



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
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DATE: February 9, 2015
TO: Planning Commission
FROM: Transportation Committee
SUBJECT: Highway 5 / Shepard Road Access Options Study

Introduction

With the recent conclusion of the *Shepard Davern Area Plan* and *Zoning Study*, Saint Paul Public Works is beginning the community engagement process for the study of a potential realignment between Highway 5, West 7th Street and Shepard Road. The goal of the study is to create a more walkable and bikeable neighborhood by slowing traffic on West 7th, improving Shepard Road based on the design criteria from the *Great River Passage Plan*, and redistributing vehicular traffic between the two streets.

SRF Consulting Group has been engaged to create a detailed traffic model of the study area, draft alternative alignments, and assess their potential impact on the neighborhood and traffic flow. A project website has been set up: www.stpaul.gov/hwy5study

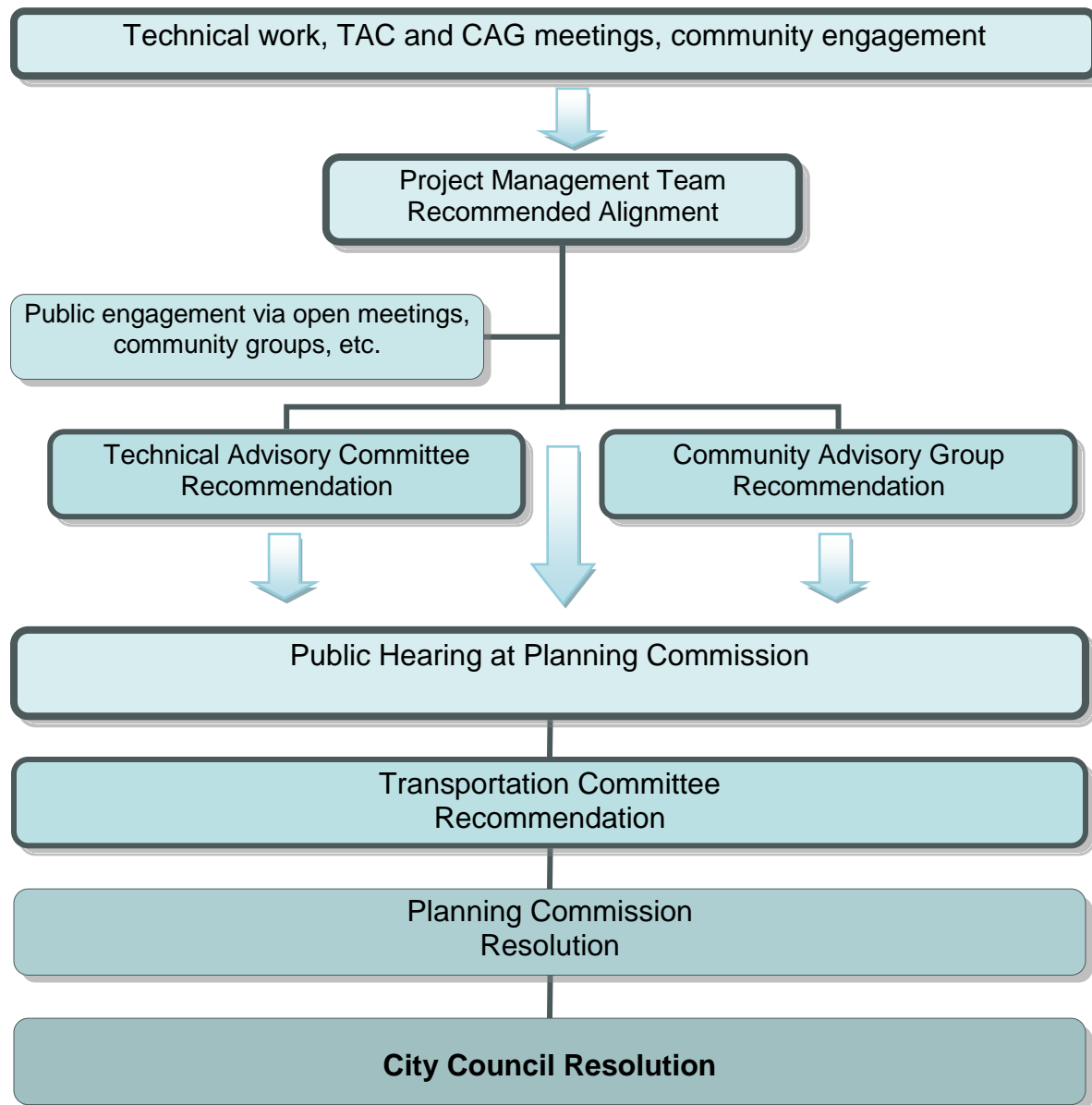
Project Management and the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

This is a highly technical traffic and engineering study. Project Management will be led by the Public Works department, and will include other City staff and the consulting team. The Technical Advisory Committee will be comprised of technical staff from the City, MnDOT, Ramsey County and other agencies, as well as the Project Management team. Project Management will propose a preferred alignment, and TAC will make their own recommendation regarding that alignment to be considered by the Transportation Committee and Planning Commission.

Community Advisory Group (CAG)

The Community Advisory Group will be comprised of residents, business representatives, major property owners, and representatives from the Mayor's office and Ward offices. The CAG will provide feedback on the technical work, and will make a recommendation on the proposed preferred alignment that will also be considered by the Transportation Committee and Planning Commission.

Process



Committee Discussion

The Transportation Committee discussed the initiation of the study, and recommended that the resolution initiating the study explicitly include policies from the *Saint Paul Comprehensive Plan* as well as the other plans mentioned. These changes have been added to the attached resolution.

Transportation Committee Recommendation

The Transportation Committee recommends that the Planning Commission pass the attached resolution, formally initiating the planning process as outlined above, and authorizing the formation of a Community Advisory Group.