

CITY OF MARSHALL AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Presenter:	Jason Anderson
Meeting Date:	Tuesday, May 27, 2025
Category:	NEW BUSINESS
Type:	INFO/ACTION
Subject:	Project ST-034: Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) for Intersection of Susan Drive and US 59 Frontage Road - Consider Acceptance of the Report
Background Information:	<p>The intersection of Susan Drive just east of US 59/Main Street is an important and busy intersection in our community. The intersection is quite wide and there are numerous travel lanes designated on each leg of the intersection. The intersection is further troubled by the “free” movements into the intersection coming off Main Street.</p> <p>At the 09/26/2023 meeting, the City Council authorized City staff to work with Bolton & Menk to complete an Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) and to offer the City design options for geometric improvement at this intersection to help ensure good traffic flow, while also considering safety for all users of the intersection. As part of the study, Bolton & Menk conducted a traffic analysis that included the usage of video cameras and traffic movement counts in this area.</p> <p>Though the ICE Report was not yet finalized at the time, this item was presented to the PI/T Committee at their 11/28/2023 meeting. At the 11/28/2023 meeting that evening, the agenda item and Resolution 23-074 authorizing City staff to submit an LRIP grant application for an intersection improvement project was removed from the agenda and not discussed. Because staff was unable to come to agreement with the property owners of the adjacent 1200 Susan Drive property, staff did not submit for an LRIP grant in 2023-2024.</p> <p>The ICE Report is now completed and staff is seeking Council approval of the report. The report includes numerous geometric layouts for the intersection. The general theme of the layouts is a reduction in street area to make the intersection smaller and more easily navigable for both vehicles and pedestrians. Staff believes, and the traffic study confirms, that a reduction in number of lanes would not reduce the level of service of the intersection. Optional layouts include the following, or variations of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Realignment of Susan Drive to make Susan Drive the through street, with the Walmart access (identified as Margaret Avenue in the report) stop controlled and a T-intersection with Susan Drive. The access to the Harbor Freight/Marshalls is moved to the north/east and would align with the D’s Thai access from Susan Drive. Also included is a reduction of lane widths, and fewer lanes at the intersection of Susan Drive and US 59/Main Street. - Closure of the Walmart access (identified as Margaret Avenue in the report), coupled with a reduction in lane widths throughout, and fewer lanes at the intersection of Susan Drive and US 59/Main Street. - A reduction of lane widths throughout, and fewer lanes at the intersection of Susan Drive and US 59/Main Street. <p>The report was brought to the PI/T Committee on 3/25/2025 for review and input. The PI/T Committee unanimously recommended approval of the report, with the exception that the closing of the Margaret Avenue access (Walmart access) is not an acceptable option for the Committee.</p>

	<p>City Council approval of this report will allow staff to work with nearby property owners regarding these proposed improvements, as well as allow staff to seek possible grant funding to complete the work. A possible source of future project funding would include Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) grants. These grants are not available every year, but staff can keep an eye out for opportunities. City staff has experience with this grant program as it used the LRIP program to cover most of the Channel Parkway resurfacing project in 2023.</p> <p>Approval of this report does not force the Council to make one improvement over another. The report gives us visual options, justified by traffic engineering review, for these improvements <i>should we choose to make them</i>. It is perfectly acceptable to resurface the road in its existing configuration. Additionally, these reports are often necessary to make significant intersection changes on State Aid routes, and they are also part of successful grant applications.</p>
Fiscal Impact:	Cost estimates will be prepared in the future once preferred intersection layouts are selected. Project costs will be State Aid eligible due to Susan Drive being a Municipal State Aid Street (MSAS) route.
Alternative/ Variations:	No alternative actions recommended.
Recommendations:	that the Council accept the Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) Report for Intersection of Susan Drive and US 59 Frontage Road.