



STAFF REPORT UTILITIES COMMISSION

Agenda Date: 8/5/2026
Agenda Section: Information Only

Department Origination: Public Works

Agenda Item: 2028 Elder Drive & Foley 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 a contract for design phase services at the April 21st Council meeting for the Elder Drive & Foley Road Intersection Improvements Project.

7/28/2026 Update Scott Hedlund

Work Completed:

- SEH has been working toward finalizing the geometric layout and reviewing with City staff.
- Traffic counts were collected in May along with review of the BNSF crossing.
- SEH presented a preliminary layout to the Utilities Commission on June 3rd.
- A Traffic study is ongoing, awaiting additional forecast information from MnDOT
- Coordination with the MnDOT DSAE staff including SAP number setup and traffic study scope inquiry.
- Coordination and execution of Braun Intertec field soil boring work.
- A private utility design coordination meeting was held June 30, 2026.
- A site Diagnostic Meeting was held on Monday July 20th to review rail crossings for MnDOT's project, including discussion regarding the Elder Drive crossing.

Upcoming Work

- Design phase services, including finalizing the layout and traffic study, utility coordination, geotechnical office work, right of way acquisition services, and plan production.
- The goal is to hold a Neighborhood Informational Meeting in conjunction with the Foley Road/ Forthun Road- Isle Drive Intersection project in September/October.

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. The realignment of Elder Drive at the Foley Road intersection is one of the City projects. It is a direct result of the need to close the Elder Drive at-grade railroad crossing in conjunction with the overpass project. It is anticipated that these roadway and utility improvements would be bid and constructed as a separate City project with contract provisions requiring close coordination with MnDOT's project, and with construction starting shortly after the permanent closure of the Elder Drive at-grade railroad crossing in 2028.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED