Date: 1/11/10 Item: 10.a

Twin Lakes Update

# REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Date: 12/21/2009 Item No.: 10.b

Department Approval

City Manager Approval

P. Trudgen

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Item Description: Twin Lakes Redevelopment Update

## BACKGROUND

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# 1. Phase 1 Infrastructure Project

- 4 Land Acquisition/Condemnation Update: To construct the Phase 1 improvements in
- 5 Twin Lakes, on March 9, 2009, the City Council authorized use of the quick-take
- 6 condemnation process through its power of eminent domain to ensure that the City had
- 7 control of these sites within Twin Lakes to complete the Phase 1 of the Twin Lakes
- 8 infrastructure project. As part of this process, the City acquired property and/or
- 9 temporary construction easements from four property owners—Roseville Properties, Xtra
- Lease, Dorso, and PIK. The City is still working with three of the four property owners to
- come to a settlement. The Court has appointed the three commissions it will use to
- determine the appropriate price for the land and/or temporary easement on the three
- remaining properties. It is expected that the commissioners will convene and make its
- decision in winter 2010.
- Public Improvements: The City's contractor has completed nearly all of the Phase 1
- work, including the installation of sewer, water, and storm water utilities, the
- 17 construction of Twin Lakes Parkway from Cleveland Avenue to Mount Ridge Road, the
- construction of Mount Ridge Road from Twin Lakes Parkway to County Road C2, and
- the installation of the storm water management system, streetlights, and a portion of the
- 20 landscaping. The remaining Phase 1 work includes the installation of the remaining trees,
- shrubs, and perennials, the installation of the crosswalks at Twin Lakes Parkway at the
- roundabout, and the final lift of asphalt on Twin Lakes Parkway. Mount Ridge Road and
- Twin Lakes Parkway was opened to traffic on Monday, December 14, 2009.
- Project Costs: As the City has not made final settlements with three of the property
- owners and final work needs to be completed, staff has not prepared a final cost analysis
- for Phase 1. To date, the project has cost approximately \$4.4 million--\$1.8 million for
- 27 land negotiation and acquisition and \$2.6 million for site preparation, roadway
- construction, and construction oversight. Once settlements are reached and all work
- completed, staff will provide the City Council with a cost summary for this phase of the
- 30 project.

Metro Transit Park and Ride: Metro Transit has completed the construction Iona Lane and a 460-stall park-and-ride facility located at the southeast corner of Iona Lane and Mount Ridge Road. Metro Transit commenced service at the site on December 14, 2009. Route 264 is an express bus line that originates from this site in the morning and makes stops in downtown Minneapolis and with return routes in the evening. The schedule is available on Metro Transit's website, which can be accessed at www.metrotransit.org.

## **Phase 2 Infrastructure Project**

Phase 2 of the Public Infrastructure Improvement consists of the following work:

- Extension of Twin Lakes Parkway from the Mount Ridge roundabout east to Prior Avenue
- Construction of a roundabout at Twin Lakes Parkway and Prior Avenue
- Reconstruction of Prior Avenue from Twin Lakes Parkway to County Road C
- Construction of a signal at the intersection of Prior and County Road C
- Associated utility extensions including sanitary sewer, water main and storm sewer

<u>Design Update:</u> In June 2008, the City Council approved an engineering contract with WSB for the design of the public infrastructure within the Twin Lakes redevelopment area. To date, WSB has completed final design and constructed the initial phase of infrastructure improvements. The plans for the other two phases of construction are 60 percent complete. WSB will complete the full set of final design plans by February 2010.

Right-of-Way and Temporary Easement Acquisition: To complete the Phase 2 infrastructure improvements, staff anticipates that the City only needs to acquire a very limited amount of permanent right of way and temporary construction easements from 1885-1915 County Road C, which is owned by a real estate investment trust based out of Aurora, Colorado. The majority of the needed right of way was acquired last summer.

Environmental Update: On September 21, 2009, the City Council approved a contract with Braun Intertec to enroll the Phase 2 infrastructure area into the State's Voluntary Investigation and Cleanup Program and develop a Response Action Plan (RAP) for the Phase 2 project. In its proposal, Braun recommended using a similar approach to cleanup that was approved by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (PCA) for the initial phase of infrastructure improvements. Braun submitted the RAP to the PCA and the PCA has indicated through email correspondence that the agency needs additional information regarding the extent of the contamination within the right of way prior to it approving the plan. Braun has requested that the agency provide the City with a formal rejection letter and to indicate what information the City needs to provide in order to receive approval of the plan. Based on conversations with Braun, staff anticipates that the City will need to undertake additional subsurface sampling in order to fully characterize the level and extent of contamination within the right of way.

Cost and Funding: Staff estimates that the Phase 2 project will cost approximately \$2.9 million. The following table breaks out the costs based on the 60-percent design plans.

#### **Phase 2 Cost Estimate**

Item	Cost
Land acquisition*	\$800,000
Site preparation	\$53,500
Environmental cleanup	\$207,500
Sanitary sewer	\$53,700
Storm sewer	\$100,200
Water main	\$129,700
Road and sidewalk	\$1,035,300
Streetscaping	\$340,200
Construction oversite	\$192,200
Total	\$2,912,300

<sup>\*</sup>Approximately \$770,000 of this cost has already been incurred.

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The City has funding in place to complete this project. Approximately \$770,000 of Phase 2 project costs were incurred as part of the land acquisition process undertaken for the Phase 1 project, which leaves approximately \$2.13 million to fund. DEED awarded the City a \$1 million grant for the this project; however, if the City wants to utilize these funds, activities must be completed during the 2010 construction season as the funds will expire on December 31, 2010. The City applied for and has been awarded approximately \$200,000 in funding for environmental cleanup from Ramsey County, which should offset the City's cost to remediate the right of way. Finally, the City has available pooled tax increment to fill the remaining project gap.

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Timeline: Staff is proposing the following timeline for the Phase 2 project.

- February 2010: Approve plans and specifications and order the advertisement for bid
  - March 2010: Award bids

  - May 2010: Begin construction

September 2010: Complete construction

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## Other Twin Lakes Issues

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Update of the Cost Allocation Study: In 2007, the City Council adopted the Twin Lakes Cost Allocation Study. This study determines the amount each development will contribute towards the cost of the infrastructure required to implement the mitigation strategy adopted in the 2007 Twin Lakes Business Park Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR). Over the next several weeks, staff will be updating the cost spreadsheet to reflect actual costs for land acquisition, the improvements implemented during the Phase 1 project, and environmental assessment and cleanup. The spreadsheet will also be

updated to reduce overall project costs by the grant dollars received for this project.

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- Federal Appropriation: The City has received a \$1 million federal appropriation to
- complete infrastructure work within the Twin Lakes area. Over the next several weeks,
- staff will be working with Representative McCollum's office to determine the process to
- access the funds.

### 107 POLICY OBJECTIVE

- Development of infrastructure within the Twin Lakes Redevelopment Area is consistent
- with the City's 2030 Comprehensive Plan and the Twin Lakes Business Park Master
- 110 Plan.

# 111 **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

- There are no direct impacts to the City's budget to implement the infrastructure projects
- as it has been funded through external grants and existing TIF balances.

## 114 REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION

- No specfic action is required at this time. Staff will be bringing forward action to intiate
- the Phase 2 project based on the timeline above.

Prepared by: Jamie Radel, Economic Development Associate

Attachments: A: Depiction of Twin Lakes Infrastructure

