



Ethics Commission Agenda

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

(Any times listed are approximate – please note that items may be earlier or later than listed on the agenda)

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Receive Public Comment**
- 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes**
 - a. Approve Ethics Commission Meeting Minutes from December 5, 2024
- 4. Business Items**
 - a. Consider Complaints Alleging Violations of the Ethics Code Against Councilmember Strahan
- 5. Other Business**
- 6. Adjourn**

Ethic Commission Meeting Minutes
City Hall Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive
Thursday, December 5, 2024

I. Call to Order

Chair Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Nick Boulton, Jarod Cicha, Michelle Kruzel, Bob Murphy

Members Absent: Joe Tupy

Others Present: City Manager Patrick Trudgeon, City Attorney Rachel Tierney

II. Election of Officers

Chair and Vice Chair

Motion by Commissioner Boulton, seconded by Commissioner Kruzel that Bob Murphy be appointed Chair and Commissioner Boulton be appointed as Vice-Chair.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Approve Minutes of December 12, 2023

Commissioner Kruzel moved approval of the December 12, 2023 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Cicha.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

V. Annual Ethics Training – April 9, 2025

City Manager Trudgeon announced the 2024 Ethics Training will take place on April 9, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. and stated that City requires all Commissioners, Department Heads, and elected officials to attend. Mr. Trudgeon mentioned that City Attorney Rachel Tierney will provide a presentation about the Roseville Ethics Code and provided Commission members the presentation Ms. Tierney did at the last training.

Ethics Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 5, 2024

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1 After reviewing the contents of the 2024 Ethics Training, City Manager Trudgeon asked
2 the Commission if they would like to see any changes to the presentation. Consensus of
3 the Commission was that no changes were needed, and the current format was good.

4
5 Ms. Tierney indicated that she would look to include new scenarios and examples that
6 can be used to illustrate how the Roseville Ethics Code applies.
7

8

9 **VI. Other Business**

10 None.

11

12 **VII. Adjourn**

13 Commissioner Kruzal moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:21 p.m.,
14 seconded by Commissioner Cicha.

15

16 **Ayes: 4**

17 **Nays: 0**

18 **Motion carried.**

19

20 Respectfully submitted,
21 Patrick J. Trudgeon, City Manager
22

DRAFT

Roseville Ethics Commission Agenda Item

DATE: May 14, 2025

ITEM: 4.a.

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Consider Complaints Alleging Violations of the Ethics Code Against Councilmember Strahan

Background

On April 23 and 24, the City of Roseville received two complaints stating that Councilmember Julie Strahan violated the Roseville Ethics Code with statements made by her at the April 21, 2025 City Council meeting regarding the vacation of the Aldine Street right-of-way.

City Attorney Rachel Tierney has completed the investigation (Attachment 1) and has concluded that Councilmember Strahan has not violated the Roseville Ethics Code. Supporting material regarding the complaints, the Roseville Ethics Code, and the City Council case regarding the proposed vacation of the Aldine St. right-of-way have been included as attachments.

Recommendation

The Ethics Commission should consider the information contained in the packet and take one of three actions:

- 1) Make a motion to agree with the findings of the investigation and forward that recommendation to the City Council for their action
- 2) Make a motion to issue its own report and findings and forward its recommendation to the City Council for their action
- 3) Make a motion to forward the investigation report to the City Council without any recommendation

Attachments

1. Roseville Ethics Investigation Report by City Attorney Rachel Tierney
2. Ethics Code Complaints
3. Roseville Ethics Code
4. City Council Case 4.21.25- Vacation of Aldine right-of-way

CITY OF ROSEVILLE

ETHICS COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION REPORT

In re: Complaints Alleging Violations of the Ethics Code Against Council Member Strahan

May 8, 2025

Investigated by:
Rachel G. Tierney
Roseville City Attorney
rtierney@kennedy-graven.com
(612) 337-9234

Kennedy & Graven, Chartered
150 South Fifth Street, Suite 700
Minneapolis, MN 55402
(612) 337-9300
www.kennedy-graven.com

BACKGROUND

Under Section 5 of the Roseville Code of Ethics, complaints alleging ethical violations by public officials must be submitted in written form to the City Attorney. The City Attorney is obligated to investigate such complaints and issue a report that documents the results of the investigation. Under Section 5, Paragraph E, Number 2, the City Attorney's report shall be sent to the Ethics Commission, which shall convene and, if it so chooses, issue its own report and recommendation to the City Council. In the alternative, the Ethics Commission may adopt the City Attorney's report and forward the same to the City Council. The City Council then takes actions it deems appropriate.

This report ("Report") is in response to two complaints (the "Complaints") from residents alleging violations of the Roseville Code of Ethics by Council Member Julie Strahan. The Complaints are attached to this Report.

