



City of Grand Forks
Staff Report
City Council – January 6, 2020

Agenda Item: Update on 2019/2020 Streets Projects

Submitted by: Engineering Department, Edward J. Liberman (Assistant City Engineer)
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Staff Recommended Action: For Information Only – No action required

BACKGROUND: The City of Grand Forks Engineering Department provides for the construction, maintenance and repair of city streets to ensure safe and efficient transportation. This is accomplished through projects funded by the Streets and Infrastructure Capital Project Fund (Fund 4815), establishment of special assessment districts, and strategic project partnerships. In April 2018, an additional 0.5% city sales tax was approved, from which a portion of the revenue generated was transferred into Fund 4815 for the purpose of improving the condition, safety and capacity of city streets. In 2019, this amounted to an additional \$2.75M in Fund 4815, enabling additional streets projects. This report provides a summary of the streets projects accomplished in 2019, along with a discussion of the streets projects proposed for 2020.

ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS OF FACT:

2019 STREETS PROJECTS:

- 2019 proved to be a commendable year for construction, with over \$30M in streets reconstruction and rehabilitation contracts executed. Highlights include the partnership with the University of North Dakota (UND) to reconstruct portions of University Ave (\$13.9M), providing improved pavement condition for safe travel and improved quality of life near the UND campus. Additionally, the City leveraged state and federal funds to reconstruct portions of Demers Ave in downtown Grand Forks (\$8.1M), to improve intersection safety at the Gateway Dr/N. 55th St and Demers Ave/Columbia Rd intersections (\$2.0M), and to upgrade sidewalks to shared use paths along 6th Ave N. (\$361K).
- We provided increased traffic capacity at several locations in support of residential and business development. Residential development support included three projects, providing pavement and street lights supporting Crary's 9th Addition (60th St & Lou Ann St), King's View 7th Resubdivision (S. 14th St, 59th Ave S., Rosebud Cir and Neli Cir), and Peyton's Place Cir. In sum, these projects reflect an investment of \$1.8M in additional transportation capacity for Grand Forks' southern residential communities. Additionally, we supported the transportation needs of business development through the paving of the 2200 block of N. 39th St, and the ongoing paving and lighting work at the N. 62nd St and Opportunity Park 1st Resubdivision (36th Ave S. and S. 42nd St) locations. These projects collectively reflect a \$1.5M investment, and when complete will provide improved driving surfaces and lighting for businesses in Grand Forks' northern and southwestern development areas.

- With the increase in street and infrastructure funds provided by the 0.5% city sales tax, we were able to rehabilitate additional pavements and add safety features such as additional turn lanes where needed. In conjunction with work by the Public Works Streets Maintenance Division to repair potholes, we accomplished a number of projects to reconstruct failed concrete streets/curbs/gutter and mill/overlay several areas of deteriorated asphalt pavements. A list of the major rehabilitation projects accomplished in 2019 is provided below. In the case of the asphalt/concrete repairs and sidewalk/curb repairs, a number of minor repairs at various locations across Grand Forks were completed as task orders under the overarching repair contracts.

Cherry St (11 th Ave to 17 Ave)	\$1.56M
N. Columbia Rd/10 th Ave N. Intersection	\$257K
17 th St & Willow Dr neighborhood	\$255K
Various minor asphalt/concrete repairs	\$320K
Sidewalk & curb repairs	\$485K

- The Engineering Electrical Division was able to complete a number of traffic signal modifications that improved the safety and efficiency of city streets. Several new or upgraded street light/school flashing beacons were installed to provide safety improvements at our schools. We were also able to upgrade lights along 6th Ave N. to more energy-efficient LED fixtures, and install new signal cabinets or upgraded cabinets for increased capability at several locations.
- The Electrical Division continued a program in the Sunbeam area to improve lighting. 30-40 year old wiring was replaced, and old high pressure sodium lights were replaced with new energy-efficient LED fixtures. The program increases lighting to the area while concurrently lowering electrical demand.

