

Engineering Division of the Public Works Department

To: Chairperson Arnett and Commission Members

From: Nathan Williams, Civil Engineer I

Date: April 9, 2026

Subject: Public Works Commission Meeting of April 14, 2026

[Review and discuss: Wilbur Street design overview](#)

Background

The Public Works Department is constructing Wilbur Street between Elba Street and N Votech Drive in 2026. The road right-of-way is existing and unimproved. In 2013, water main and sanitary sewer was extended in this area. Improving this street will allow access and further subdivision of land for abutting properties, potentially spurring development. It will also improve drainage and stormwater quality in the area.

This project was developed in coordination with Habitat for Humanity's College Park project. Habitat for Humanity is constructing six duplexes on the east side of N Votech Drive. As part of this development, Habitat for Humanity is required to provide stormwater management as their development exceeds one acre of land disturbance. The city is also required to provide stormwater management as part of the Wilbur Street project, as it also exceeds one acre of land disturbance. In preliminary discussions with Habitat for Humanity and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), the concept of a single stormwater management facility serving both projects was discussed and encouraged. Overall, this saves on construction costs, future inspection and maintenance costs, and reduces the burden on future property owners & city staff. The stormwater biofilter will be located within the street right-of-way, which increases buildable space on the Habitat for Humanity property.

City of Watertown Engineering Division staff completed the Wilbur Street Extension construction plans, modeling, and stormwater management plan per NR 151 and NR 216, Wis. Adm. Code and Chapter 288, municipal code. WDNR has reviewed and issued the stormwater permits for both Habitat for Humanity's College Park project and the City's Wilbur Street project.

Budget Goal

5. Encourage community growth by assessing opportunities, involving ALL stakeholders, environmental needs, modern code and policy priorities.

Financial Impact

Project costs are anticipated to be under \$200,000 and is funded in two parts. \$100,000 will come from the Dodge County Community Development Fund as a grant, and the remainder will come from TID #4. This cost includes grading, road base, asphalt pavement, curb and gutter, sidewalk, stormwater pipes and structures, erosion control, and restoration.

Recommendation

This project will primarily be constructed by the Street Division, with components such as curb and gutter, sidewalk, and pavement being constructed through annual contracts. It is designed with 32' wide asphalt pavement, curb and gutter on both sides, a swale on the north side draining to the stormwater biofilter, and sidewalk and on-street parking on the south side. The sidewalk will connect to the new sidewalk along the Habitat for Humanity project. The roadway profile is designed to be higher than the existing ground and will sheet flow from south to north. Sanitary sewer manholes and water valves will be adjusted to grade.

Attachments:

- Roadway typical section
- Plan overview