



MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:15 pm

2. ROLL CALL

Committee Members: Doug Brandt, Katherine Dahlke, Bill LeClair

Staff and Others: Matthew Heckenlaiblle, Scott Ahl, Kyle Kordell

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the August 5, 2026, Public Works Committee Meeting

Doug Brandt made a motion to approve the August 5, 2026, Public Works Committee meeting minutes, seconded by Bill LeClair. Motion carried.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Gary Hein (1901 Hawthorne Avenue) expressed interest in the results of the traffic studies completed on Hawthorne Avenue. The committee requested that the discussion be moved to Agenda Item 8.B.

5. PROJECT STATUS AND ACTION, IF NEEDED

A. Sidewalk Replacement Project

Two bid proposals were received on September 1, 2026, for Contract 5-2026, Sidewalk Replacement. Bids were submitted by Seiler Brothers and Vinton Construction. A verbal overview of the bid tabulation and director's recommendation memo was provided to the committee. The award of the contract will be placed on the next City Council agenda for formal action.

B. 4-2026 Asphalt Resurfacing Project

MCC anticipates beginning construction following the Labor Day weekend, with completion anticipated by the end of September.

C. 2-2025 LSL Pavement Repairs – Essential

Engineering is working with Essential Sewer & Water to complete the remaining pavement repairs on the near northeast side of the city. At this time, the work is anticipated to be completed by November.

D. 2-2026 LSL Pavement Repairs – Mammoth

The street department is moving to the 23rd Street area to begin pavement repairs. DPW is also evaluating whether Mammoth Construction can assist with recent pavement openings. Progress will be assessed throughout September.

E. Other Projects

DPW will begin replacing the colored concrete crosswalk at 22nd Street and Jefferson Street following Labor Day. Jefferson Street will be fully closed between 21st & 22nd Streets and 22nd & 23rd Streets. The work is conservatively estimated to take approximately four weeks.

The second colored concrete crosswalk, at 21st Street and Washington Street, will be delayed until 2027 due to funding needs associated with pavement repairs from the May 17 storm.

The City Hall parking deck project will also be delayed until 2027 due to staff availability.

Staff observed significant shrinkage cracking in the new pavement overlay on the Washington Street Bridge. WDOT indicated the cracking is typical and advised the city to seal the pavement before deicing agents are applied this winter. Staff is researching a suitable product and scheduling the work within the next two months.

Bridge inspections are scheduled for September. WDOT will audit the inspection reports to ensure compliance with new requirements and is developing a bridge operator training course focused on proper interim maintenance.

Preparation of the bridge painting plans, specifications, bid package, and permits was delayed in 2026 due to the cost of new bridge inspection requirements and is tentatively being pushed to 2027.

Leaf collection will begin in early November rather than earlier in the season due to costs associated with the May 17 storm cleanup.

Snow operations will follow, with staffing all 11–13 routes remaining a challenge. DPW will begin recruiting seasonal plow drivers in September, as there is currently only one part-time plow driver. Staff is also exploring internal backup options.

6. DISCUSSIONS OR ISSUES ON HOLD, PENDING FURTHER INVESTIGATION

A. Sewer Access Agreements – Future agenda item

B. Street Obstruction Permit – Future agenda item

7. COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION, INCLUSION IN FUTURE AGENDA AND ACTION, IF NEEDED - N/A

8. DISCUSS STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS (TRAFFIC AND PARKING CONTROL) - ACTION, ENDORSEMENT OR MODIFICATIONS, AS NEEDED

A. Washington Street and Memorial Drive Pedestrian Crossings

Due to limited City engineering staff availability, Engineering will subcontract the plan preparation and permitting to a consultant. Pricing will be obtained for both intersections, with the Washington Street and 12th Street intersection likely receiving priority.

B. Traffic/Speed Studies

Traffic data was collected at two locations on Hawthorne Avenue: the 1900 block and the 1600 block.

1. 1900 Block Hawthorne Avenue: July 30th to August 12th

This study was prompted due to complaints from a resident stating that he believes the speed limit should be reduced from 35 mph down to 25 mph and that there is excessive speeding because the speed limit is 35 mph. They also claim that there was a recent pedestrian / vehicle accident near 18th Street due to excessive speeds. The Two Rivers Police Department does not have any record of such an accident occurring.

- 39,176 vehicles were recorded
- Posted speed: 35 MPH
- Average speed: 37 MPH
- Fastest speed: 81 MPH
- 85% of vehicles traveled at or below 42 MPH
- 99% traveled at or below 49 MPH
- 2,169 (6%) traveled over 45 MPH, with 297 traveling more than 50 MPH.

2. 1600 block of Hawthorne Avenue: August 12th to August 26th

- 32,742 vehicles were recorded
- Posted speed: 25 MPH
- Average speed: 26 MPH
- Fastest speed: 68 MPH
- 85% of vehicles traveled at or below 29 MPH
- 99% traveled at or below 35 MPH
- 252 (1%) traveled more than 35 MPH, including 29 traveling over 40 MPH.

These findings have not been discussed with Two Rivers Police Department. In previous discussions with the police department, there is concern that some of the high speeds identified may be attributed to emergency vehicles responding to various situations, so Engineering is separating the data for just the excessive speed that will provide date and time so that that information can potentially be cross referenced against police and fire responses.

3. Lincoln Avenue

Engineering is currently collecting traffic data on north Lincoln Avenue near Dairy Queen. This is a comparison study to evaluate traffic patterns and driving habits before and after the start of the school year. Results will be reported next month.

9. OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE: CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF NEEDED

A. 2027 Public Works Budget Direction

Director Heckenlaible provided a high-level overview of proposed 2027 projects and equipment needs for several DPW sections and discussed the items with the Committee to obtain general direction.

Director Heckenlaible proposed a six-month overlap for the Public Works Director/City

Engineer position, with four months in 2027 and two months in 2028. This would allow the incoming director to become familiar with the budgeting process, complete the current construction season, and experience leaf collection and snow operations before his planned departure at the end of February 2028.

There are numerous ongoing projects and priorities within DPW. Preliminary figures are being incorporated into the proposed 2027 budget, but additional work is needed before the city has a clear understanding of the projected needs and available funding across the various DPW budgets.

B. Leaf Collection – discussed previously

C. Snow Season Staffing - discussed previously

D. WDOT Communication – 2033-2035 Potential Projects

Engineering staff received communication from WDOT regarding several potential projects and is being asked to provide feedback. Potential project locations include Mishicot Road, Forest Avenue, 22nd Street from Forest Avenue to Washington Street, Hawthorne Avenue, 16th Street from Washington Street to the bridge, and Madison Street from 14th Street over the Madison Street Bridge.

WDOT is also considering an ADA curb ramp compliance project.

E. WDOT – Interim Level Bridge Inspection Certification for Movable Bridges

WDOT is developing a course to train individuals on conducting interim inspections of movable bridges. WDOT is proposing to modify the current inspection schedule to include interim inspections in years 2 and 4, followed by a full-depth inspection in year 6.

WDOT is assessing municipal interest and is currently limiting participation to two individuals per municipality. One DPW mechanic has taken an active role with the 17th Street Bridge, leaving one additional spot available, with the possibility of an alternate.

10. SET DATE, TIME, AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Proposed for Wednesday, October 7, 2026, at 5:15 pm

11. ADJOURNMENT: 7:13 pm

Katherine Dahlke made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Doug Brandt. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by: *Matthew R. Heckenlaible*

Public Works Director/City Engineer