



January 7, 2026

Re: Willow Street MSA Improvements Project
City of Farmington, Minnesota

Dear Property Owner/Current Resident:

The City of Farmington is proposing street improvements on Willow Street from 5th Street to 8th Street in 2026. Two open houses have been held to discuss the general scope of the project, timeline, construction access, etc. Another open house has been scheduled to receive feedback on two specific issues:

1. Closure of 8th Street south of Willow Street

In 2025, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) completed a Highway 3 Access Management Study. Two preliminary concepts were identified for the Willow Street intersection; one which included additional turn lanes and another that considered a roundabout at this location. Both concepts recommended the closure of 8th Street on the south side of Willow Street, and rerouting Dakota County Lumber traffic directly onto Willow Street. Relocating this access to Willow Street would also require purchase of a small triangle of property from Peerless Plastics. The “dead end” area of 8th Street could possibly be repurposed for parking.

The city will not pursue this option unless supported by both Dakota County Lumber and Peerless Plastics.

2. Bicycle and Pedestrian Traffic on Willow Street

A citywide Bicycle and Pedestrian plan was completed in 2019. The plan identified the implementation of On Street Bikeways on Willow Street from TH 3 to 4th Street as a Priority Project. There are many options for incorporating bicycle and pedestrian travel needs into the design. For instance, without widening the roadway, one way *bike lanes* would require removing one side of parking, but *bikeways* would not. A two-way bike lane on one side of the roadway may also be considered.

MEETING INFORMATION

The meeting will be held at Farmington City Hall on Thursday, January 22, 2026, from **5:00 to 6:30 pm**.

No formal presentation is planned. Representatives from the city and the design team will be available to answer questions and will have maps of the project area to review and note specific areas of concern.

Should you have any questions about the issues mentioned above, or any other matters related to the project, please feel free to contact either of the individuals listed below, who will be glad to assist you. Your input and feedback is important to the city and we look forward to hearing from you. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please feel free to contact us via the email addresses or phone numbers below.

Sincerely,



Mark Erichson, PE
Project Manager
WSB
612.360.1278
merichson@wsbeng.com



John Powell, PE
Public Works Director/City Engineer
City of Farmington
651.280.6841
jpowell@farmingtonmn.gov