

BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS  
Fargo, North Dakota

Special Meeting:

Wednesday:

January 14, 2009:

Agreeable with a call for a Special Meeting issued by Mayor Walaker, the Board of City Commissioners of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, convened in a Special Meeting in the City Commissioners' Room at the City Hall at 11:15 o'clock a.m., on Wednesday, January 14, 2009.

The Commissioners present or absent were as shown following:

Present: Mahoney, Piepkorn, Williams (via conference call), Wimmer, Walaker.

Absent: None.

Mayor Walaker presiding.

Federal Economic Stimulus Package Street Project Priority List and Accelerated Procurement of Engineering Consultants Approved:

The Board received a communication from City Engineer Mark Bittner stating the Public Works Projects Evaluation Committee reviewed correspondence from Dave Leftwich, NDDOT Local Government Engineer, soliciting project submittals for inclusion in a possible Federal Economic Stimulus Package. He said the major issue of concern is the short time frame for project development, design and plan preparation. He stated Mr. Leftwich indicates that although the total federal funding to be made available in the proposed stimulus package is not known at this time, the NDDOT is requesting that cities and counties base their project submittals on a \$200 million statewide amount which equates to approximately \$8.4 million for the City of Fargo. Jeremy Gorden, he said, presented a list of potential street maintenance projects that could be developed quickly. He stated a group of additional construction and reconstruction projects would be added but would require additional effort to meet the required schedule. These projects, he said, would require outside consultant assistance to meet the "Plans Complete" deadlines. He said the normal consultant procurement takes 6 to 8 weeks via a Request for Proposal (RFP) solicitation process. Comments, he said, were requested on the list of potential projects and authorization to procure consultants through an accelerated process and comments from PWPEC members are summarized as follows:

- "1. Stimulus project prioritization needs to recognize the ability to develop projects in a short time frame leading to emphasis on the following types of projects:
  - a. Projects that have study and environmental documents in place or nearing completion:
    - 45th Street South - I-94 to 52nd Avenue South
    - 1st Avenue North - University Drive to 25th Street

- b. Projects that require minimal developmental and environmental documentation i.e. projects with minimal environmental, cultural resource and right-of-way impacts:
  - Asphalt Overlay Projects
  - Street Fixture Maintenance Projects
- 2. Federal dollars should be used in conjunction with the City's Infrastructure funding policy with federal funds to be generally used to replace City funds. The offset City funds can then be transferred to other local projects.
- 3. Project placement should be Citywide with emphasis on the following areas:
  - a. Downtown Access
    - 1st Avenue North Reconstruction
    - Main Avenue Rehabilitation
  - b. Bridge Repair/Replacement
    - NP Avenue/Red River Bridge Repair
    - 38th Street South at Drain 27 Bridge Replacement
    - 64th Avenue South at Drain 53 Bridge Replacement
  - c. Growth Areas
    - 45th Street South - south of 1-94
    - 25th Street, 64th and 76th Avenue South
    - North side access to County Road 20"

Mr. Bittner submitted a spreadsheet showing the priority list of projects. He said 8.5 million dollars was quantified, with the goal of the stimulus package to have the projects ready for award within 90 days. He said some of the projects will be developed internally but the top three projects that have less environmental impact would need to be ready by January 26 in order to hire consultants and be ready for NDDOT by this Friday.

Commissioner Mahoney moved the Federal Economic Stimulus Package Street Project Priority List and accelerated procurement of engineering consultants be approved as recommended.

Second by Wimmer.

City Administrator Pat Zavoral said the amount to be awarded is uncertain at this time and the Board may get other requests similar to this within the next 90 days. Other areas for funding requests, he said, may be for flood protection, wastewater, Community Development and transit projects.

On call of the roll Commissioners Mahoney, Wimmer, Piepkorn, Williams and Walaker voted aye.

No Commissioner being absent and none voting nay, the motion was declared carried.

The time at adjournment was 11:30 o'clock p.m.