of Hershey Road.

**Note: Project can proceed regardless of decision.**



## Recommended option:

Remove weekend parking on Hershey,  
build turnarounds for affected residences



*2 options: Widen driveway or add perpendicular turnaround.*

Street parking removal preferred by:

- Most affected property owners
- Bloomington Public Works
- The Staff Traffic Advisory Committee, which reviewed the issue March 11, 2015


# Mail-in survey results, Hershey parking

10 properties (59%): Yes, remove the Hershey weekend parking and provide my property with a driveway turnaround.

4 properties (24%): No, do not remove Hershey weekend parking.

3 properties (18%): Did not reply to the mailed survey.



 Blue boxes show affected properties in which owners were asked whether the City should remove weekend parking on Hershey Road and provide a driveway turnaround at no charge.

# Project history

<b>Council approval</b>	<b>October 2013</b>
<b>Begin design development</b>	<b>Fall 2013</b>
<b>Coordination with IDOT/COB</b>	<b>Fall 2013-present</b>
<b>Base preliminary concept approved by IDOT</b>	<b>Summer 2014</b>
<b>Public meeting, Stevenson School</b>	<b>December 2014</b>
<b>On-street parking/driveway turnaround coordination</b>	<b>January/February 2015</b>
<b>Design Development</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>2016 while school is out of session</b>