



STAFF REPORT UTILITIES COMMISSION

Agenda Date: 10/7/2026
Agenda Section: Information Only

Department Origination: Public Works

Agenda Item: 2027 Foley Road and Isle Drive/Forthun Road Intersection Improvements Project
Monthly Update

Approval Required: No Action Required

BACKGROUND

SEH was awarded a contract at the March 17th Council Meeting for survey services, and for design phase services at the April 21st Council meeting for the Foley Road and Isle Drive/Forthun Road Intersection Improvements Project.

09/29/2026 Update Scott Hedlund

Work Completed:

- Ongoing design coordination meetings with MnDOT and their TH 371/ TH 210 Interchange project consultant team.
- Completed traffic study traffic counts.
- Conducted a private utility design coordination meeting.
- A site Diagnostic Meeting was held with BNSF, MnDOT, FRA, City and SEH to review rail crossings for MnDOT's project, including discussion regarding the Future "Isle Drive" crossing.
- 30% Plans were submitted to MnDOT and BNSF for review and coordination.
- Started BNSF required hydraulic analysis and report related to ditch impacts.
- Completed the traffic study ICE report document and submitted to MnDOT for review.
- Updated the preliminary layout, design, and plans (reduction in lanes on Foley Road and added lane on Forthun Road/Isle Drive) based on operational traffic analysis and ICE; geometric layout is now finalized.
- Working on quantities and cost estimating.
- Working on feasibility report.

Upcoming Work

- Present ICE report to City in October.
- Wetland delineations along Forthun Road in October.
- Complete Preliminary Schedule "I" for MnDOT TH210 elements of new Forthun Rd/Isle Drive connection between TH 210 and Foley Road in October.
- Present draft feasibility report to City Council and Utilities Commission in November.
- Hold Neighborhood Informational Meeting in December combining with the Foley/Elder Intersection project and invite affected parties and discuss planned renaming of Forthun Road to Isle Drive between mini roundabout and TH 210.
- Design phase services, drainage analysis, utility coordination, finalize preparation of a feasibility report, and plan production.
- Right of way/easement acquisition support.
- Permitting.

- Design coordination meetings with MnDOT and their consultants and the City/SEH focused on this project are expected to continue through the City and MnDOT design processes.

Out of Scope Work (future fee amendment or contract)

- Incorporate MnDOT early TH 371 / TH 210 Interchange project construction elements for the new Forthun Road/Isle Drive at-grade railroad crossing between TH 210 and Foley Road into the City's plans and contract; MnDOT coordination; Schedule "I".
- Operational level traffic study with traffic counts and ICE report.
- Multiple iterations of layout options, revisions to preliminary plans to address MnDOT and BNSF comments and to limit impacts to railroad property ditches, and incorporate traffic study results.
- Study and design of a new trail along Forthun Road between the existing Forthun Road/ Isle Drive mini-roundabout and Foley Road including wetland delineations along Forthun Road.
- Right of way/ easement acquisition.
- Wetland, MnDOT, and BNSF permitting.

General Project Background for Reference:

As outlined in the January 14, 2026 memorandum to the City Council, staff has identified multiple projects that the City will need to undertake as a direct result of MnDOT's proposed conversion of the Trunk Highway 210 and Highway 371 intersection into a grade-separated overpass to be constructed in 2028 and 2029. One of these City projects includes improvements to the Foley Road and Forthun Road/Isle Drive intersection consisting of the construction of turn lanes on Foley Road and a median on Forthun Road/Isle Drive as a result of the overpass project relocating the at-grade railroad crossing from Elder Drive to Forthun Road/Isle Drive. It is anticipated that this project would need to be constructed by the City in 2027 prior to MnDOT starting the overpass construction in 2028.

Staff has also identified a 900 feet segment of Forthun Road/Isle Drive pavement between Foley Road and the Forthun Road/ Isle Drive mini roundabout as needing resurfacing. Combining these areas into one project would be cost effective and lessen future inconveniences.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED