



City Council Workshop Report Friday, January 22, 2010 Engineering Department

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The Engineering Department consists of eleven full-time employees (Ron Rosenthal - engineering director; Jay Owens - city engineer; Alan Holm - project coordinator; Mark Milkanin, Kevin Riegelman, Bruce Reuter – engineering technicians; Ryan Illa – CAD technician; Frank Peterson – building official; Gene Durand – building inspector; Kay Meltzer and Sylvia Meyer – clerk/receptionists).

Accomplishments in 2009:

- 1) Completed construction of developer projects in 2009.
 - Walgreens – Finished South Service Drive realignment project
 - Kwik Trip (Moundview Drive) – Highwoods Trail widening and pavement strengthening project

- 2) Completed various stages of plan review, design and construction related to the following projects.
 - East 5th Street Underpass – Nearly complete with Final Design.
 - Old TH 19 Bridges – Final survey completed, began preliminary design.
 - Riverfront Trail – Performed topographical survey, property lines determined, bathymetric survey, and were involved with trail committee and regulatory agency meetings.
 - Traffic Signal System (TH 61 and Aspen Avenue/Moundview Drive) – Worked with MnDOT on signal agreement, design, bid letting, and construction.
 - Bench Street Utilities Extension (Featherstone Road to Pioneer Road) – Completed sewer & water extensions in conjunction with CSAH #1 reconstruction project.
 - Municipal State Aid Street overlay project – Completed except for Hay Creek Valley Road, which was used as a detour for the CSAH #1 project.
 - City General Fund Street Overlay Project - Completed
 - Marina Boat Storage Facility – Plan review, staking, and inspection of the construction.

- 3) Supported the Public Services Department with surveys, neighborhood meetings, public hearings, design, staking, inspections, as-builts & assessment calculations for construction of the following projects.
 - Oak Street and part of Williams Avenue – Street reconstruction project.
 - Bench Street - Sewer and watermain extensions to the Tannery.
 - Incinerator/MRF – Survey, design, and staking of two storm drainage ponds.
 - Central Park Bandshell – survey, testing, and staking for park grading.
 - Airport (Concrete Apron Expansion) – Assisted negotiating change order & final payment.
 - Airport (Taxiway “F” Rehabilitation) - Topographical survey work, plan & specification review.
 - Potential Park & Ride at TH 61 & Withers Harbor Drive – Drafted several conceptual plans with preliminary cost estimates.
 - Sewer Forcemain (Between Main Lift Station & WWTP) – Survey, staking, and inspection

- 4) Plans, Reports, Policies, Studies, Committees, and Groups involved with in 2009
 - Red Wing Golf Club Drainage Report
 - 5 year street reconstruction plan
 - Gravel to pavement plan
 - Right-of-Way Ordinance
 - Assessment Policy
 - Street Lighting Policy (Not in writing at this time)
 - Complete Streets (guidelines & future policy)
 - Downtown Action Plan
 - Red Wing 2020 Transportation Committee
 - High Speed Rail
 - Red Rock Corridor
 - TAC Commuter Bus Feasibility
 - Area Transportation Partnership

- 5) Conducted grading plan and storm runoff reviews for the following projects.
 - Kwik Trip Expansion (Main Street).
 - HRA - Jordan Tower parking lot reconstruction project along 4th Street.
 - Smokin' Oak site plan modifications

- 6) Worked on two funding requests for State and/or Federal funding on access management and safety projects along TH 61.
 - General State Bonding request for intersection improvements in the Burnside area.
 - Federal T.I.G.E.R. grant request for intersection improvements in the Burnside area and downtown Red Wing. The successful TIGER grant project recipients will be notified in February, 2010.

- 7) Engineering Staff (along with Public Works, Planning, Police & Fire) had an unusually large number of sign and lighting requests brought to Council for approval/denial in 2009:
 - Mt. Carmel Road & Cutler Hill Road – Additional street signs.
 - Bush & 5th Street intersection – Request for 4-way stop.
 - Washington, Jefferson, & 4th Streets – Additional parking restrictions by the old hospital.
 - East & West Avenues – Parking restriction modifications between 3rd & 7th Streets.
 - Tyler Road South – Additional signage at the Lawrence Street intersection.
 - Tyler Road South – Additional stop sign and other signage at the South Service Drive intersection.
 - YMCA – Additional handicapped stalls on Broad Street fronting the YMCA.
 - Potter Street (between 3rd & 4th Streets) – Shift parking from the west side of the street to the east side.
 - Seminary Plaza Parking Ramp – HRA request to dedicate parking ramp stalls for Jordan Tower residents while the parking lot is being reconstructed.
 - Withers Harbor Drive – Added directional signage needed when left turns were eliminated onto TH 61.
 - Wakonade Drive – Reopening to 2-way traffic.
 - Motel Avenue, Fern Avenue, and Raymond Street – Additional parking restrictions.
 - Fulton & 5th Street intersection – Request for stop signs and painted cross walks.
 - Cannondale Road – Request for “Watch for Children” sign.
 - South Park Street, 9th Street, & Alley – Street lighting petition.
 - Aspen Avenue – Additional parking restrictions between Kingswood Drive & Mt. Hood Lane.
 - Sturgeon Lake Road & Xcel Private Road intersection – Temporary signal system for Xcel dredge hauling operation in a future year.

8) The Building Inspection Division processed 473 total permits in 2009 valued at \$9,256,723; with new building construction accounting for 11 permits valued at \$2,206,547. (See table below for yearly permits issued and permit revenues from 1998 through 2009).

Year	Total Permits Issued	Total Construction Valuation	New Construction Permits Issued	New Construction Valuation	Total Revenue to Building Department
1998	591	\$ 31,896,023	68	\$ 21,852,879	\$ 270,642
1999	553	\$ 19,908,024	52	\$ 12,511,600	\$ 222,163
2000	631	\$ 42,712,318	69	\$ 21,277,164	\$ 393,593
2001	836	\$ 40,454,982	78	\$ 26,481,379	\$ 384,209
2002	866	\$ 28,058,673	63	\$ 19,472,419	\$296,938
2003	793	\$ 24,198,315	66	\$ 12,867,427	\$ 292,355
2004	751	\$ 33,541,533	88	\$ 25,534,073	\$ 373,415
2005	887	\$ 32,136,506	119	\$ 22,688,101	\$ 392,915
2006	751	\$ 31,812,328	61	\$ 17,423,013	\$ 392,486
2007	1678	\$ 27,478,578	35	\$ 10,512,137	\$ 380,420
2008	954	\$19,237,082	24	\$ 6,946,111	\$ 286,733
2009	473	\$ 9,256,723	11 *	\$ 2,206,547	\$ 140,820 **

* The 11 new construction permits breakdown into 6 new housing starts valued at \$1,093,647 (1 – February, 2 – May, 1 – June, 1 - August, 1 – September) and 5 new commercial starts valued at \$1,112,900 (Kwik Trip, Telecommunication buildings near the Charlson Crest & Sand Hill water towers, Calgary Cemetery storage facility, nine unit office complex at Xcel Energy along Wakonade Drive).

** Revenue from new construction was \$20,169; and revenue from other construction was \$120,651.

9) Processed 86 Junk code violations in 2009 (312 in 2007 & 247 in 2008). A certain number on decreased violations is expected from one year to the next since we started doing proactive enforcement in 2007 because a lot of first time violators don't repeat. However, the big drop in violations from 2008 to 2009 is largely due to the departure of Annette Pullen in June, 2009, with other staff not being able to spend as much time on proactive inspections.

NOTE: In 2010, staff will begin charging a fee for 2nd & 3rd notices of junk code violations to help recoup some of our staff costs and to achieve quicker compliance from violators. There still won't be any fee associated with the initial courtesy notices.

10) Finished the 4th year of the Rental Dwelling Inspection Program; however, the lawsuit brought on by a small portion of landlords has prolonged the inspection cycle of the program from a three year cycle to a five year cycle (Ordinance #446 adopted 7/28/08); and a court ruling on the Morris rental housing inspection code caused portions of our code to be rewritten (Ordinance #449 adopted 10/27/08). Below is an update of where we are with licensing and inspecting as of the end of 2009:

Rental Housing Update as of 01/04/10

Total # of units = 1,874

Fully licensed	= 1,613 (86.1%)
Passed inspection (waiting to be issued license) ***	= 17 (0.9%)
Inspected once (waiting for reinspection)	= 9 (0.5%)
Not inspected (part of warrant lawsuit)	= 136 (7.2%)
Not inspected (no consent because of lawsuit) ****	= 22 (1.2%)
Exempt rental units (family member occupied)	= 64 (3.4%)
Vacant (for sale or foreclosure)	= 13 (0.7%)

Notes:

*** These 17 units are waiting to be issued a license because they are part of a rental complex and not all of the units in the complex have passed. Buildings owned by one party are issued a license when all units within the building have passed inspection (duplex, triplex, etc.). The passed units are HRA inspected units; however the owner is refusing to allow City inspection on the non-HRA units.

**** These units have not been included in the warrant procedure and the owners have indicated they will not consent to an inspection until the lawsuit is finalized.