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Public Works

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MEMORANDUM

Equipment Maintenance
Roadway Maintenance
Collection & Drainage
Building & Grounds
Engineering

To: Kristy Korpi, Interim PWD,
Randy Hill, Director Proj. Management Team
FROM: Jim Edgmond, City Engineer
DATE: February 15, 2016
RE: Conversion from One Way two lane traffic to Two- way, two lane traffic
Downtown 2nd Street from Pine Street to Mulberry Ave.

INTRODUCTION:

The City has evaluated converting 2nd Street from Pine to Mulberry to make 2nd Street a detour for the Mississippi Drive Corridor Project. The street was also evaluated to leave it as two-way street to save the cost and confusion of converting the street back to a one-way. Multiple public information meetings were held, and the overall response at these meetings was the people present were in favor of making and keeping 2nd Street a two-way street.

BACKGROUND:

Due to the upcoming Mississippi Drive reconstruction work a detour is needed that will minimize the economic impact of the project on the downtown businesses. Converting 2nd Street to two-way two-lane traffic was judged to be the best way to detour traffic. Once this street is converted to a two way, the discussion turned to why the City should spend additional money to convert it back at the end of the project. The following reasons were identified as why the street should stay two-way.

- Saves the cost of converting back to one-way.
- Will provide more convenient access and traffic pattern for the proposed parking garage on 2nd Street between Iowa and Chestnut.
- Will provide more traffic and better access to the downtown.
- No current reason for the street to be one-way since the other one-way the other direction was taken out.
- No benefit to the one-way street

In the public information meetings several items were identified that the conversion will need to address:

- Deliveries will need to be pushed to the alleys to the fullest extent possible.
- No double parking will be allowed on the street.
- The loading zones on the street will need to be reevaluated to make sure those

**"I remember Muscatine for its sunsets. I have never seen any
on either side of the ocean that equaled them" — Mark Twain**

needed on street deliveries have loading zones nearby.

- Parking meters on the side streets, and the time parking is allowed on the unmetered spaces should be reevaluated.

The current plan is to start the conversion in the spring, and be complete by the start of the sports season; approximately May 1, 2016 is planned for a completion date. A comprehensive public information plan, including door knocker, changeable message signs, city website messages and radio announcements is planned in advance of the conversion. The cost to convert the street is estimated to be \$9,000.00 not including the traffic signal at Mulberry which is planned to be converted to flashing red to inforce the intersection becoming a four way stop temporarily until the Mississippi Drive Corridor reconstructs this intersection.

RECOMMENDATION/RATIONALE:

Recommend city council approve the conversion proposal for 2nd Street from Pine to Mulberry, with a planned completion date of May 1, 2016 and a temporary 4-way stop at the intersection of Mulberry and 2nd Street.

BACKUP INFORMATION: