

Improving

LAKE ELMO

A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT TO THE FALL 2013 ISSUE OF *THE SOURCE*

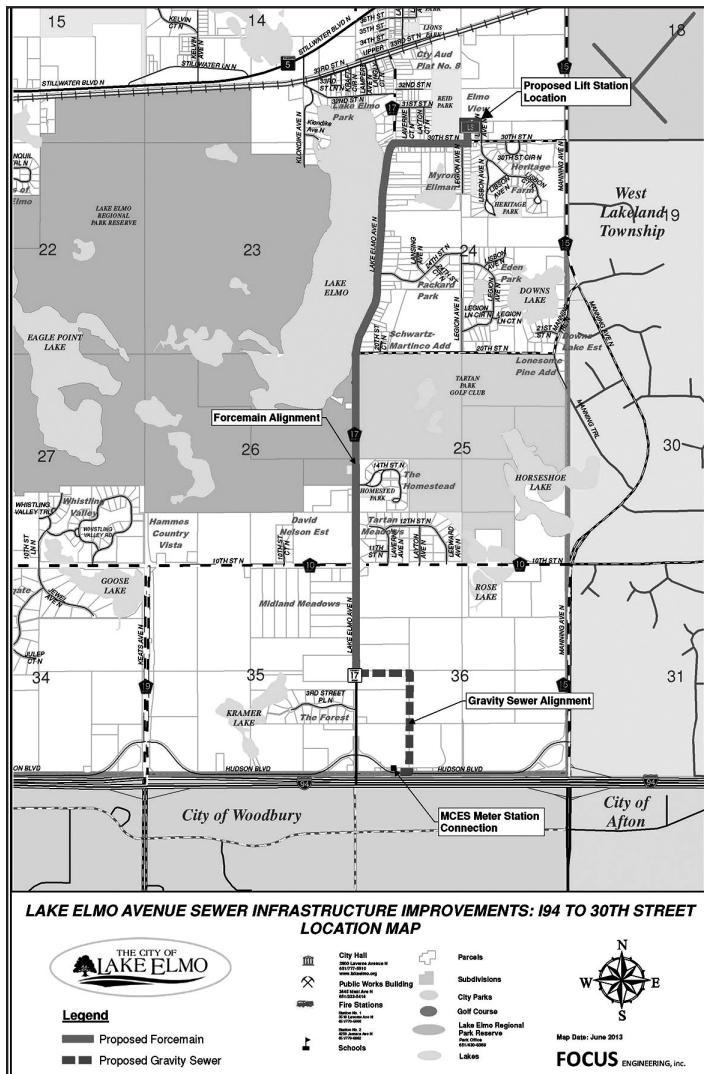
Welcome to *Improving Lake Elmo*, a four page insert meant to keep you up to speed with what is going on with your community. In these pages you will find stories on utility projects and three important road improvement efforts that will improve your quality of life. This update is the result of a lot of work by your City Council and our partners at Washington County and MNDOT. The content should leave no doubt in your mind on what is going on, but if you have any questions please call me at 651-747-3905.

There is also some more good news. The City recently shared our progress with the Metropolitan Council and it looks like we will get some relief in our growth expectations and not have to expand to 24,000 in population. Our next step is to present the Metropolitan Council with a reasonable growth forecast (through 2040) that we can all live and maintain a little open space. I'll keep you posted, so check the website.

Regards, Dean Zuleger, City Administrator

City Pushing Forward on Utility Projects

Projects currently underway in the Old Village, South of 10th, and Olson Lake



Residents of Lake Elmo may notice a bit more construction activity this fall than in years past. In addition to road projects that contribute to this activity, the City is currently in various stages of construction on five utility projects that will have large impacts on the future of Lake Elmo. These five projects include two water projects and three sewer projects. These utility projects are intended to benefit and serve existing Lake Elmo properties, as well as set the table for future development in both the I-94 Corridor and Village Area of Lake Elmo. The following updates on each individual project provide greater detail into the purpose, scope and timing of the project:

1. Well No. 4, Pumphouse and Connecting Trunk Watermain (Water)

The City is currently working on drilling an additional well to increase the capacity of the City's municipal water system. The location of Well No. 4 is a site on the north side of 50th Street North east of Lake Elmo Avenue. Well No. 4 will be the second high capacity well supplying water to the City's water system. Three projects are underway including the Well drilling, the design of the Pumphouse, and the design of the watermain needed to connect the Well to the existing water system. The drilling operation is scheduled to be complete in November of 2013.

(UTILITY PROJECTS)

Continued on Page 2

(UTILITY PROJECTS) *Continued from Page 1*

2. Keats MSA Street and Trunk Watermain Improvements (Water)

This project includes the installation of a Trunk Watermain pipe connecting the existing watermain lines in the Tapestry development to the existing watermain line at Rock Point Church. This provides a critical loop connection that enhances the water system hydraulics throughout the City and prepares the water system for expansion to the I-94 Corridor. Construction of this watermain line is wrapping up this fall.

