

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

The Public Works Committee conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

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

Also Present: City Engineer/Public Works Director Bruce Westby
 Assistant City Engineer Joe Feriancek

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

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

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.01: Approve February 17, 2026, Meeting Minutes

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

Regular Meeting Minutes dated February 17, 2026

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

5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

5.01: Consider Recommending City Council Approval to Adjust the Scope of Improvement Project 25-08 to Include Planned 2029 Concrete Repairs to Sunwood Drive and Rhinestone Street, and to Move the Project to 2027

Assistant City Engineer Feriancek presented the staff report and the recommendation to recommend City Council approval to adjust the scope of Improvement Project 25-08 to include the planned 2029 concrete repairs to Sunwood Drive and Rhinestone Street per the 2026-2035 Capital Improvement Plan, and adjust the project timeline to 2027.

The Committee agreed that it makes sense to combine these projects together as proposed.

Councilmember Specht asked about the current condition of the crosswalks and whether they could be postponed an additional year.

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby confirmed that staff would patch them for 2026.

Motion by Councilmember Specht, seconded by Councilmember Olson, to recommend City Council approval to adjust the scope of Improvement Project 25-08 to include the planned 2029 concrete repairs to Sunwood Drive and Rhinestone Street per the 2026-2035 Capital Improvement Plan, and adjust the project timeline to 2027 construction season.

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

5.02: Consider Recommending City Council Approving Plans and Specifications and Authorizing Advertisement for Bids for Carol-Rose Acres & Sports Haven Street Reconstruction, Improvement Project #26-03

Assistant City Engineer Feriancek reviewed the staff report and recommendation to recommend City Council approval of plans and specifications and authorize advertisement for bids for Carol-Rose Acres and Sports Haven Street Reconstructions, Improvement Project #26-03.

Motion by Councilmember Olson, seconded by Councilmember Specht, to recommend City Council approve plans and specifications and authorize advertisement for bids for Carol-Rose Acres and Sports Haven Street Reconstructions, Improvement Project #26-03.

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

5.03: Consider Recommending City Council Approval of Plans and Authorization to Solicit Quotes for 2026 Pavement Skim Patching Contracted Services, Maintenance Project #26-53

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby reviewed the staff report and recommendation for City Council approval of plans and authorization to solicit quotes for 2026 Pavement Skim Patching Contracted Services, Maintenance Project #26-53.

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby stated staff identified streets in 7 residential areas that would benefit greatly from 2026 skim patching improvements but funds are only available to skim patch 3 to 5 of the areas. Staff therefore proposes to solicit base quotes for areas 1 through 3, and to solicit alternate quotes for areas 4 and 5, thereby allowing the city to spend as much available funding as possible.

Chairperson Riley asked how all identified project areas could be funded.

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby replied that he would need to speak with the Finance Director to determine how that could be funded.

Chairperson Riley recognized that these would not all be identified if they did not need the work done, so he would like to find a way to fund all identified 2026 skim patching project areas.

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby replied that areas one through four would be \$19,000 over the budgeted amount. He provided the cost estimates for areas five through seven, which would add an additional \$85,000, leaving a short-fall of over \$100,000.

Chairperson Riley asked and received confirmation that if the work is not completed this year, it will become a top priority for the next year.

Councilmember Olson asked if they are catching up on this, falling behind, or just maintaining.

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby stated that he would not say they are falling behind, as they are just trying to hold roads together until they can be repaired. He stated that overall, we are catching up with road repair needs through the Pavement Management Plan, but we cannot repair all roads that need repairs in the short term. He commented that the skim patching is providing good results and has been holding up well to plowing and traffic.

Chairperson Riley stated that he would like to do all the work, but realized there are budget constraints.

Councilmember Specht asked about the current bidding climate.

Assistant City Engineer Feriancek stated that they have received good bid pricing so far this year, but would expect that they would eventually start to climb up a bit with the increase in fuel costs.

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby commented that he could speak with the Finance Director to determine if they could increase the funding. He asked if there would be a desire to increase that item within the annual budget in order to complete more skim patching each year.

Chairperson Riley commented that he would agree with proposing a \$50,000 increase to the budget line item for 2027. He stated that he would also support increasing the budget for the item this year, to the extent possible, to complete as much of the work as possible.

Motion by Councilmember Olson, seconded by Councilmember Specht, to recommend City Council approval of plans and authorization to solicit quotes for 2026 Pavement Skim Patching Contracted Services, Maintenance Project #26-53, with direction for staff to look for additional funding to complete all or most of the identified 2026 skim patching work, and to increase the 2027 budget line item for skim patching work by \$50,000.

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

Councilmember Specht left the meeting.

5.04: Consider Recommendation for City Council Authorization to Prepare Plans and Agreements for Street Lighting Improvements for Riverdale Drive and Highway 10 North Frontage Roads

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby reviewed the staff report and recommendation to recommend City Council authorization for Connexus Energy to prepare plans and agreements for street lighting improvements for unlit segments of Riverdale Drive and Highway 10 North Frontage Roads.

Chairperson Riley asked if it would be Connexus or staff determining the placement of the lights.

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby replied that staff would decide on the light placement and Connexus would complete the plans. He confirmed that staff would propose minimal lighting, mainly at intersections, mid-block trail crossings, and potentially for sidewalks and trails.

Motion by Councilmember Olson, seconded by Chairperson Riley, to recommend City Council authorization for Connexus Energy to prepare plans and agreements for street lighting improvements for unlit segments of Riverdale Drive and Highway 10 North Frontage Roads.

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

6. COMMITTEE / STAFF INPUT

6.01: 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.

Chairperson Riley commented that he believed they were purchasing a prefabricated building for The Waterfront waterplay park.

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby commented that he had the same general understanding, but that was not the case. He confirmed that it is not causing a delay in the schedule or impacting the budget. He reported that the Water Treatment Plant is running well with no

hiccups. He noted that they will soon stop testing for manganese, as only trace amounts of manganese are being detected during testing. He stated an updated article will be included in an upcoming issue of the *Ramsey Resident* to inform readers that the plant is working well and is removing iron and manganese to only trace residual amounts.

Assistant City Engineer Feriancek noted the previous reconstruction of Andre Street/164th Avenue in 2016 and stated staff has observed increased pavement cracking this spring, much more than was expected. He noted that the roadway missed the window when a sealcoat would have been done, and staff reviewed a few others that fell within that same window. He stated that staff are proposing to do a further review of Andre Street to determine why it is failing in this way, as the other roads within that window are not in the same condition. He commented that they would do some pavement cores to gain more information.

Chairperson Riley commented that he has seen the condition of the roadway and agrees that this makes sense to do further review. He noted an area of pavement that needs attention, on Sunwood Drive in the turn lane next to Chipotle.

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby commented that he had not noticed that, but staff will review that area.

6.02: Review Future Topics Calendar

City Engineer/Public Works Director Westby provided additional details on the asset management item marked for quarter two and the reason it continues to be pushed out.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Olson, seconded by Chairperson Riley, to adjourn the Public Works Committee meeting.

Motion carried.

The regular meeting of the Public Works Committee adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Westby
City Engineer/Public Works Director

Drafted by Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.