

Subject: Wentworth Avenue Trail Project 24-4 - Easements

Meeting Date: February 9, 2026	
Submitted/Presented by/Department: Ross Beckwith/Public Works	
Action Type	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent Item	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion/Direction
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing	<input type="checkbox"/> Informational Only
<input type="checkbox"/> Action/Motion	<input type="checkbox"/> Report
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resolution	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Action	
Approve the attached resolution authorizing easement acquisition for the Wentworth Avenue Trail Project, City Project 24-4.	
Background	
<p>On December 8, 2025, the City Council approved a joint powers agreement with Dakota County in which the parties agreed to design, construct, operate, and maintain a multi-use trail on the south side of CSAH 8 (Wentworth Avenue) from Robert Street to Oakdale Avenue. The city is the lead on this project.</p> <p>The resolution on this agenda authorizes easement acquisitions including the use of eminent domain as necessary (i.e., when easements cannot be timely purchased through negotiation). The proposed resolution includes: (a) public purpose findings that the specific easements are reasonably necessary for the Projects; and (b) a procedure to determine the City's approved appraised values for the acquisitions, a determination that is necessary for the city to acquire the easements before the Projects' construction begins.</p> <p>The city had four easements appraised at a total value of \$31,000. Owners are entitled to obtain their own appraisals (which may disagree with the City's appraisals), and for those easements that require eminent domain, legal and expert fees to condemn the easements and adjudicate, just compensation will be incurred.</p> <p>Based on previous conversations with the fifth property, Wal-Mart, a no-cost easement agreement is anticipated.</p>	
Resolution	
Previous Relevant Actions	
Alternatives	
Financial	

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Budgeted: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No Financial Impact
Fund: Sidewalk	This project is funded 85/15 (county/city).
Department:	
Account:	
Amount:	