

December 16, 2020

To: Mayor and Members of City Council 202002128  
From: Paula Boggs Muething, City Manager  
Subject: LINN STREET SAFETY PROJECT

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**Reference Document #202001483**

The Council at its session on September 30, 2020 referred the following item for review and report.

MOTION, submitted by Councilmember Pastor and Councilmember Seelbach, WE MOVE that the Department of Transportation and Engineering study the feasibility of a “road diet” on Linn Street in the West End from Central Parkway to West Court Street for the purpose of increasing the pedestrian character and walkability of this corridor thereby furthering the safety of the neighborhood and the potential for future development. The Administration shall report on this study by January 1, 2021.

The Department of Transportation and Engineering (DOTE) determined that a right sizing (aka a road diet) of Linn Street is feasible. Currently, there are five lanes of traffic, two lanes going north, two lanes going south, and a turn lane in the middle. The traffic volumes indicate removing one travel lane in each direction is possible and would increase safety throughout the corridor. Careful planning is necessary to maximize the right sizing of Linn Street to accommodate all users.

DOTE currently has a Linn Street Safety Project and has engaged with the West End Community Council (WECC) since the summer of 2020. DOTE held the first public meeting for this project on September 16, 2020. At this meeting, DOTE expressed the desire to reduce the vehicular lanes from five to three and requested feedback from the public on what they would like to see with the additional space available.

The next step in the process is to summarize and present the feedback to the public. DOTE will also present potential options based on the feedback provided by the public. DOTE plans to apply for outside grant funds to construct this project. DOTE will continue to work with the WECC to develop the preferred vision for the future of Linn Street.

cc: John S. Brazina, Director, Transportation and Engineering John B.