

Engineering Division of the Public Works Department

To: Chairperson Davis and Committee Members

From: Nathan R. Williams, Civil Engineer I

Date: February 26, 2026

Subject: Public Safety & Welfare Committee Meeting of March 4, 2026

[Review and take possible action: Milford Street Speed Limit Transition and Pedestrian Safety](#)

Background

The Engineering Division received safety concerns from a resident in the area of Milford Street between Grey Fox Run and South Street. The resident voiced concerns regarding the lack of pedestrian facilities in the area and higher traffic speeds. Their request is for sidewalk to be added between Grey Fox Run and South Street. They would also like to have the speed limit transition from 35 MPH to 25 MPH moved further south, to approximately Grinwald Park.

After evaluation, the area may be suitable for infill sidewalk. Sidewalk requests are typically reviewed at Public Works Commission and will be brought for consideration at an upcoming Commission meeting. No action is needed on this item at this time.

A change to speed limits will require the conduction of a speed study. A speed study involves data collection and analysis consistent with guidance set forth in the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Statewide Speed Management Guidelines. The purpose of a speed study is to align appropriate speed limits with roadway geometry and traffic characteristics. In areas where measured operating speeds differ from the posted limit, a speed study may recommend raising the speed limit to accurately reflect driver behavior and roadway conditions. While no conclusions can be drawn prior to data collection, it is important to note that speed study methodology does not always result in lower posted speed limits and, in some cases, may support maintaining or increasing the existing limit.

Budget Goal

5. Maintains a safe and healthy community, with an eye toward future needs and trends

Financial Impact

The cost of a speed study is approximately 16 hours of Engineering Staff time, utilizing existing Police Department LiDAR equipment.

Recommendation

The Engineering Division recommends maintaining the existing speed limits in this area at this time and continuing to evaluate pedestrian accommodation through the infill sidewalk program. If desired, staff has capacity over the summer months to conduct a speed study consistent with Wisconsin Department of Transportation guidelines. The outcome of a study would be based on observed operating speeds and roadway characteristics and could result in a recommendation to maintain or adjust the existing speed limit.