

From: [Scott Hedlund](#)
To: [Scott Hedlund](#)
Subject: Sauk Rapids 2026 2nd Avenue South Improvements project - Project Update – August 14, 2026
Date: Friday, August 14, 2026 3:33:18 PM

Residents and Project Stakeholders:

This is the third email update for the 2026 2nd Avenue South project. The intent of the updates is to notify residents and other interested parties of recent and upcoming work, and to provide relevant details related to the construction activity. We ask that you pass this information on to others in your home or adjacent residents and encourage them to provide email address to mblommel@sehinc.com to get added to this distribution list. Prior updates and other information can be found on the project website:

Link: <https://www.sehinc.com/2026secondavesouth>

The project team would like to thank you for your patience during construction. **Expect continued disruption from your normal day to day routine in the coming weeks.** Feel free to contact a member of the SEH team for general project information. Additional contacts are provided below and on the project website should you have an issue with access or other items that need immediate attention.

Jeff Supan, SEH's Field Representative, is on-site during active construction to observe project progress. He is the fastest link to problem solving because he communicates directly with everyone on the construction team. Do not hesitate to contact Jeff at 320.250.3381 with any questions you may have. If you are unable to reach Jeff in the field, please contact Scott Hedlund at 612.865.3509 in the SEH office.

Recent Project Work:

Work completed since the last update:

- C&L Excavating and BNSF Railway crews substantially completed work on the 9th St So corridor and opened it back up to traffic on July 29th.
- Utility construction (installation of sanitary sewer, watermain, and storm sewer) on 14th St So and on 2nd Ave So south of the 14th St So intersection has been substantially completed. Utility crews are continuing working northward.
- The initial steps in the road building process (subgrade final grading and placement of class 5 aggregate base) is nearly complete on 14th St So and on 2nd Ave So south of the 14th St So intersection. The grading crew has been working in areas where pipe work is complete.
- Xcel Energy gas and electric, and Charter Spectrum crews have substantially completed their facility relocation and upgrades, and removals of their old facilities.
- Molitor Excavating Inc crews have substantially completed lead water service line replacements between the curb stop at the property line and water meter in the house under a separate project at targeted residences within the 2nd Ave So project area, with some internal plumbing connection work remaining.

Project Schedule/ Upcoming Work:

The Contractor's tentative schedule for upcoming work includes:

- Utility construction on 2nd Ave So and side streets between 13th St N and 10th St N.
- Road building (including concrete curb, sidewalk, and driveways) on 2nd Ave So and side streets from 13th St So to the south.
 - **Concrete curb work is planned to begin Monday, August 24th, subject to change and the weather. Expect temporary driveway access restrictions once concrete work begins – see below.**
 - First lift paving of this area is planned for early September.
 - Concrete and paving work on the remaining portions of the project is planned to extend into October.
 - Final (top) lift paving on 2nd Ave So and the side streets is planned for spring/early summer 2027.
- Molitor Excavating Inc crews will continue lead water service line replacement work into this fall. You will receive direct communication from Molitor if you are part of that separate project. Several services on the 3rd Ave So corridor between 9th St So and 11th St So remain to be completed this fall which will temporarily impact through traffic and access on 3rd Ave So. Please allow extra time to get around once that work begins. Please contact Jarod Griffith – SEH at 218.849.0539 or jgriffith@sehinc.com with any questions on that project.
- Construction on the 2nd Ave So railroad crossing (separate City project) which includes the closure of 2nd Ave So between Benton Drive and 6th St So for street, sidewalk, and water main work is tentatively planned to begin at the end of August and will continue into October, subject to change. The construction start date is dependent on railroad flagging and pipeline inspector scheduling and availability. During construction, Benton Drive through traffic will be restricted to one lane in each direction through the 2nd Ave So intersection area. For the majority of this time, 2nd Ave So access to and from Benton Dr will be closed. There will be posted detour routes for 2nd Ave So through traffic via 9th St So and 1st St So. More information will be provided when available.

Temporary Water Hookups to homes:

The Contractor will be coordinating with individual homeowners to hook up temporary water service. In order to build the new water main, the contractor will need to shut off the existing water system. As a result of this disconnect, the Contractor will be supplying you with an above-ground, temporary water service that will be in place throughout construction. After installation of the new water main, the contractor will remove your temporary service and reconnect you to the new pipe.

Water Service Interruptions Expected:

The Contractor is expected to be completing work within the project areas that will require the existing watermain in and around the project area to be turned off. Notices will be provided to the users that will be impacted, noting the date and duration of impact to your water service.

-

24-hour Emergency Contact (construction related):

The upcoming deep utility work in the construction zone may cause concerns related to the driving surface. If you need assistance related to access or have problems with traversing through the project area, the primary contact from C&L Excavating, Inc is Jessica Funt-Schustak, phone number (320)-472-0973.

Access Limited in Areas of Utility and Concrete Work:

The deep utility work restricts access for residents throughout the project area. When crews are working on your street, the intent is for vehicles to be able to leave in the early morning, and return in the evening, but access restrictions to driveways fronting project streets during the daytime working hours may occur. Access on at least one end of alleys will be maintained. Project staff will coordinate with residents to alert them of access restrictions.

Your driveway and or one end of your alley will not be vehicle-accessible when concrete curbs and driveway/alley aprons are being poured and curing. Concrete can take up to 7 days to properly cure prior to driving a vehicle on it. Property owners with driveways fronting streets currently under construction will need to park on side streets outside of the project area during this time.

Please continue to refrain from on-street parking within the project limits until further notice.

Seeding and Turf Establishment:

The Contractor began the process of restoring turf to areas of the project disturbed by the City's construction project (back in July on the 9th St So corridor only thus far). Seeding work is planned to continue this fall as construction is completed in other areas. The Contractor will monitor growth and address erosion issues into the spring of 2027, or until turf is established. Your effort in helping to care for your new lawn will be essential to having it look its best.

Grass seed requires moisture to germinate. In the fall, there is typically an adequate amount of moisture in the soil to accommodate germination without the need for additional watering. If you observe your lawn (beginning to) dry out, we recommend lightly watering the grass seed to help with the process. Properties on 9th St So should be watering their lawn in light of the hot and dry summer we're having.

Keep all traffic out of the seeded area during the establishment period, and do not mow the new grass until it lays over and mats down when wetted or the new grass goes to seed.

School Bus Routing Impacts:

We have been communicating with the School District. They are aware of the project schedule. The School District will communicate any temporary bus routing and stop changes for this fall to impacted families directly.

-

Work Zones:

Notice on Construction Zone Activities:

- Road work signs or other temporary signage will be installed throughout the project areas to warn motorists and protect workers during construction. Please pay careful attention to the warning signs. Please exercise caution as you navigate the work zones.

[Project Website:](#)

Please note the link below, which includes information about the project.

Link: <https://www.sehinc.com/2026secondavesouth>

Thank you,

Scott D. Hedlund, PE (MN, LA), PMP

Sauk Rapids City Engineer

Principal, Project Manager

Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc.

612.865.3509 mobile

Building a Better World for All of Us®

Follow [SEH](#) on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Instagram](#)