

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF CROSSLAKE
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2006
9:00 A.M. – WEST SHORE DRIVE TOUR

Pursuant to due notice and call, the Council for the City of Crosslake boarded a school bus on Tuesday, March 21st at 9:00 A.M. to tour West Shore Drive to observe the location of the proposed bike trail. The following Councilmember's were present: Mayor Jay Andolshek (who arrived at approximately 9:35 A.M., Terry Curtis, Dean Eggena and Dean Swanson. Also present was City Administrator Tom Swenson, Community Development Director Ken Anderson, Park Director Jon Henke, Public Works Director Ted Strand, General Manager Paul Hoge, Operations Manager Jared Johnson, Network Engineer Paul Davis and Clerk/Treasurer Darlene Roach. Present from Widseth Smith Nolting was City Engineer Dave Reese and Pat Beste. Also present was Sharon Thorson of Xcel Energy, Jason Peterson, Landscape Architect for the St. Paul Office of the DNR, Chris Olson of Crow Wing Power and Deb Griffith of the Corps of Engineers and one resident, Cindy Holden.

Due to the absence of the Mayor and Acting Mayor at the beginning of the tour, it was the consensus of the Council Members in attendance to call the meeting to order at 9:10 A.M.

City Engineer Dave Reese opened the meeting by asking everyone in attendance to introduce themselves. Following introductions, the bus proceeded down West Shore Drive starting at the north end of the road and proceeding south. Everyone in attendance was provided with a Preliminary Design Index Map of West Shore Drive which identified, in color coding, the location of the platted right-of-way and un-platted right-of-way. WSN previously staked the midpoint of the proposed trail allowing everyone to visualize its proximity to the road and properties along the roadway. The map showed the platted right-of-way in a light green and "no mans land" coded in orange. Where there is no color noted, the property line extends to the roadway with no right-of-way. Reese stated that the purpose of the tour is to obtain feedback from the Council and representatives from the various entities in attendance.

The trail is proposed as an 8' wide bituminous trail. As previously mentioned, the stakes are the proposed centerline of the trail. There may be a few instances where the roadway is shifted in order to fit the trail into the right-of-way, otherwise the road is proposed to remain in the same location.

Councilmember Swanson commented that the current roadway is west of the right-of-way. Reese stated that the new roadway is noted in red on the index map and the shoulder is shown in blue.

Reese stated that due to the amount of utility work required along this roadway by the utility companies, the proposed schedule would be to do the rebuild of utilities in 2006, with possible clearing, grubbing and reclaiming some time after Labor Day 2006 with completion of the roadway and trail in 2007. Where the trail extends up to the roadway, curb and gutter would be constructed to provide a separation.

Chris Olson of Crow Wing Power asked if there were any plans to install sewer in this area since the cable that would be put in has a lifetime of 50 years. He was told that there are no plans for sewer in this area.

Mayor Andolshek joined the meeting at 9:35 A.M.

When asked if the path could be narrowed, Reese stated that WSN would not recommend doing so. Councilmember Curtis asked what the magic was about an 8 foot width. Reese stated that was the minimum width looked at since trends are to widen paths. Jason Peterson of the DNR agreed that 8' is tight for rollerbladers. Curtis felt a narrower path would promote bikes, rollerbladers and etc. Park Director Jon Henke commented that 8' is the minimum width in the proposed Park Ordinance if it is adopted. It was noted that neither Crow Wing Power nor Xcel Energy would install utilities under the path. Councilmember Eggena stated that if that were the case, the City may have to obtain additional right-of-way, however the goal is to minimize the impact on the area.

It was agreed that the "hot spots" need to be identified since this is a very custom project. Crow Wing Power stated that they will use underground wire and Crosslake Communications reps stated that they would go under the bike path with their utilities. Councilmember Eggena asked Crow Wing Power what width they would need cleared and Chris Olson stated 12 feet if they plow in with a cable plow. Councilmember Swanson asked if they do directional boring and Olson stated that they do but it is more expensive. Olson stated that their cable will fill 2 feet and Xcel Energy stated that they also would need 2 feet for gas lines. With this having been said, Councilmember Eggena stated that 12 feet was needed to bore, but only 6 feet would be needed for lines. If the utilities are put in before the blacktop, the shoulder could be used for equipment.

At 10:00 the tour group moved on to the area of the Enck property. It was agreed that the road may need to be shifted to the East in this area.

The group continued on to the area of the tennis court and Councilmember Eggena stated that he has spoken to the property owner and he is willing to give up part of the tennis court for the trail.

Discussion ensued regarding several curves in the road that are super elevated and how drainage would be directed to the East. In the area of the ravines, WSN may have to look at the embankment.

The bus moved on to the area of the Corps property and Deb Griffith expressed some comments to City Engineer Dave Reese. WSN will work with Ray Nelson on some possible opportunities for this area.

From here the bus moved to the area of the boat launch. There was discussion regarding the location of the path on the DNR property and Jason Peterson stated that the DNR would work with the City wherever possible. Mr. Peterson requested that a copy of the road design and path location be forwarded to him in order that the DNR engineers can determine how their plan would best fit with the City's design. There was some discussion regarding the possibility of the trail being constructed around the parking lot on the Duck Lake side versus West Shore Drive in the area of the boat launch allowing

for a kiosk or information booth. It was noted that work on the boat launch will not be completed by the DNR in 2006 since the designs have not yet been drafted. City Engineer Dave Reese stated that he has also spoken with Lowell Jaeger of the DNR in Brainerd who stated that they will work with the City keeping in mind there are improvements coming in the area of the boat access. There was some discussion regarding changing the curve in the road and brush removal in the area of the boat launch since this area sees considerable traffic which poses a danger when vehicles pulling boats are coming out from the boat launch and parking lot.

At 11:00 A.M. City Engineer Dave Reese thanked all of the attendees for their input at the meeting.

At 11:15 A.M, the Council Meeting was adjourned. It should be noted that the tour was for the gathering of information and that no formal action was taken by the City Council.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Darlene J. Roach".

Darlene J. Roach
Clerk/Treasurer

SPECIAL COUNCIL MTG WEST SHORE TOUR – March 21, 2006.doc

