

Engineering Division of the Public Works Department

To: Chairperson Davis and Public Safety & Welfare Committee

From: Andrew M. Beyer, P.E., Director of Public Works/City Engineer

Date: November 25, 2024

Subject: Public Safety & Welfare Committee Meeting of December 4, 2024

Background

Agenda Item:

Review and take possible action: Deer crossing sign request on N. Church Street near Endeavor Drive

BACKGROUND:

The Engineering Division received a request for placement of deer crossing signs on N. Church Street near Endeavor Drive. The requester's letter, attached, states that the area appears to be a migratory pathway for deer from the west side of the S. Church Street towards the Silver Creek area and that many deer are hit crossing the roadway.

The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) states that non-vehicle warning signs (like the deer crossing sign below) may be used to alert road users in advance of locations where unexpected entries into the roadway might occur or where shared use of the roadway by pedestrians, animals, or equestrians might occur.

Public right-of-way in the southbound lane of N. Church St./STH 26 Business falls outside of the City of Watertown Municipal Boundary north of Fox Creek Drive. The City's authority to place signs in this area will be further researched and presented at the Committee meeting.



W11-3 (Deer)

Attachments:

- Site Map
- Request letter

Budget Goal

1. Proactively maintains and improves our parks and infrastructure in an effort to ensure quality, safety and compliance

Financial Impact

Where deer crossing sign costs are not included in the 2024 or 2025 budget, the cost of 2 signs could be absorbed into the available operating budget.

Recommendation

The Engineering Division recommends placing two deer crossing signs on N. Church Street near Endeavor Drive pending available funding and sign management authority between the City limits and State Trunk Highway 16 Bypass.