

2025 Northside Street & Utility Improvements Foley, Minnesota



FOLEY 175938

Project Update

Project Team

General Contractor

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SEH Project Manager

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Hello and welcome to the *2025 Northside Street & Utility Improvements Project Update*. In this and upcoming issues, we will be updating you on the project status. If you wish to receive future Project Updates via email, please provide your email to Melissa Blommel at mbloomel@sehinc.com.

Project Website: <https://www.sehinc.com/northside>

The project team consists of the City of Foley, Benton County, SEH, and Kuechle Underground Inc. SEH is the municipal engineering firm working with City of Foley and Benton County and will serve as the contact between the contractors and residents/property owners. All questions should initially be directed to SEH.

An SEH's Field Representative will be on-site during active construction to observe project progress. He will be the fastest link to problem solving because he communicates directly with the construction team. Contact information will be provided in the next newsletter. Until then, please contact Jarod Griffith at 320.229.4304 with any questions.

Project Status and Schedule

The City of Foley publicly bid the project and awarded the construction contract on April 1st to the low bidder Kuechle Underground Inc. of Kimball, MN. Kuechle Underground is the General Contractor responsible for the overall project and will install the open cut underground utilities (sanitary sewer, water main, and storm sewer).

The General Contractor's (Kuechle Underground) project schedule will be shared in the next newsletter. The street construction is **anticipated to begin late May, weather depending**. Construction activities to be expected the first two weeks are:

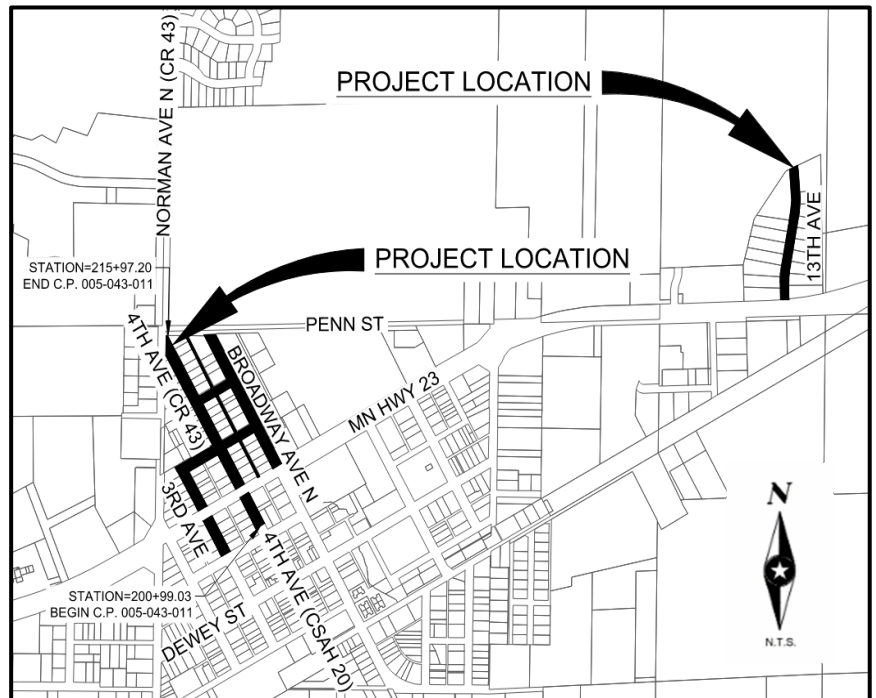
- Setting up traffic control and closing the project area to thru traffic.
- Mobilization of construction equipment
- Bituminous and concrete surface removals.

You have probably noticed private utility companies (electricity, natural gas, telephone, cable TV, etc.) marking their private utilities in the project area already. This will continue throughout the construction process. Relocation of private utilities is necessary to avoid construction conflicts with proposed street and public utility construction. There are significant private utility relocation and upgrade efforts anticipated and underway for this project. Xcel Energy will be upgrading their natural gas system within the project area in conjunction with the City's project. **Xcel Energy's work is anticipated to be completed as soon as May 23rd**. Relocation work by some of the other utilities is anticipated to begin in May. Any service interruption will be communicated by them. Note, the City and Kuechle Underground do not direct or control the operations for these private utilities.

Description of Project

The project scope includes replacing the existing street and sidewalks, sanitary sewer, water main, services, and storm sewer system. Watermain construction will include the installation of a temporary water system. With the installation of the open cut public utilities, you will notice the Contractor digging up the street past your property multiple times. Typically, the Contractor starts with installation of the deepest open cut utilities first. The anticipated order of installations is the open cut of sanitary sewer main, watermain and services, and then storm sewer. Street construction will include subcutting and removal of approximately 1-3 feet of existing material and installation of fabric, aggregate base, and bituminous surfacing.

The 13th Avenue segment of the project involves reclaiming the existing surface materials and overlaying them with bituminous pavement. Additionally, we will install drain tile along the east side of the road to facilitate sump pump connections.



The project is scheduled to be substantially completed in the fall of 2025 which includes the completion of curb & gutter and the first lift of pavement. The final lift of pavement will be paved in the summer of 2026.

Temporary Water

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. Once the new water main is in place and passes all required disinfection testing, the contractor will remove your temporary service and reconnect you to the new pipe. You may experience small outages in water service while the contractor switches back and forth between the existing system and the temporary system; however, efforts will be made to minimize disruption to the water service. There will be further notices about this.

Sanitary Sewer

If you are in an area where sanitary sewer will be reconstructed, the project will replace your sanitary sewer service from the main in the street to the property line. Replacement work will be done while your building service is live. It is generally not necessary for you to stop using your sewer during open cut replacement construction. However, if a conflict arises, the Contractor will contact you individually if you need to limit your water use for a short time.

