



**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

**FROM:** Patrick Urich, City Manager *Patrick Urich*

**DATE:** February 1, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Issues Update

The following are issues related to the City for the weekly Issues Update. If there are additional items you believe should be included, please let me know.

**LOUCKS AVENUE AND MCCLURE AVENUE INTERSECTION RECONSTRUCTION AND REALIGNMENT PROJECT:**

At the January 22, 2013 City Council meeting, under Item No. 13-022, Councilman Sandberg requested additional information on the design of the newly-constructed, two-way intersection of Loucks and McClure. Staff has reviewed the approved Council Minutes and the video from the August 9, 2011 Council meeting where the project's design contract with the Farnsworth Group was discussed and approved. The majority of that discussion centered on allowing the left turn movement from Loucks Avenue onto McClure Avenue. Council directed Staff to implement the design and construction to convert Loucks Avenue, between Sheridan Road and McClure Avenue, from a one-way street to a two-way street, changing the No Left Turn design from Loucks Avenue to McClure Avenue to allow left turns as well as right turns, and to report back on the success of the configuration after a one-year trial basis. Staff interpreted this as direction to design the right-in/ right-out configuration and then remove the center island (commonly referred to as a "pork chop") to allow for left turns, which would facilitate a trial basis of one-year. If, after the trial period, it was deemed a high accident intersection, it would be easily converted to right-in/ right-out by installing the "pork chop" with very little cost.

Attached are the Minutes from the August 9, 2011 meeting regarding this Item, and an assessment by Farnsworth Group (design engineers on the project). Also included in the attachment is a conceptual mock up that was used as an exhibit with the original Council communication. The two drawings that follow are actual designs that take turning movements into account and allow for either traffic pattern to work.

**KOMATSU – FLOOD PLAIN MAP REVISION:** On February 14, 2012 (Item 12-062) the City Council approved a variance to the Flood Plain Ordinance so that Komatsu USA could move forward to construct additions to several buildings and construct a new building at their site on NE Adams Street. A new flood protection levee was in progress and it was expected that it would be certified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) sometime in 2012.

Council requested a report back be given on the status. The attached letter from the General Manager of Komatsu dated December 14, 2012 provides information on the status of the FEMA flood plain certification and building construction on the site as of that date. Since then, FEMA has issued the final Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) per the attached letter dated January 18, 2013. This letter effectively takes the site out of the 100 year flood plain so that additional work on the site will not require any variances from the City.