

RESOLUTION
CITY OF SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA

23

Presented by R. [Signature] [Signature]

1 WHEREAS, the St. Paul City Council wishes to clarify the current and future status of Ayd Mill Road; and
2
3 Whereas there is a discrepancy between the stated position of the City Council from the year 2000
4 supporting a two lane roadway to be connected on the north to St. Anthony Avenue, and the Environmental
5 Impact Statement of 2004 recommending a 4-lane roadway and northern connection; and
6
7 Whereas, since the ramps connecting Ayd Mill Road to Interstate 35E were opened in 2004, there was an
8 initial significant increase in traffic counts along Ayd Mill Road, and then a continued gradual increase in
9 average daily traffic; and
10
11 Whereas this increased use of Ayd Mill Road has significantly worsened traffic congestion at the northern
12 terminus of the roadway, particularly on Hamline Avenue, Selby Avenue, and at the intersection of
13 Snelling Avenue and Selby Avenue; and
14
15 Whereas there has been a significant increase in transit ridership in the region in the past few years, and a
16 concurrent decrease in automobile vehicle miles traveled; and
17
18 Whereas the possibility of commuter rail being located in the Ayd Mill Corridor, the pending construction
19 of the Central Corridor Light Rail Project, the increased demand for bicycling, and likely continued
20 increases in the costs of fuel for automobiles all suggest that the original assumptions underlying the 2004
21 EIS should be reviewed; and
22
23 Whereas the City Council's position remains that the existing roadway should be narrowed to two thru
24 lanes (one lane in each direction), because the Council believes that a two-lane roadway with adjacent
25 bicycle/pedestrian trail best meets the transportation and recreation goals of the City ~~can satisfactorily~~
26 ~~accommodate the local traffic on Ayd Mill Road without inducing additional trips thru the area,~~ and
27 because the Council wishes to ensure that Ayd Mill Road remain a city street (rather than a highway or
28 freeway) in perpetuity; and
29
30 Whereas the City Council wishes to involve the community in a process to re-look at the pros and cons of a
31 two-lane northern extension of Ayd Mill Road to St. Anthony Avenue; and
32
33 Whereas the City Council believes that whether or not Ayd Mill Road is extended to the north, the existing
34 roadway should be improved to be made to appear more like a city street, bicycles should be permitted
35 between Selby and Jefferson Avenues, and the roadway should be narrowed to one thru-lane of traffic in
36 each direction;
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38 Whereas ongoing issues and concerns with the Ayd Mill Road access ramps, particularly at St. Clair
39 Avenue and Grand Avenue, suggest the need to look at design changes to those points of access;
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43 Therefore, Be it RESOLVED, that the St. Paul City Council calls on the Mayor, the Department of Public
44 Works, and the Department of Planning and Economic Development to initiate a community process
45 around the future of Ayd Mill Road. This process shall include a Supplemental Environmental Impact
46 Statement (EIS) process to examine the effects of reducing the existing roadway to two lanes and the effect
47 of a possible two-lane northern connection to St. Anthony Avenue; and

48
49 Be it Further RESOLVED that the St. Paul City Council calls on the Department of Public Works to
50 ~~immediately~~ remove signs prohibiting bicycles from using Ayd Mill Road between Selby Avenue and
51 Jefferson Avenue, pending a change to the ordinance that enacted the prohibition; and

52
53 Be it Further RESOLVED, that the Public Works Department will ~~engage a study and~~ develop a
54 conceptual design for Council consideration regarding the closure of the Ayd Mill Road ramps on the
55 south side of Saint Clair, as well as selected ramps at the Grand Avenue intersection;

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	Yeas	Nays	Absent
Bostrom	✓		
Carter	✓		
Harris	✓		
Helgen	✓		
Lantry	✓		
Stark	✓		
Thune	✓		
	7	0	0

Requested by Department of:

By: _____

Approved by the Office of Financial Services

By: _____

Approved by City Attorney

By: _____

Approved by Mayor for Submission to Council

By: _____

Adopted by Council: Date 9/22/09

Adoption Certified by Council Secretary

By: Mary Erickson

Approved by Mayor: Date 9/8/09

By: Dr. Mulheisen

09-878

Green Sheet NO: 3075436

Department/Office/Council: CO - Council	Date Initiated: 11-AUG-09	 Assign Number For Routing Order	0	<u>Department</u> Council	<u>Sent To Person</u>	<u>Initial/Date</u>
Contact Person & Phone: Samantha Henningson 266-8641			1	Council		
Must Be on Council Agenda by (Date): 19-AUG-09			2	Council		
Doc. Type: RESOLUTION			3			
E-Document Required: Y Document Contact: Contact Phone:			4			
			5			

Total # of Signature Pages _____ (Clip All Locations for Signature)

Action Requested:
 Approval of resolution clarifying current & future status of the Ayd Mill Road. The St. Paul City Council requests that the Mayor, Public Works & PED initiate a community process, including an SEIS, around the future of Ayd Mill Road.

