City Council Item

August 11, 2025

Item	Market Boulevard Improvement Project Discussion	
File No.	ENG 25-02	**Item No:** A.3
Agenda Section	**5:30 P.M. - WORK SESSION**	
Prepared By	Charlie Howley, Director of Public Works/City Engineer	
Reviewed By	Laurie Hokkanen	

SUGGESTED ACTION Determine scope of work for project implementation	
Motion Type	N/A
Strategic Priority	Asset Management

SUMMARY

In order to maintain the ability to utilize TIF proceeds from the Venue project, a decision on the Market Boulevard project scope needs to be made within a few months in order to proceed with the MS 429 Special Assessment process. This is due to the requirement of the TIF agreement concerning having Market Boulevard project costs encumbered by the end of June 2026.

BACKGROUND

The latest posted project update on the city's project page from March 17, 2025:

At its March 10, 2025, Work Session, the City Council decided to pause the design of the project with a goal of constructing it in 2027. This decision was based on the desire to allow the current downtown construction projects time to complete their work before impacting Market Blvd. There may be preliminary work along the corridor in 2026 in preparation for the 2027 construction schedule, but that work should not have street closures or detours. Stay tuned to the City’s communications channels and this webpage for future updates.

DISCUSSION

The discussion should focus on options for the ultimate scope of construction. Two options are presented for consideration, and they both can utilize the TIF money. Both options will have at least some work completed in 2026. The options include:

1. Proceed with the layout showing converting the corridor to single lanes and multiple mini roundabouts (to be constructed in 2027, but designed, bid and awarded by June 2026). Some improvements, such as the West 78th Street traffic signal and stormwater reuse system will need to occur in 2026, however leaving the bulk of construction for 2027.
2. Proceed with an alternate layout limiting the scope to pavement replacement and other goal-oriented improvements such as the new traffic signal at West 78th Street, the railroad crossing, the stormwater reuse system, and pedestrian safety items. All work would occur in 2026 under this option.

The stormwater reuse system is required to still be installed in 2026 due to watershed district permitting requirements from both the 2024 Street Improvement and Civic Campus projects.

BUDGET

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

N/A

ATTACHMENTS