

County Highway 19 (Keats Ave) & 80th Street Intersection Improvement Project

Project website:



November 2024

Project Overview & Background

Washington County, in partnership with the City of Cottage Grove, is planning an improvement project for the intersection of County Highway 19 (Keats Avenue) and 80th Street.

The intersection of County Highway 19 and 80th Street is currently controlled by an all-way stop. This intersection has been on the County and City's radar because it is located in an area of Cottage Grove that is experiencing increased development and traffic growth. Washington County has also received comments from the City of Cottage Grove and residents regarding vehicles sometimes failing to stop. In 2019, Washington County added red flashing beacons for the northbound and southbound approaches to increase the conspicuity of the intersection control to approaching motorists and address concern that drivers were running the stop signs. These were upgraded to a more reliable solar LED system in 2023, with flashing red lights installed around the perimeter of the stop signs on the north and south approaches.

Public Engagement

With existing conditions information in hand, the project team hosted two events to engage the community to discuss opportunities for improvement at the intersection.

Pop-Up

August 29 at Cottage Grove Hy-Vee

The pop-up event was intended to engage the community where they were. The project team chose the Thursday before Labor Day to engage grocery store customers shopping for the holiday weekend. The project team hosted an indoor booth between the check-outs and exit.

Discussion included the City's development plans and respective utility needs, the condition of an adjacent trails, and intersection control treatment options.



Open House

September 24 at Cottage Grove Middle School



Surrounding residents were invited to the public event and it was also promoted on social media.

Traffic data, crash history, and information on intersection control treatments were displayed. Discussion included intersection delays due to nearby business shift work and schools, trail user safety, speeding, and adjacent local farm business access.

Online engagement followed the event via the County's website for folks who couldn't make it or preferred to engage virtually.

More information, including event materials and summary documents, can be found on the project website's Public Involvement tab.

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Recommended Alternative

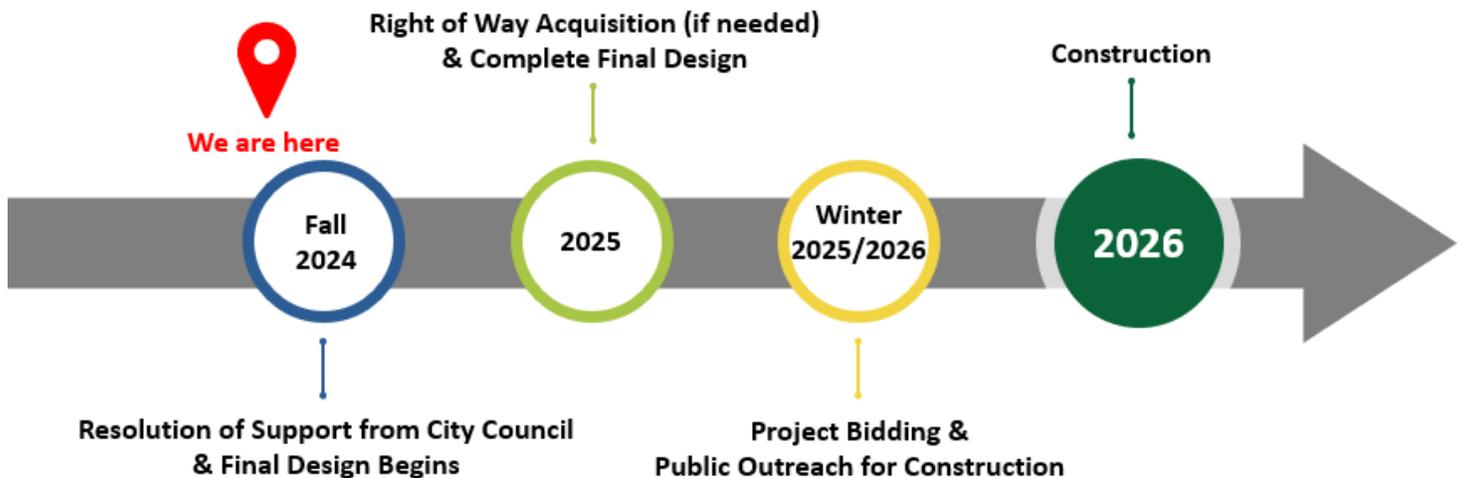
Based on agency stakeholder input, traffic analysis, and public engagement, the project team is recommending a **roundabout** for the intersection control treatment. A roundabout at this intersection will:

- ✓ Slow traffic
- ✓ Reduce Delays
- ✓ Provide better sightlines to pedestrians
- ✓ Lower crash severity
- ✓ Accommodate large/farm vehicles
- ✓ Provide shorter crossings for pedestrians

A preliminary visualization of the roundabout concept is shown below:



Next Steps & Project Schedule



To sign up for project updates, visit the project website at:

www.co.washington.mn.us/KeatsAnd80th

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