

City Council Introduction: January 23, 2012

Bill Number 12R-14

Public Hearing: January 30, 2012

## **F A C T   S H E E T**

**TITLE:** Request for Relaxation of the Minimum Design Standards from the State of Nebraska, Boards of Public Roads Classifications and Standards

**SPONSOR:** Public Works and Utilities

**OPPONENTS:** Unknown

**OTHER DEPARTMENTS AFFECTED:**

N/A

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Recommend approval

**APPLICANT:** Public Works and Utilities

**REASON FOR LEGISLATION:** Request to seek a relaxation of the minimum design standards for the N. 27<sup>th</sup> Street Viaduct which would significantly increase the overall cost of the reconstruction project.

## **D I S C U S S I O N**

This resolution is requesting approval for a relaxation of the design speed for the 27<sup>th</sup> and Leighton viaduct rehabilitation project, 540023. The rehabilitation project is intended to extend the life of the existing bridge which includes repair of the bridge rail, replacement of expansion joints and maintenance of the substructure. The project also involves repair of the approaches on each end of the bridge. The existing vertical profile at the ends of the bridge is not sufficient to meet existing standards for the design speed of arterial streets. In order to meet this design standard a grade raise of 6 inches would be required along with raising retaining walls on each side of the roadway. The raising of the walls would be further complicated due to the existing bridge rails being connected to the retaining walls.

It is Public Works and Utilities opinion that the overall safety of the roadway is not degraded by the deficient vertical profile since the proposed condition would simply match the existing conditions and adequate roadway lighting exists for nighttime operations. The cost to update the vertical profile to meet the design speed requirement cannot be justified for the small benefit that would be gained by pursuing this change.

**POLICY OR PROGRAM CHANGE:** None

**FACT SHEET PREPARED BY:**

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**REVIEWED BY:**

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