



# Hwy 169 & CR 4 Improvements

## Frequently Asked Questions

Updated January 2023

### Why are new connections to Highway 169 north and south of the interchange needed?

MnDOT's guidelines do not allow direct highway access in either direction within a ½ mile of the interchange ramp merge point. This requires closure of accesses at 5th Avenue and Oak Street north of the interchange and Gateway Drive, Main Street, and 257th Avenue south of the interchange. Constructing roadways north and south of the interchange will help maintain local connectivity and access, including for emergency response vehicles (police, fire, ambulance) as well as relieve traffic on CR 4. A secondary benefit of building these roadways now is that these connections could help maintain local access during the construction of the interchange.

### Why is the extension of 2nd Street E/northern frontage road proposed to run straight north instead of running parallel closer to Highway 169?

The proposed alignment maximizes lot depth and visibility for future development. Additionally, this roadway alignment coincides with the planned extension of the regional Great Northern Trail already built north and south of the project area. Multiple alignments for this roadway are being evaluated; the alternative that will be constructed has not yet been determined.

### When will this project be constructed?

The project team is planning for construction to begin in 2024, however, the construction is not yet fully funded, so the construction timeline and duration is subject to change. Sherburne County is actively pursuing additional funding from several state and federal funding sources and will provide updates on the project website as more funding is received.

### Will my property be assessed for any utility improvements (city sewer and water) associated with the project?

The project team has not yet considered assessments to benefiting property owners at this stage of the project. Once the project is in final design in Spring 2023, the team will be able to provide more information on project costs.

### Will I need to connect to new utilities (city sewer and water) constructed near my property?

If new municipal utilities are constructed, property owners will not be required to connect to them until their property is developed/redeveloped.

### Will CR 4 go up and over Highway 169 or will Highway 169 go over CR 4?

The proposed design will bridge Highway 169 over County Road 4.



Visit [Hwy169andCR4.com](https://www.hwy169andcr4.com) to learn more!





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### What is a Reduced Conflict Intersection (RCI)?

An RCI, also known as J-turns or RCUTs, is an intersection on a divided highway that decreases fatalities and injuries caused by broadside crashes. With an RCI, drivers from the side street only have to be concerned with one direction of traffic on the highway at a time. You don't need to wait for a gap in both directions to cross the major road.

In an RCI, drivers from the side street always make a right turn followed by a U-turn. Motorists approaching divided highways from a side street are not allowed to make left turns or to cross traffic; instead, they are required to turn right onto the highway and then make a U-turn at a designated median opening. This reduces potential conflict points and increases safety. This is the type of intersection proposed at 255th and 269th Avenues.

