



**BOLTON
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MEMORANDUM

Date: September 2, 2020
To: City of Baxter City Council/City of Baxter Utility Commission
From: Pete Lemke
Subject: 2022 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. On June 2, 2020, the city moved to delay project funding in construction until 2022 due to difficulty in collecting traffic count data, COVID-19, TH 210 Corridor Study recommendations and others. The revised schedule is agency coordination, design, and final plans in late 2020-mid 2021 and construction in 2022. The project team has now referred the project name as “2022 Inglewood Drive Railway Crossing and Associated Roadway Improvements Project”. Bolton & Menk’s role includes providing monthly update memorandums to the City Council, Utilities Commission, and staff.

Project Update as of August 28, 2020

Agency Coordination

On June 15, 2020, the City sent a memorandum to Kelvin Howieson at MnDOT District 3 requesting to delay project funding until 2022 and that he identifies funding for construction of this project in 2022. We received official confirmation from Kelvin that the Trunk Highway funding of \$1.1 million was moved to 2022. For the federal funds, they will be moved over the next two years. \$162,220 will be received in 2022 and the remaining funds in the amount of \$441,680 will be available in 2023. For the 2023 federal money, it will be available in late October or early November 2022.

With this news of money being received and distributed over a longer duration, it gives the project team some options on scheduling and construction timeframes. Determining the total influence of these funding changes will be vetted out through the preliminary process of determining the extents of the project. Any changes or decisions will be immediately shared with the Utilities Commission and City Council.

BNSF, Benesch, Bolton and Menk and the project team conducted a required on-site diagnostic meeting as part of railroad coordination on August 6, 2020, 9-10:30am. At this meeting we evaluated the

Name: Trevor Walter
Date: 8/4/2020
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proposed location of the railroad crossing for Inglewood Drive and discussed the following: 1) potential designs for the crossing, 2) signal and crossing equipment needs, 3) the removal of the Knollwood crossing, and 4) next steps to getting BNSF on-site to start the placement of the new crossing.

Prior to this on-site meeting, the involved agencies participated in a video conference call on **July 30, 2020, 10am-11:30am**, which included going over the proposed concept designs developed by the project team. This meeting helped provide insight and information to BNSF and Benesch on what the project team would be evaluating during the meeting on-site.

The MnDOT TH 210 Corridor Study held its kick-off PMT meeting on August 5, 2020.

Design

On hold. Again, all the work to date will remain useable and beneficial to the project regardless of timing.

Project Development

The letter providing outreach and communication to the property owners located within the boundary of CSAH 48, Foley Rd and Perch Lake boundary has been delayed to early September. Unlike the letter sent in early June to the adjacent project properties, this letter won't include assessment discussion and will focus more on providing project overview information while presenting our justification for relocation of the railway crossing and traffic signal to Inglewood Drive. The letter will also identify the website location.

The public website has been updated based on feedback on content and formatting. The project website url remains as Inglewooddrive.com and will be used throughout the life of this project as a primary source of project related information.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

None.

As stated in the past few updates following the decision to delay the project, an amendment to the project scope and consultant budget is still a likely possibility dependent on the influence from the TH 210 Corridor Study recommendations, geometric alternative selected, utility alternative selected, and extended project schedule.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommendation: Accept the 2022 Inglewood Drive Railway Crossing and Associated Roadway Improvements Project Monthly Update

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED

MOTION to: Accept the 2022 Inglewood Drive Railway Crossing and Associated Roadway Improvements Project Monthly Update