3. Olson Lake Trail Sanitary Sewer Extension Project (Sewer)

Lake Elmo is working with the City of Oakdale on the extension of municipal sanitary sewer along a portion of Olson Lake Trail North (CSAH 13). The project was initiated by petition from residents on both sides of Olson Lake Trail and will be completed in two phases. Phase 1 of the project will serve five Lake Elmo properties with sanitary sewer and should be completed by the end of September. Phase 2 of the sewer project will extend sewer service north to 50th Street. This project will provide sewer service to an additional 10 Lake Elmo properties and 7 Oakdale Properties. This second project would be constructed in coordination with Washington County when the County completes a road resurfacing project for Olson Lake Trail (CSAH 13); scheduled sometime between 2015 and 2016. By working together with Washington County the project can be completed more cost effectively by sharing the road restoration costs.

4. Lake Elmo Avenue Sewer Infrastructure Project: I-94 – 30th Street (Sewer)

This Project is the first of a multi-phase plan to bring municipal sewer service to the Village area by constructing a lift station, forcemain and trunk gravity sewer line. The improvements are necessary to convey wastewater from the Village area along Lake Elmo Avenue to the MCES meter station located on Hudson Boulevard. The forcemain pipe, installed along Lake Elmo Avenue and 30th Street, from 10th Street to Reid Park, will not provide sewer service to homes along the way. Forcemain operates under pressure and the pipe is being installed for the sole purpose of conveying the Village wastewater to the MCES connection point. This project will allow for all of the existing properties in the Village Area to be connected to municipal sanitary sewer. In addition, trunk



A project location map for the Section 34 water and sewer utility extension improvements.

gravity sewer pipe will be installed in the area south of 10th Street to make sewer service available to future development in the eastern portion of the I-94 Corridor. Substantial completion of this project is expected in December of 2013.

5. Section 34 Water and Sewer Utility Extension Improvements (Sewer and Water)

The City of Lake Elmo is leading a utility improvement project east of Eagle Point Business Park to Keats Avenue North (CSAH 19) at the request of the property owners impacted by the proposed improvements. The City received a Petition, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 429, requesting the extension of trunk watermain and sanitary sewer facilities to serve the properties that will be a part of the Lennar development and the surrounding undeveloped properties located in Section 34. The project has been authorized for construction and will begin in late September or early October. The work will be substantially completed with the sewer and water system operational by December 20, 2013. Final Restoration work will be completed by June 1, 2014.

These five projects represent a significant step in providing municipal sanitary sewer and water service to existing and future properties in Lake Elmo. In order to provide construction updates for these utility projects, the City's website includes a page that allows residents and others to track progress. The link for this page is the following: <http://www.lakeelmo.org/public-works/current-projects>. If anyone has any specific questions, please contact City Engineer Jack Griffin, at 651-300-4264 or jack.griffin@focusengineeringinc.com.

'Improving Downtown Lake Elmo' The Lake Elmo Avenue (CSAH 17) Corridor Management and Safety Improvement Project

Improvements to the Downtown Business District are coming. Washington County and the City of Lake Elmo have joined forces to collaborate on a project that will lead to the reconstruction of Lake Elmo Avenue (CSAH 17) in the Downtown Area from 30th Street North to TH 5. The project has been targeted for construction in 2015. This will be a cooperative project between Washington County and the City of Lake Elmo with Washington County serving as the lead agency.

The catalyst for the project is the need to bring sanitary sewer service to the Village center. When the gravity sewer pipe is constructed along Lake Elmo Avenue (CSAH 17) to service the existing properties in the Village, the streets will be torn up and replaced. Taking advantage of this opportunity, Washington County is moving this project up in their Capital Improvement Program and looking to work with the City to improve operations and safety along the corridor.

The first phase of this work is the preliminary engineering; a regional drainage study; and environmental documentation. The objective is to determine a vision for the corridor that will address transportation, pedestrian, and drainage issues. The work will include the evaluation of intersection options, capacity, lane configuration, drainage improvements, and sidewalk options to best accommodate traffic, pedestrian, and business access needs. The study will look at drainage



Construction for improvements to downtown Lake Elmo is targeted for construction in 2015.

from a regional perspective by studying the Downs Lake watershed. Other special considerations along the corridor include, but are not limited to, the post office, resident access, municipal utilities, overhead power lines, a railroad crossing, and potential future development within the Village Center Area. A proposed geometric layout will be identified for construction including a regional drainage improvement system.

Public involvement will be essential to facilitate community acceptance of the project while maintaining the transportation objectives and requirements of the County; and maintaining the vibrant Downtown and sense of place objectives of the City. The Phase 1 project will begin in November of this year and is expected to take about 12 months to complete.

