



# CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Richfield, Minnesota

## City Council Work Session

**March 09, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Regan Gonzalez at 5:45 p.m. virtually via WebEx.

Council Members Present: Maria Regan Gonzalez, Mayor; Ben Whalen; Mary Supple; Simon Trautmann; and Sean Hayford Oleary

Staff Present: Katie Rodriguez, City Manager; Kristin Asher, Public Works Director; Joe Powers, City Engineer; Blanca Martinez Gavina, Executive Analyst; and Kelly Wynn, Senior Office Assistant.

<b>Item #1</b>	<b>UPDATE ON THE I-494 VISION PLANNING AND RECENT SELECTION OF THE FIRST I-494 PROJECT BY THE I-494 POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC).</b>
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Director Asher gave a brief background of the I-494 project from MSP Airport to Hwy 169. She then gave a presentation that included:

- Implementation Plan Evaluation Criteria;
- Development Process;
- Development Outcomes;
- TAC Recommendations; and
- Implementation Plan.

Council Member Hayford Oleary inquired about the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave bridge.

Engineer Powers stated, at this time, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave bridge does not need to be expanded but does have accessibility issues and needs further discussion.

Council Member Hayford Oleary said he would like the bridge to stay and be improved.

Council Member Supple asked about potential additional upgrades to the 35W flyover bridges.

Director Asher stated this is only Phase 1 and not the complete project vision.

Council Member Asher expressed gratitude for the Chicago Ave bridge being included.

Director Asher stated Project 1 of the project has been approved by the PAC.

Council Member Whalen asked what the funding looks like for the project.

Director Asher stated the current funding is identified as close the \$250million which is shy of the total cost for Project 1 and cost participation discussions will be coming.

Council Member Trautmann expressed appreciation for the coalition to bring safety and equity to the forefront of this project.

Director Asher stated the frontage roads are also included and community outreach is full steam ahead.

Engineer Powers spoke of the preliminary design for stormwater storage locations. The MnDOT design currently has holding areas around the 35W interchange and along I-494 to Hwy 77. There will be more information in the next few months regarding stormwater.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The work session was adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:12 p.m.

Date Approved: March 23, 2021



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Maria Regan Gonzalez  
Mayor



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Kelly Wynn  
Senior Office Assistant



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Katie Rodriguez  
City Manager