2020 PROPOSED STREETS PROJECTS:

- Looking forward to 2020, we anticipate another robust construction season comparable to that executed in 2019 (based on projected overall contract value), with anticipated projects totaling \$27.8M. We will continue to leverage state and federal funds to improve major roadways. In 2019, we executed two large partnership projects with combined contract value of \$22M (University Ave & Demers Ave reconstruction); in 2020 we do not anticipate having large-value contracts such as these, but rather having more small-to-moderate value contracts.
- We intend to fully support ongoing business and residential development efforts. We currently have an active contract to construct pavement and street lights at Southern Estates 11th Addition (45th Ave S., S. 30th St, S. 32nd St) once weather permits. Similarly, we will be designing and constructing paving/street lights to support 36th Ave S. (S. 15th St to S. Washington St).
- As resources allow, we will fully utilize funds made available from Fund 4815 to continue to reconstruct or rehabilitate deteriorated pavements. One challenge we will tackle in 2020 is how to more efficiently manage a growing construction program within current staffing constraints.
- We continue to look for innovative, cost-effective methods to maintain city streets. In particular, this coming year we will seek to utilize fog sealing on 5-7 year old asphalt, and a scrub or squeegee seal for maintaining older asphalt pavements. Although it is uncertain if the equipment to support the scrub or squeegee seal method is available in North Dakota, we hope to try it on an experimental basis as a method to rejuvenate asphalt pavement before it begins to deteriorate. Our goal is to extend the useful life of the pavement at the

least cost and disruption to traffic. Since asphalt sealing as preventative maintenance is significantly less expensive than mill/overlay or reconstruction, our intent is to fully fund these efforts through the streets maintenance budget rather than through special assessment.

SUPPORT MATERIALS:

A list of proposed projects for design and/or construction in 2020 follows (Appendix 1). Cost estimates provided are preliminary and will be refined throughout the design phase. The Engineering Dept. will present an Engineer's Report for each project to COW and City Council for approval, per standard procedures.

2020 Streets Projects (Proposed)

Projects	Notes
New paving/lights - Southern Estates (45 th Ave S., S. 30 th St, S. 32 nd St)	Residential Development (100% special assessed)
New paving/lights - Southern Estates (S. 34 th St, 47 th Ave S.)	Residential Development; (100% special assessed)
Reconstruct Belmont Rd (Peyton Place to 62 nd Ave S.)	Residential Development
Extend Cherry St (58 th Ave S. to 62 nd Ave S.)	Residential Development
New paving/lights - 36 th Ave S. (S. 15 th St to S. Washington St)	Business Development
Concrete panel replacement - Washington St (8 th Ave N. to 0.4 miles N. of US2)	Fed/State/City Partnership
Mill/overlay - 5 th St (Demers Ave to Gateway Dr)	Fed/State/City Partnership
Mill/overlay - University Ave (N. 3 rd St to State St)	Fed/State/City Partnership
Traffic Signal Backplates & RLCIs	
Turn lanes/traffic signals - 32 nd Ave S. (I-29 to 20 th St)	Fed/State/City Partnership
ADA curb ramps - Washington St (Hammerling Ave to 8 th Ave N.)	Fed/State/City Partnership
Shared use path – 17 th Ave S. (S. 20 th St to S. 25 th St)	Federal TA Funds
Shared use path - S. Columbia Rd (40 th Ave S. to 47 th Ave S.)	Federal TA Funds
Intersection Improvements - Washington St & 43 rd Ave S.	2020 City Budget line item
Intersection Improvements – Columbia Rd & 43 rd Ave S.	2020 City Budget line item
Reconstruct N. 36 th St (20 th Ave N. to 24 th Ave N.)	Economic Development (tent.)
Reconstruct 14 th Ave S. (S. Columbia Rd to S. 30 th St)	
Reconstruct 36 th Ave S. (S. Columbia Rd to 700 ft east)	
Reconstruct S. 12 th St (17 th Ave S. to Park Dr)	
Reconstruct Library Cir	
Mill/overlay Library Lane, 20 th Ave S., S. 19 th St, Drees Dr, 21 st Ave S., 22 nd Ave S., Victoria Ct.	
Mill/overlay Shady Ridge Ct to Adams Dr	
Mill/overlay Chestnut St, Cottonwood St, 22 nd Ave S.	
Rehabilitate concrete – subdivisions	
Concrete street repairs	
Rehabilitate catch basins – Gateway Dr frontage rd	
Rehabilitate arterial roads	
Fog/scrub seal asphalt roads	
Asphalt street repairs	
Traffic signal & street lights maintenance	
LED street light replacement program	
Traffic signal & school beacon interconnect	
Alerus Center – parking lot rehab	
Yard Waste Drop Sites Improvements	Support to Public Works
N. 3 rd St (Demers Ave to University Ave)	Design in 2020
N. Columbia Rd (University Ave to overpass)	Design in 2020
Pave Oscarville Bus. Park (27 th Ave N., 24 th Ave N., local streets)	Design in 2020
Total Projects Value (Est.)	\$27.8M