Recommendations: Approve (A) or Reject (R): _____ Planning Commission _____ CIB Committee _____ Civil Service Commission _____ _____ _____	Personal Service Contracts Must Answer the Following Questions: 1. Has this person/firm ever worked under a contract for this department? Yes No 2. Has this person/firm ever been a city employee? Yes No 3. Does this person/firm possess a skill not normally possessed by any current city employee? Yes No Explain all yes answers on separate sheet and attach to green sheet.
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Initiating Problem, Issues, Opportunity (Who, What, When, Where, Why):

Advantages If Approved:

Disadvantages If Approved:

Disadvantages If Not Approved:

Total Amount of Transaction: Funding Source: Financial Information: (Explain)	Cost/Revenue Budgeted: Activity Number:
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43 WHEREAS, the EIS studied a two-lane roadway with a four-lane connection, but not a two-lane roadway
44 with a two-lane connection;

45
46 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Saint Paul City Council calls on the Mayor, the
47 Department of Public Works, and the Department of Planning and Economic Development to initiate a
48 community process around the future of Ayd Mill Road. This process shall include a Supplemental
49 Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) process to examine the effects of reducing the existing roadway to
50 two lanes, as well as to study both a no-build/no-connection, 2-lane and 4-lane northern connection to St.
51 Anthony Avenue and clarifying the differences and the public's understanding of those two options. The
52 Mayor and the City Council will jointly be the client for the SEIS; and

53
54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the St. Paul City Council calls on the Department of Public Works to
55 immediately remove signs prohibiting bicycles from using Ayd Mill Road between Selby Avenue and
56 Jefferson Avenue; and

57
58 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Public Works Department will engage a study and develop a
59 conceptual design for Council consideration regarding the closure of the Ayd Mill Road ramps on the
60 south side of Saint Clair, as well as selected ramps at the Grand Avenue intersection.

	Yeas	Nays	Absent
Bostrom			
Carter			
Harris			
Helgen			
Lantry			
Stark			
Thune			

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- 5 supporting a two lane roadway to be connected on the north to St. Anthony Avenue, and the Environmental
- 6 Impact Statement of 2004 recommending a 4-lane roadway and northern connection; and
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- 8 WHEREAS, since the ramps connecting Ayd Mill Road to Interstate 35E were opened in 2004, there was
- 9 an initial significant increase in traffic counts along Ayd Mill Road, and then a continued gradual increase
- 10 in average daily traffic; and
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- 12 WHEREAS, this increased use of Ayd Mill Road has significantly worsened traffic congestion at the
- 13 northern terminus of the roadway, particularly on Hamline Avenue, Selby Avenue, and at the intersection
- 14 of Snelling Avenue and Selby Avenue; and
- 15
- 16 WHEREAS, there has been a significant increase in transit ridership in the region in the past few years,
- 17 and a concurrent decrease in automobile vehicle miles traveled; and
- 18
- 19 WHEREAS, the possibility of commuter rail being located in the Ayd Mill Corridor, the pending
- 20 construction of the Central Corridor Light Rail Project, the increased demand for bicycling, and likely
- 21 continued increases in the costs of fuel for automobiles all suggest that the original assumptions underlying
- 22 the 2004 EIS should be reviewed; and
- 23
- 24 WHEREAS, the City Council's position remains that the existing roadway should be narrowed to two thru
- 25 lanes (one lane in each direction), because the Council believes that a two-lane roadway can satisfactorily
- 26 accommodate the local traffic on Ayd Mill Road without inducing additional trips thru the area, and
- 27 because the Council wishes to ensure that Ayd Mill Road remain a city street (rather than a highway or
- 28 freeway) in perpetuity; and
- 29
- 30 WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to involve the community in a process to re-look at the pros and cons
- 31 of a two-lane northern extension of Ayd Mill Road to St. Anthony Avenue; and
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- 33 WHEREAS, the City Council believes that whether or not Ayd Mill Road is extended to the north, the
- 34 existing roadway should be improved to be made to appear more like a city street, bicycles should be
- 35 permitted between Selby and Jefferson Avenues, and the roadway should be narrowed to one thru-lane of
- 36 traffic in each direction;
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- 38 WHEREAS, ongoing issues and concerns with the Ayd Mill Road access ramps, particularly at St. Clair
- 39 Avenue and Grand Avenue, suggest the need to look at design changes to those points of access;
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