

September 25, 2007

TO: Edina Transportation Commission and SAC Members
Wayne Houle
Jack Sullivan

FROM: Les Wanninger, Chair
Edina Transportation Commission

SUBJECT: West 70th Street/Cornelia Area Traffic Study Process

This is a summary of the study status and a projection of the next steps leading up to obtaining additional public input prior to developing a draft report.

We have received a significant amount of public input in the process, including the initial information meeting, three formal public hearings and written comments from over 300 people. We have used that input to define the issues and have achieved consensus on the issues and the measurements we will use to evaluate potential solution alternatives. We also have the results of an Origin-Destination Study which will aid us in determining the potential to provide attractive alternate routes to drivers who currently use West 70th Street during peak PM commute time. We also received a wide range of suggested solution elements from the public input, which we will consider in this phase of the process.

September SAC Meeting

We will review the staff and consultant evaluation of proposed solution elements identified at the August meeting. We will then develop several overall solution alternatives using some of those elements that appear to address our issues.

November SAC Meeting

We will review the staff and consultant evaluations of those alternatives identified at the September meeting, along with ideas suggested by the public which might not be included in the alternatives. We will use preliminary 2030 traffic projections from the draft Comprehensive Plan until final projections are available in the winter.

January SAC Meeting

We will receive traffic projections from the final version of the Comprehensive Plan. This information is essential to make credible evaluations of potential solution alternatives.

January/February Public Input

At this point, we will probably not be ready for a "draft #1 report," but we will hold a public information open house, followed by a separate formal public hearing. These meetings will provide the opportunity to get more public input. We will then have another SAC meeting to develop a draft #1 report. Following that, we will hold another public information open house and a public hearing and then make a final draft report in the spring/summer. The ETC will then take action on the final draft and ultimately make a recommendation to the Council.