

County Road 14-24 Update

Washington County has continued the preparation of design documents for the improvements to 47th Street North (County Road 14) and Osgood Avenue (County Road 24). The improvements will extend the life of existing road pavements in the corridor and improve intersection and corridor safety.

Proposed improvements at the County Road 14 and 24 intersection include a shift in the road alignment to the west to create better sightlines for motorists and turning movements. Additionally, the elevation of these roads will be modified to correct for recent changes to the Union Pacific Railroad crossing, allowing for a smoother crossing and preventing hang-ups of low-clearance vehicles.

Due to these elevation changes, and proximity to the railroad crossing, the road will need to be closed during construction. Access will be maintained to those residents immediately adjacent to the roadway; however, the road will remain closed to through traffic. Access to residents immediately adjacent to the roadway will have their access maintained throughout the project. It is anticipated that 47th Street will remain open up to Olinda Boulevard/Osgood during construction; however, the staging of construction will be developed during final design and prior to the start of construction activities. A pre-construction open house meeting will be held prior to the start of construction to provide additional details.

The improvements are currently scheduled for construction in 2018. This will allow the construction to take place in one construction season, in coordination with the required Union Pacific Rail improvements. The County is in the process of obtaining easement rights for the county road, an agreement for the project improvements and a permit for the project construction. These processes involve regional railroad offices and are dependent upon timelines that reflect their workflow volume and are out of the County's control.

Property owners with right-of-way impacts have been contacted and appraisals are currently underway.

A commonly asked question is whether or not the all-way stop will remain upon construction completion. The existing all-way stop was installed as a temporary emergency measure and cannot remain in its current configuration long-term due to the proximity of the railroad crossing gates. A stop sign will remain in place for westbound traffic on 47th Street. The County will continue to monitor traffic operations at this location after construction is complete.

If you have additional questions or comments about the project, please contact Andrew Giesen at (651) 430-4336 or by email at andrew.giesen@co.washington.mn.us

Visit the project website at: www.co.washington.mn.us/County14-24