



AGENDA ITEM MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/7/2025

TO: Public Works Committee

FROM: Kevin Jump, PE – City Engineer

SUBJECT: Resolution 12-26-27 – by Alderpersons Dekker and Kelly altering the at-grade crossing of Wildwood Avenue, a public street with the tracks of the Union Pacific Railroad.

ISSUE

Should the Public Works Committee recommend approving the resolution?

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

SACO AEI Polymers recently purchased the former Nemschoff Building on South 22nd Street and has invested significant funds to renovate the property for a new production facility. As part of this renovation, SACO wishes to construct a new railroad spur to support the production facility. The railroad spur requires a new crossing to be constructed on Wildwood Avenue near the location of the current mainline crossing.

The Office of the Commissioner of the Railroad (OCR) is the approval authority for new rail/roadway crossings. The OCR review process begins with filing a petition and other documents with the OCR. The OCR requires that the governing body of a municipality approve a resolution in support of the crossing and direct municipal staff to file a petition. The resolution presented follows the OCR-provided template.

Staff is working with SACO and its design consultant to obtain the required documents for the petition submission. Some of the required documents include a proposed schedule and concept plans.

The OCR review process could take up to six months to complete and includes a hearing. In preparation for the hearing, SACO and its design consultants will need to provide several additional documents that staff will submit to support the petition.

The OCR typically expects the petitioning road authority to pay for the cost of new crossings. For this crossing, it is expected that no city funds will be used to construct the crossing, and SACO will pay the costs associated with the new crossing.

FUNDING IMPACT

No impact.

IF APPROVED, NEXT STEPS:

If approved, City staff will submit the petition and required documents and continue working with SACO through the OCR review process.

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS

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