

**WORTHINGTON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING, MARCH 2, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Rick Von Holdt with the following members present: Larry Janssen; Chris Kielblock; Chad Cummings; Amy Ernst; Alaina Kolpin.

Staff present: Steve Robinson, City Administrator; Todd Wietzema, Public Works Director; Steve Schnieder, City Engineer; Hyunmyeong Goo, Assistant City Engineer; Matt Selof, Community Development Director; Mindy Eggers, City Clerk.

Others Present: Peter Engelmeyer, MnDOT; Ann Wolff, MnDOT; John Crawford, KLJ Engineering; Joe DeVere, KLJ Engineering; Ryan Sundberg, KLJ Engineering; Cristina Adame, Honorary Council Member; Kari Lucin, Daily Globe.

MnDOT - HIGHWAY 59 TURNBACK DISCUSSION

Members from the MnDOT District 7 and KLJ Engineering Services presented six alternative design options for the Highway 59/Humiston Avenue turnback project. Three two-lane options and three 4-lane options were shown to Council. Joe DeVere, KLJ Engineering, explained the designs were based off of traffic data and crash history. Ryan Sundberg, KLJ Engineering, said changing the road into a two-lane street would reduce driving speeds but keeping it a four-lane increases the capacity and reduces travel time. Staff pointed out that snow removal would become quite challenging changing it to a two-lane street as opposed to leaving it a four-lane. Mr. DeVere said there are also many benefits to roundabouts versus slowing down traffic at a signal intersection. Steve Robinson, City Administrator, said he thinks people have become used to the current roundabouts we have in the city. Council Member Ernst said the most important part will be looking at traffic flow and finding the best scenario that will be to keep traffic moving smoothly.

Ann Wolff, MnDOT, said it is very important to inform the public of the potential options and the benefits and drawbacks of the alternatives, and giving members of the community the opportunity to give feedback. She said this can be done by public meetings or surveys.

After additional discussion Council agreed they were most interested in pursuing additional information about options 2,4, and 5. Peter Engelmeyer, project manager, MnDOT, said they will work to develop the three alternatives in more detail so the public will have more information on each of them. Mr. Engelmeyer said they would then need a resolution from the City on whether or not to pursue the turnback.

Mr. Robinson said staff is looking for a clear plan and all the information that outlines what the City would be responsible for and what the MnDOT would retain before anything would be presented to Council for a decision.

ADJOURNMENT

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The motion was made by Council Member Cummings, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:57 p.m.

Mindy L. Eggers, CMC
City Clerk