



REQUEST FOR ACTION

2026 Capital Improvement Project Budget Amendment incorporating Rochester Public Utilities Amendment for Duct Bank Relocation

MEETING DATE:

April 20, 2026

ORIGINATING DEPT:

City Administration

AGENDA SECTION:

Consent Agenda

PRESENTER:

Steve Sampson Brown

Action Requested:

Adopting a Resolution approving a 2026 City of Rochester CIP budget amendment in the amount of \$1,233,000 to construct a new segment of electrical duct bank south of 2nd Street SW between 12th Avenue SW and 14th Avenue SW to eliminate conflicts with the Link Bus Rapid Transit (LinkBRT) construction project.

Report Narrative:

Construction is currently underway for the LinkBRT project along 2nd Street SW. After bidding the project, the design consultant identified a grade conflict between an existing Rochester Public Utilities feeder duct bank and an underground pedestrian tunnel associated with LinkBRT. During the construction of the Saint Mary's Transit Center component of the Link BRT project, Public Works and the Construction Management Services team identified an RPU underground medium voltage electric utility duct bank that is in direct conflict within the footprint of the future east bound pedestrian tunnel and elevator control room.

On March 31, 2026, RPU staff requested approval of a budget amendment to fund for relocation of their public utility line. This financial budget amendment requests City Council approval to add funds to the RPU 2026 Electric Utility budget to cover the cost of acquiring the necessary easement and constructing the new duct bank and feeder cables. The estimated cost to acquire the easement, install the new duct bank, and provide the cables and materials is \$1,233,000. This resolution will accept the CIP budget amendment in support of RPU's budget amendment.

Priorities & Foundational Principles:

Transformational Capital Projects
Quality Services

Policy Considerations & DEI Impact:

The construction of Link Rapid Transit observes the City Council's strategic priority of Affordable Living which includes transportation options and access. The Citywide DEI Goal of Community Connection and Engagement, supporting racial and socio-economic equity for our community by creating and supporting accessible public transportation.

Prior Legislative Actions & Community Engagement:

June 5, 2023: Council Meeting - Right of Way Acquisition Request for Proposals

October 23, 2023: City Council Study Session - LINK Rapid Transit Update

January 22, 2024: Council Meeting - Authorized Advertisement for Construction Management Services RFP

April 22, 2024: Council Meeting - Authorized Kimley Horn and Associates for Construction Management Services

April, 29, 2024: Council Study Session - Update on BRT & West Transit Village

August 5, 2024: Council Meeting - Authorized Agreements with the Mayo Clinic for the LINK Bus Rapid Transit Project.

November 18, 2024 Council Meeting - Authorized Bid Advertisement for Civil Underground Utilities and Architecture - Project No. J8707

February 4, 2025 Bid Opening was conducted by City Clerks Department.

March 3, 2025 - Council Meeting - Award Contract for Volume A West Transit Village

March 4, 2025 - Council Meeting - Reject Bids and Authorized Readvertisement of Civil Underground and Infrastructure separately from Architecture Package

May 5, 2025 Council Meeting - Award Contract for Volume B Civil Underground Utilities and Infrastructure

July 7, 2025 Council Meeting - Award Contract for Volume D Maintenance Bay Addition

July 21, 2025 Council Meeting - Award Contract for Volume C Link Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Architecture, Stations and Transit Center

December 2, 2025 – Council Meeting Adoption of the 2026-2027 budget

March 31, 2026 - Rochester Public Utilities Board approved a resolution authorizing the above described 2026 budget amendment in the amount of \$1,233,000 to construct a new segment of electrical duct bank south of 2nd Street SW.

Fiscal & Resource Impact:

Approval of this recommended budget amendment will result in an increase to the 2026 RPU Electric budget in the amount of \$1,233,000.

Alternative Action(s):

No alternative actions are recommended at this time.

Prepared By:

Cindy Steinhauser

Attachments:

[Cover Page](#)

Resolution - Budget Amendment - Relocation of RPU Duct Bank for LinkBRT Project