Private Sanitary Service Replacement

If your property has a sanitary service that was inspected and found defective, per City Ordinance, you will need to have your service from the property line to your house replaced during the duration of the project. Electing to have your private service replaced as part of the street project would be beneficial as your property is already being disturbed. For properties that have service defects, additional sign-up information will be provided in a separation letter.

Lead Water Service Replacement

If your property has a water service that was identified as lead/galvanized, you would have already received notification to be included in a separate project that will replace your water service from the property line to the meter in your home. This project is anticipated to be awarded in June. More information about project schedule and coordination needs will be provided after a contractor is selected.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: *What kind of activity can I expect during construction?*

A: Construction is tedious, and we understand it can get old quickly. At times, it may even seem like not much is getting done. Remember, patience is the biggest asset that each of you bring to the job. If you keep in mind the fact that this project will be completed, hopefully construction will seem to go faster for you!

In addition to the General Contractor, there will be several subcontractors working at various times on site. There will also be private utility companies (gas, cable television, telephone, and electric) on the site locating, moving, and or replacing existing lines. Please bear with us, the General Contractor has a fixed amount of time to get the work done, and we will be working with all parties involved to help see that this time commitment is met.

Q: *What will be done about construction dust?*

A: The contract provides for the Contractor to spread water on the road to help keep dust from creating an unsafe environment. However, this is an imperfect solution and will not solve the problem completely.

Q: *What will happen to the landscaping, fences, or planters that are on the boulevards?*

A: The Contractor will generally salvage any special landscaping located within the right-of-way and will place it on your property. If you wish to have material placed in a certain area, please let us know in advance and we will try to accommodate you. The Contractor will not reinstall any landscaping removed from the right-of-way or easement areas. Flowers by mailboxes will be removed and not replaced.

Q: *What will happen to my sprinkler system or pet containment system during construction?*

A: Due to nature of the project, it is anticipated there may be impacts to sprinklers or pet containment systems behind the back of the curb. Property owners who have a sprinkler system or pet containment system in the right-of-way and next to the edge of curb and gutter are encouraged to contact SEH to inquire on potential impacts. It may be necessary for you to temporarily remove a portion of your sprinkler or pet containment system within the public right-of-way or public easement area. The sprinkler distribution pipes should be exposed and pulled up to the property line, so they are visible to the Contractor. Since the sprinkler heads are often the most expensive component of the system, consider removing them from the distribution pipes. Apply duct tape to the end of the pipes to keep out dirt and debris. The City and Contractor will not be liable for damage to sprinkler systems that are installed within the public right-of-way. Residents should reinstall the systems after the turf restoration work is complete.

Q: *How will the turf areas disturbed by construction be restored?*

A: The Contractor will repair the disturbed areas of your yard with topsoil and seed. It is essential that you water the new seed regularly to help it establish. The Contractor is required to water and maintain the seed for a short period of time after it has been placed to ensure growth. Most Contractors do this with a tanker truck and hose, which means water is applied quickly in one or two passes every few days. The Contractor will give you a product that will grow, but it will not be perfect. It is essential that you water the new seed regularly if you want a lush, green, well-established lawn.

Q: *What about my garbage and recycling during construction?*

A: You will continue to place your garbage and recycling containers at the end of your driveway/alley location as normal. The General Contractor will collect and get them to a location the garbage and recycling company can dispose of the items. The Contractor will then bring your container back to your driveway/alley location.

Q: *How will I receive my mail during construction (not applicable for PO boxes)?*

A: The General Contractor will remove your mailbox and, in coordination with the postmaster, will place it at safe location until it is needed for reinstallation later in the project. Temporary mailbox location information will be provided to property owners and in future newsletters.

URGENT IMMEDIATE ATTENTION NEEDED

Special Information

It is very important that anyone with special needs or disabilities contact us as soon as possible. We are in the process of working with emergency response organizations to locate any residences that may have a special need, so we are fully aware of the issues throughout construction and if quick response is needed to any specific residence(s), there is a plan in place.



Preservation of Construction Stakes and Utility Flags We need your help!

Please do not remove any wooden stakes you will see temporarily placed on the boulevards. These stakes are used by the Contractor to construct the project and are expensive to replace.

Also, please do not remove or relocate the colored utility location flags. These flags, in conjunction with the spray paint markings on the ground, are necessary for the Contractor to locate buried utilities. We understand these flags may be unsightly and difficult to mow around, but we need your help to protect the construction crews and residents in your neighborhood.

Your help in keeping bystanders away from the construction area will ensure the project will progress safely.



Construction Zone and Access

Barricade and road closure signs will be installed throughout the project area to protect motorists during construction. Please pay careful attention to the warning signs! "Road Closed" signs are used where the road is impassable and closed to all traffic except for the Contractor's equipment or officially authorized vehicles. "Road Closed to Thru Traffic" signs are used where through traffic must detour to avoid a closure some distance beyond the sign, but where local traffic can move up to the point of closure. In this instance, local traffic would be defined as residential traffic from the particular street under construction.

After traffic control signs have been installed throughout the project area, please avoid any parking on the street.

There will also be times during construction that direct access to your driveway will be limited. Short term access limitations will occur when road excavation (subcut or sanitary sewer, watermain, and storm sewer installation) and paving operations are adjacent to your property, but access will be restored before the end of the day. Long term access limitations will occur when curb and concrete driveways are installed, up to 7 days per operation. Our goal is to be able to coordinate the project such that alley access will be available when street access is not. Access to your property is important to us, and Contractor will work to proactively communicate those disruptions to you.

Please allow extra time in your schedule as you drive through the construction zone. Please advise your family and guests to exercise caution and safe driving speeds. Be sure workers and heavy equipment operators see you before driving around them.

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