



**BOLTON
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MEMORANDUM

Date: May 28, 2021
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.

On February 22, 2022 we restarted project work towards the desired 2022 construction. With the approximate 9-month project delay (June 2020 – February 2021) we understand this is an aggressive schedule with external control points (e.g. BNSF Coordination) within our influence but ultimately out of our control. The decision to restart the project is based on 1) having the findings and recommendations coming out of the TH 210 Corridor Study as presented at the February 18, 2022 PMT meeting allowing us to confidently move forward with project development for the right solution and 2) the need to move forward in anticipation of a 2022 construction.

Project Update as of May 28, 2021

Agency Coordination

During the week of May 3, 2021, staff completed topographic survey on BNSF property and collected existing utility information within the project area.

On May 5, 2021 project staff met with Kelvin Howieson/MnDOT District 3 to discuss project coordination and the project layout.

Name: Trevor Walter
Date: 5/28/2021
Page: 2

During May 2021 staff has coordinated with BNSF to schedule a field diagnostic meeting in late June 2021.

Design

The design team has developed a layout of all project components and in a format approvable by MnDOT for work within TH 210 right of way. This layout was presented for council consensus at the April 6, 2021 and May 4, 2021 City Council Workshops. At the May 4, 2021 workshop, the council gave consensus for the layout while seeking follow-up information on costs for the intersection control types of a roundabout and a T intersection for Isle Drive and Forthun Road.

At the May 18, 2021 Council workshop, staff presented cost information for the roundabout and T intersection options for Isle Drive and Forthun Road. At this workshop Council gave consensus to move forward with including a roundabout at the intersection of Isle Drive and Forthun Road.

Project Development

On May 10, 17, and 25 City staff met with the design team to discuss project issues and plan for development and approval of the project layout.

With Council consensus on the layout and additional direction on intersection control for the intersection of Isle Drive and Forthun Road, staff is working to update the schedule and move forward with project elements including finalizing the layout, public engagement, and updating the feasibility report.

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 Transportation 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