Informational Meeting Planned for Manning Improvements



Improvements are planned for Manning Avenue. The Manning Avenue (County Road 15) Corridor Management and Safety Improvement Project will improve operations and safety along the Manning Avenue corridor by studying intersection realignment options and evaluating capacity needs to accommodate growth and planned development. The project

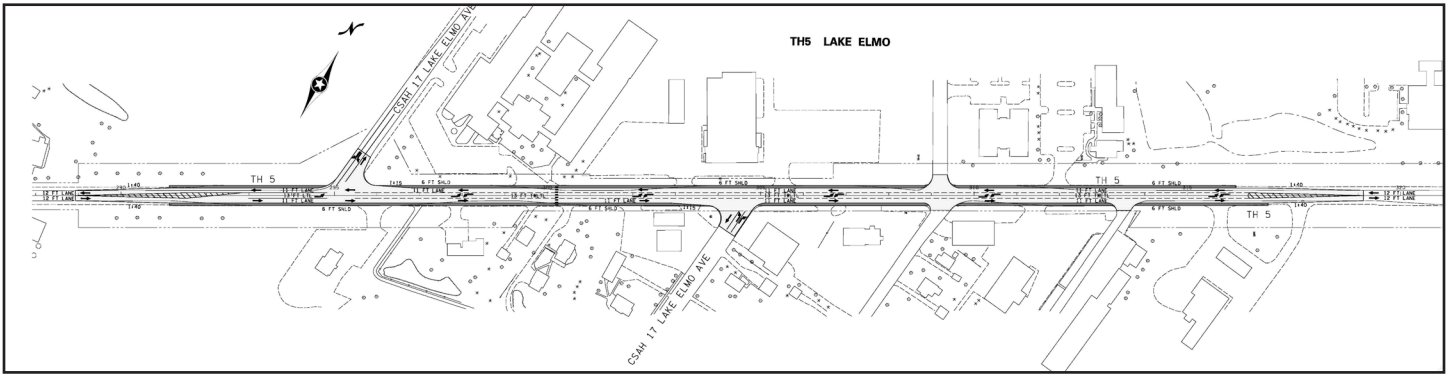
will include identifying the location and timing of future improvements along Manning Avenue, between I-94 and TH 5.

Please join representatives from Washington County, City of Lake Elmo, West Lakeland Township, Baytown Township and MnDOT on October 24th to learn more about the Manning Avenue Corridor Management and Safety Improvement Project. Your input is important to us as we begin to develop this much-needed project to promote long-term safety and mobility along Manning Avenue.

This meeting will be an Open House format. Because this project covers a large area, two meetings will be held on Thursday, October 24, 2013. The first session, from 3 to 5 pm will be open to businesses and adjacent property owners. A second session open to the general public will occur from 5 to 7 p.m. Both meetings will take place at Baytown Township Town Hall, at 4020 McDonald Drive, N., in Stillwater.

A brief presentation will be given at each meeting. You may attend either meeting as the same information will be provided at each.

Highway 5 Undergoing Safety Improvements



A diagram of the TH 5 restriping plan.

Highway 5 through downtown Lake Elmo has undergone some changes this fall, which will improve the roadway surface, reduce vehicle speeds, and improve safety. The improvements are being implemented from recommendations outlined in a State Highway 5 Road Safety Audit completed earlier this year by an independent panel of transportation and traffic engineers. The improvements will include:

- A thin surface overlay to restore the pavement and provide a skid resistant wearing surface;
- Convert Highway 5 to a 3-lane roadway with center left turn lanes;
- Install a raised center median refuge for safe pedestrian crossing at the Elementary School, and;
- Adding center and edge rumble strips along the rural segments to improve safety.

Construction began September 15 and is expected to be completed by November 1st. MnDOT will be placing a thin overlay along Highway 5 from the Jamaca Avenue Roundabout, through Downtown, to the four-lane transition at 58th Street North. The overlay will help to restore and protect the pavement and provide a skid resistant wearing surface. This work will be completed under traffic with no significant lane closures. The “micro surfacing” project will cover up the existing pavement markings.

Given the opportunity to restripe the roadway, MnDOT has been working with the City of Lake Elmo to place the new pavement markings in a manner that converts Highway 5 to a 3-lane roadway through the Downtown area, from CSAH 17 (north leg) to 39th Street North. A



MnDot hosted an open house was held on Wednesday, August 21st, at Lake Elmo Elementary School to discuss upcoming plans for the TH-5 improvement project.

3-lane roadway, which includes one lane for each direction plus the introduction of center left turn lanes, is considered a mitigation strategy for rear end crashes; the type of safety concerns experienced along this segment of road. The lane configuration will also provide a traffic calming affect resulting in reduced travel speeds.

Outside of the Downtown segment, between the Jamaca Avenue Roundabout and the north leg of CSAH 17, and between 39th Street North and 58th Street North, MnDOT will be adding center rumble strips and replacing the edge rumble strips to alert inattentive drivers when they drift from their lanes. Rumble strips are an effective safety measure and cost effective improvement for reducing accidents due to driver inattention.