

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The Public Works Committee conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Chairperson Michael Olson
 Councilmember Chris Riley
 Councilmember Dan Specht

Also Present: City Engineer/Public Works Director Bruce Westby
 Assistant City Engineer Joe Feriancek
 Parks and Assistant Public Works Director Mark Riverblood

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Olson called the regular meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. CITIZEN INPUT

There was none.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Specht, to approve the agenda, as presented.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Olson, Councilmembers Riley and Specht. Voting No: None.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.01: Approve September 16, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Specht, to approve the following minutes:

Regular Meeting Minutes dated September 16, 2025

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Olson, Councilmembers Riley and Specht. Voting No: None.

5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

5.01: Recommend Construction Management Services for The Waterfront Waterplay Project

Parks and Assistant Public Works Director Riverblood presented the staff report and recommendation to enter into a contractual agreement with H + U Construction for construction management services for The Waterfront waterplay park improvement project, in the form of a Construction Manager at Risk agreement.

Councilmember Specht commented that it would be nice to have a public-facing document, perhaps with less detail, that could provide an update on the project process.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Director Riverblood confirmed that he does have something prepared, and there would be plans to continue to release information as they go forward.

Councilmember Specht asked if there would be a similar presentation at the Council meeting.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Director Riverblood confirmed that the presentation would be similar and would include additional background information on the proposed contractor as well. He stated that the construction manager at risk proposal document would also be included as part of the case for the Council meeting.

Councilmember Riley asked if the experience with the Water Treatment Plant would be compared to this process in terms of a Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR).

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby noted that it would not be a direct comparison, but they could include that as part of the discussion. He noted that the City has used a CMAR in a number of projects that have worked fine, but that the Water Treatment Plant did not utilize a CMAR and is therefore not comparable.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Director Riverblood confirmed that they could have that discussion at the Council level if that is desired.

Councilmember Riley asked when there would be more in-depth discussions related to the project budget, as there have been comments that it will be increasing.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Director Riverblood confirmed that some of the costs have increased, but he does not yet have solid information; but will plan to present more information on the budget at the full Council level.

Motion by Councilmember Specht, seconded by Councilmember Riley, to recommend to City Council approval of a contract with H + U Construction for construction management services for The Waterfront waterplay park improvement project.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Olson, Councilmembers Specht and Riley. Voting No: None.

It was noted that there was a resident online for Case 6.02, and the Committee decided to move that Item up.

6. COMMITTEE / STAFF INPUT

6.02: Consider Policy Implementation for Traffic Control and Streetlight Requests

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby discussed potential revisions to the Traffic Control Modification Request Policy. He also presented details related to a recent request for a streetlight at the intersection of 154th Lane NW and Zirconium Street NW, which is the current location of a school bus stop.

Chris Folen, property owner at 6711 154th Lane NW, presented his safety concerns for the children standing in the street while waiting for their school bus at the intersection of 154th Lane and Zirconium Street based on traffic volumes and a lack of light. He commented on the placement of lights along his street, which he did not believe made sense and would instead be more helpful at the intersection.

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby stated that he has not reviewed this specific development, but that often developments are phased and lights are placed at locations where potential intersections can occur. He commented on the cost for streetlights and related infrastructure and noted that the bus stop location for children can vary from year to year, which is why that is typically not a strong reason for a streetlight. He stated that currently the City does not have a policy to respond to streetlight requests and asked if the Committee would have interest in that type of policy.

Councilmember Riley commented that it would make sense to have an electronic form that could be filled out for requests, and he would support adding streetlight requests and the related process to the traffic control policy.

Councilmember Specht appreciated the input of the resident. He agreed with Councilmember Riley that streetlights could be added to the existing traffic control policy with a similar procedure. He recognized that, given the time of year, there would not be a response to a streetlight request immediately, but they could discuss that further as they go.

The resident stated that there is a power pole at the intersection already. He clarified that he does not support more lighting, but would want to see proper light placement for safety reasons.

Chairperson Olson commented that engineering will gather additional information and draft a potential policy to be considered, under which they could then review any requests.

The resident commented that even though it is an older neighborhood, the homes have begun to turn over with younger children. He stated that perhaps even a smaller light could be placed at the intersection for safety reasons.

Councilmember Riley asked that a future case come forward with additional details to consider the request from the resident.

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby confirmed that could be done, noting that he would meet Mr. Folen on site to review the existing lighting, and would also speak with Connexus to determine the feasibility and potential costs to provide a light at this intersection.

Councilmember Specht left the meeting.

5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS (Continued)

5.02: Consider Recommending Full Curb and Gutter Replacement or Spot Curb Replacement for Flintwood Hills 2nd and 3rd Street Reconstructions, Improvement Project #26-05

Assistant City Engineer Feriancek presented the staff report and stated that staff is seeking a recommendation from the Committee on whether all concrete curb and gutter should be replaced or only the damaged curb and gutter.

Councilmember Riley commented that, given the large amount of replacement within the project area, he would prefer full replacement.

Chairperson Olson agreed. He recognized that there would be a higher cost and larger disruption, but believed the end result would be better with full replacement.

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Chairperson Olson, to recommend all concrete curb and gutter be replaced as part of the Flintwood Hills 2nd and 3rd Street Reconstructions, Improvement Project #26-05.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Olson and Councilmembers Riley. Voting No: None.

6. COMMITTEE / STAFF INPUT (Continued)

6.01: Update on the Pavement Management Program

Assistant City Engineer Feriancek provided an update on the Pavement Management Program (PMP).

Councilmember Riley commented that it appears that many of the worst roads remaining will be addressed in the next year. He stated that the more they can communicate this information, the more helpful it will be in recognizing the work they have done towards accomplishing this plan.

6.03: Receive Updates on Improvement Projects, Studies, and Items of Interest

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby provided an update on current and proposed City, County, and MnDOT improvement projects and studies, and on other items of interest to the

Committee. More specific information was provided on the Water Treatment Plant construction progress.

6.04: Review Future Topics Calendar

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby reviewed the future topics calendar, noting that dates were added to the extent possible.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Olson adjourned the regular meeting of the Public Works Committee at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Westby
City Engineer/Public Works Director

Drafted by Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.