

### Project Update / Status

The Point Source Implementation Grant (PSIG) was the main funding source sought after for the Riverside Heights project due to the failing septic systems that currently exist. To become eligible for these funds, plans and specifications were submitted to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for review in May 2024. These plans and specifications were approved by MPCA, and the project became certified in June 2024. The project was put on hold until funding became available.

With a State Bonding Bill passing in Spring 2025, it appears funds have been allocated to this project. This is scheduled to be announced in the coming weeks. In anticipation of this funding, the City of Blue Earth is in the process of finalizing plans and completing the necessary permits needed. Plans are estimated to be completed in February, at which time, advertisement for bids will take place. A bid opening is expected to occur in March, with construction beginning in Spring of 2026. Due to the size and complexity, this project will be bid as a two-year construction project. A proposed phasing plan has been put together as outlined in this document.

### Existing Infrastructure Conditions



#### Sanitary Sewer

Two clusters and 3 individual septic systems are failing



#### Watermain

All homes are operating on private wells; some wells are shared



#### Storm Sewer

No existing storm sewer with poorly defined swales and culverts



#### Street

Narrow existing bituminous street varying between 12'-14' – not meeting fire code

### Proposed Project Improvements



#### Sanitary Sewer

- New 10" ID Forcemain from Wastewater Plant to Lift Station within Riverside Heights
- Lift Station with dual 15 HP submersible pumps
- New 8" PVC collection system with 6" PVC services to properties throughout development. Location of service connection to existing pipes will vary per household based on existing conditions
- Properly abandon existing septic tanks – pump sewer out, puncture holes in bottom, fill with sand, file with County

*NOTE: If existing tank needs to be removed due to existing conditions, materials will be properly disposed of and filed with the County.*



#### Watermain

- 12" watermain will be installed along the west ditch of CSAH 6 via another project in 2026.
- Connect to 12" watermain with new 6" PVC watermain.
- 1" PE services to properties throughout development. Location of service connection to existing pipes will vary per household based on existing conditions.
- Hydrants and valves will be installed throughout
- Properly cap existing wells
- Water meter installation inside each home

*NOTE: Many of the existing wells are in backyards. As a result, plans are currently showing installation of a new pipe to the backyards. To minimize disturbance to yards, water services will be directionally drilled when conditions allow. This may be directionally drilled to inside the home in an unfinished area or directionally drilled to the existing water service outside the home. Property owners will need to sign a right of entry form / agreement allowing the contractor and staff to enter private property to make these necessary improvements. Staff will be reaching out and scheduling a time to visit your home over the next couple of months. This will provide an opportunity for staff to go over your individual property service replacements and present a right of entry form / agreement.*

- Some sanitary services are also located in backyards. Unfortunately, directional drilling is not feasible in these situations. Replacements in the backyards will be discussed with the property owner ahead of construction.

## Proposed Project Improvements (continued)



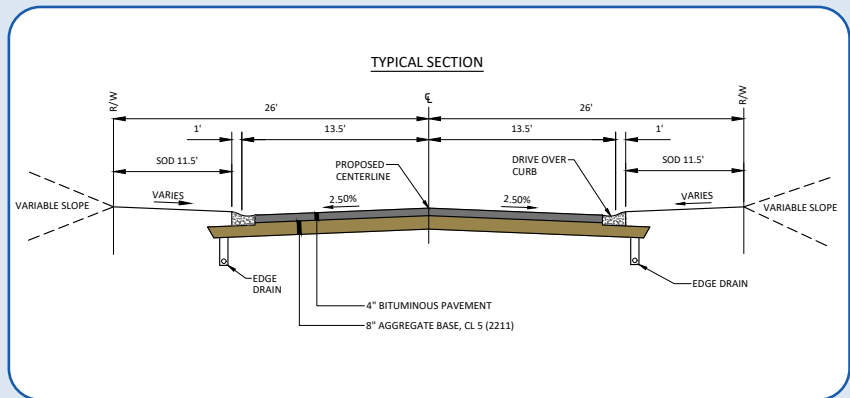
### Storm Sewer

- Wet Sedimentation Pond
- 12" – 30" RCP Pipe
- Concrete catch basins and manholes to catch surface water in street
- Additional intakes in boulevard for areas that cannot drain to street
- Storm stub out to Maple Drive for future



### Street

- 27' wide bituminous streets from face of curb to face of curb
- Drive over curb
- Edge Drain along back of curb. This will serve as subsurface drainage. There will also be stub outs to properties for residents to connect their sump pumps if desired.
- New concrete driveways to disturbed limits if it was existing concrete or bituminous. New 5' concrete aprons will be installed where gravel driveways exist.



**FIGURE:** Proposed typical section of the street repairs incorporated into this project

## Construction Phasing Plan

The proposed construction phasing plan is an estimate and may change slightly upon recommendations from the selected contractor. Phasing will be performed to minimize disturbance to residents during construction.



### Phase 1 (2026)

- Forcemain from wastewater plant to new Lift Station
- Lift Station
- 75% Storm Pond
- Temporary Access Road to residents
- Elm Blvd from CSAH 6 to Linden Ln (cannot happen until temporary access road is constructed)



### Phase 2 (2026)

- Linden Ln from Elm Blvd to Maple Dr



### Phase 3 (Late Fall 2026)

- Gravity sanitary sewer in field east of CSAH 6 (after crop removal)



### Phase 4 (2027)

- Linden Ln from Maple Dr to west dead end



### Phase 5 (2027)

- Elm Blvd from Linden Ln to Linden Ln



We appreciate your patience as this project is completed. A newsletter will be sent out to all residents once a contractor has been selected with additional information about the project.

If you have immediate questions, you may contact Blue Earth's City Engineer, Ben Rosol, at [Benjamin.Rosol@bolton-menk.com](mailto:Benjamin.Rosol@bolton-menk.com) or (507) 236-6357.