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MEMORANDUM

Date: March 31, 2020
To: City of Baxter Utility Commission
From: Pete Lemke
Subject: 2021 Inglewood Drive Railway Crossing and Associated Roadway Improvements
City of Baxter
Municipal Project No.: 4121
BMI Project No. T42.120675

Background

On February 18, 2020, the City of Baxter selected Bolton & Menk to develop plans and implement the 2021 Inglewood Drive Railway Crossing and Associated Roadway Improvements (Inglewood Drive) project. The project is focused on the relocation of the Knollwood Drive traffic signal and railroad crossing to Inglewood Drive, pavement rehabilitation on Foley Road, public utility improvements, and an improved configuration for the Forthun Road and Isle Drive intersection. The schedule is agency coordination, design, and final plans in 2020 and construction in 2021. Bolton & Menk's role includes providing monthly update memorandums to the City Council, Utilities Commission, and staff.

Project Update as of March 31, 2020

Agency Coordination

In February we reached out to BNSF Rail and the MnDOT Rail Office to begin railroad coordination. We provided project limits information and figures and requested them to schedule the onsite diagnostic meeting required for railroad approval of our crossing relocation. During March 2020, Bolton & Menk continued coordination with BNSF on the on-site diagnostic meeting and meeting all the requirements needed for the relocation of the railway crossing to Inglewood Drive from Knollwood Drive.

On March 24, 2020 Bolton & Menk applied to BNSF consultant Jones Lange LaSalle Brokerage for a permit to enter BNSF property for topographic survey activities.

Bolton & Menk is coordinating with our geotechnical consultant Braun Intertec, to plan for and schedule geotechnical exploration activities, testing, and reporting for the Inglewood Drive project. Field work is scheduled for the week of March 30, 2020. Testing and reporting will follow in April and May 2020.

Bolton & Menk set survey control on March 26, 2020 and started locating boundary controls. Topographic survey is scheduled to begin the week of April 6, 2020.

Bolton & Menk and the industry has recommended to not complete traffic counts during the Covid19 event due to traffic generally not representing anticipated long-term conditions. We discussed with staff and there was consensus on this decision.

On March 4, 2020, staff presented to the Utilities Commission on MnDOT's request to delay the 2021 Inglewood Drive project until the MnDOT TH 210 Corridor Study is complete, and any recommendations could be incorporated into the 2021 Inglewood Drive project. The Utility Commission recommendation was to continue with the 2021 Inglewood Drive project while also monitoring the TH 210 corridor study and provide a monthly status update on findings.

On March 17, 2020, staff and Bolton & Menk presented to the City Council on MnDOT's request to delay the 2021 Inglewood Drive project. Council consensus was to continue with the Inglewood Drive project, monitor, and provide monthly status updates.

Design

During March, Bolton & Menk continued work on the MnDOT Level 2 layout for this project.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

None. Information Only

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommendation: Accept the 2021 Inglewood Drive Railway Crossing and Associated Roadway Improvements Project Monthly Update

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED

MOTION to: Accept the 2021 Inglewood Drive Railway Crossing and Associated Roadway Improvements Project Monthly Update