



# CITY COUNCIL MEETING

## AGENDA ITEM

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**Prepared By:**

*Anthony Moberg, Planning and Zoning  
Administrator*

**Meeting Date:**

*August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026*

**Item Name:**

*MR-C Right-of-Entry*

**BACKGROUND**

The Maple River to Cuyuna (MR-C) Transmission Project is a proposed 160- to 180-mile transmission line extending from Minnesota Power's Cuyuna Substation near Riverton, Minnesota, to Otter Tail Power Company's Maple River Substation near Fargo, North Dakota.

**OVERVIEW**

On March 25, 2026, Minnesota Power, Otter Tail Power Company, and Great River Energy hosted a public open house to gather community feedback on potential routes for the proposed transmission line.

Following the open house, Minnesota Power began working with landowners within the project area to obtain Right-of-Entry Agreements that would allow survey work to be conducted on affected properties. The survey information will be used to help determine a preferred route for the transmission line.

On July 27, 2026, Minnesota Power contacted the City requesting a Right-of-Entry Agreement for seven City-owned parcels. Due to the scope and potential significance of the MR-C Transmission Project, staff determined that the request should be considered by the City Council.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT**

Section 1 of the Right-of-Entry Agreement provides for a one-time payment of \$4,000 to the City in exchange for granting access to conduct survey work on the identified City-owned parcels.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

The proposed Right-of-Entry Agreement is limited to allowing survey activities on the seven City-owned parcels and does not authorize construction, vegetation clearing, excavation, or any other land-disturbing activities.

Granting access for survey work would allow Minnesota Power to gather information necessary to evaluate potential routes and develop a final project proposal. Approval of the Right-of-Entry Agreement would not constitute approval of the transmission line, any future easements, or any future use of City property. Rather, it would provide the City Council with more complete information should future decisions regarding the project be required.

Staff recommends authorizing the execution of the Right-of-Entry Agreement.

**REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION**

Authorize staff to execute the Right-of-Entry Agreement with Minnesota Power for survey activities on the seven identified City-owned parcels.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

- Right-of-Entry Agreement
- Map showing the project area within City boundaries



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- Map showing the seven City-owned parcels