

MEMO

TO: Chairperson Dana Davis and Committee Members

FROM: Andrew Beyer, P.E.

DATE: January 31, 2024

RE: Public Safety and Welfare Committee Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

Review and take possible action: S. Water Street & S. Washington Street area traffic study

BACKGROUND:

Review and take possible action: S. Water Street & S. Washington Street area traffic study

During the December 6, 2023 Public Safety & Welfare Committee meeting, direction was given to the City Engineering Division to perform a traffic study in the S. Water Street & S. Washington Street area near the Bentzin Family Town Square. The Engineering Division is requesting that the study be postponed until after the Main Street (Cole) Bridge is replaced.

The closure of Main Street between First Street and Water Street will likely skew the results of a traffic study in the S. Water Street and S. Washington Street area. Additionally, the traffic study is multifaceted in nature with multiple nearby developments and land uses, various phasing scenarios and a large study area. Given the complexity, an engineering consultant with a dedicated traffic engineering unit will need to complete the study.

Where the City's Engineering Division can perform speed studies and basic vehicle count studies in-house, traffic studies involving traffic counts, traffic signals, and detailed traffic analysis in conjunction with vehicle speed need to be outsourced to a specialized firm.

The bridge is scheduled for replacement this year and funding for a traffic study would be requested in the 2025 budget to perform the work.