FACTUAL SUMMARY

On April 21, 2025, the City of Roseville ("City") City Council held a public hearing regarding the vacation of several rights-of-way in the City. Included in that list was the vacation of a certain unimproved portion of Aldine Street ("Aldine ROW"). The Aldine ROW runs parallel to Fairview and Snelling Avenues, beginning at Roselawn Avenue and ending at Ryan Avenue. City staff proposed vacating the Aldine ROW as part of a larger initiative to vacate unused rights-of-way. There was no citizen petition proposing the vacation.

As required by Minn. Stat. § 412.851, the City published and posted notice of the public hearing and mailed notice of the public hearing to each property owner affected by the proposed vacation.

Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer Comments

At the hearing, Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer introduced the proposed vacation of the Aldine ROW. Mr. Freihammer explained that at the time City staff proposed vacating the Aldine ROW they were not aware of the existing neighborhood use of the Aldine ROW as a pathway. He also explained that, upon learning of the use of the Aldine ROW, City staff did further research and discovered a curb cut off Roselawn leading to the Aldine ROW, but Mr. Freihammer was unable to explain when or why that curb cut was made.

Paths that are improved or scheduled to be improved are included as part of the City's pathway master plan, but the Aldine ROW is not part of the pathway master plan. Mr. Freihammer further explained that, if the Council wanted to consider adding the Aldine ROW to the pathway master plan, the matter should be tabled to a later date.

Resident Testimony – Opposed to Vacation

Five residents testified against vacating the Aldine ROW and asked that the City continue to allow the Aldine ROW to be used as a pathway. The comments describe the Aldine ROW as an "enchanting," quiet, and peaceful wooded path and describe using the path for up to 35 years as a shortcut, for dog walks, and explaining that the path is used by children who live in the Mid Oaks

neighborhood to cut through to go to Brimhall Elementary. Some of these residents, although opposing the vacation, expressed opposition to creating a formal paved path.

One of these individuals who testified in opposition to the vacation was Linda Strahan. She is the sister-in-law of Council Member Julie Strahan, and lives at 1988 Wheeler¹ which she explained is “just two blocks from the path.” None of the individuals who testified in opposition to the proposed vacation own property abutting the Aldine ROW.

Resident Testimony – Supporting Vacation

During the public hearing, four individuals testified in favor of vacating the Aldine ROW and provided a letter supporting the vacation signed by all eight property owners abutting the Aldine ROW. Their testimony expressed frustration about disrespectful dog walkers and excitement at the opportunity to take over the area and to better maintain it and get rid of invasive species. One resident testified that having people walking by on the path felt “intrusive.” These individuals also opposed a formal paved path, explaining concerns over cutting down mature trees, which would also change the character of the Aldine ROW, and expressing safety concerns due to a lack of sidewalks on Roselawn. Finally, they asked the Council to approve the vacation. All of the individuals who testified in favor of the proposed vacation own property abutting the Aldine ROW.

Council Member Strahan Comments and Motion

After the close of the public hearing, Mr. Freihammer answered some questions from Council Members, and then Council Member Strahan spoke:

I also wanted to take the opportunity, I'm Julie Strahan, Roseville City Councilmember. I live at 1260 Shryer, and I would advocate for keeping this pedestrian connection. A previous speaker is my sister-in-law. I live on the other side of Hamline, but we walk quite frequently, quite safely, across Roselawn and use that path to walk over and then walk through Ridgewood Lane to get back home. I think delineating where that path is so that people don't encroach on Miss Brown's property is very important. For a while, it looked like the path was closed, and I reached out and asked why. They said that's not true, but there was some fencing or something at the end and they said, “Oh no that's not changed”. So, being very intentional about knowing that the path was an available spot. There really isn't a point between Fairview and Snelling to head South and so really, if you are on foot, it's a lot longer to Fairview than you think it is in that area. And so, I just think it has been a really lovely resource. I realize whenever we encroach what someone perceives to be their space, it can be challenging. But I do think it has been the footpath for a long time, and I would advocate for keeping it. I have really enjoyed using it for the last 20 years that I've lived in Roseville².

¹ 1988 Wheeler appears on the Depiction of the Vacated Area attached to this Report and is on the corner of Wheeler Street and Ryan Avenue.

² Text in italics is a rough transcript transcribed from the April 21, 2025, hearing. The text has been amended for brevity and clarity, but with no intention to alter its meaning.

Following Council Member Strahan's statement, the Council had more questions for Mr. Freihammer about the pathway master plan, further discussed improving the Aldine ROW, and discussed the process to consider adding the Aldine ROW to the pathway master plan.

The Council also discussed confusing language in the proposed resolution, which the City Attorney did not have sufficient information on and needed to check with a colleague. On that topic, Mayor Roe explained:

So . . . even if we wanted to proceed . . . and we're not comfortable with that language . . . we would probably just do a motion to table at that point right, Council Member Strahan?

Following this discussion, Council Member Strahan stated:

I am willing to offer a motion to table this pending language discussion, as well as make sure we know what we're deciding. and where we're going with that. And I'm open to amendments on what revisions look like.

At Mayor Roe's suggestion, and prior to a second, Council Member Strahan clarified her motion:

I think it would be exceptionally helpful to understand this 50 feet, where these trees stand, if there was to be a path through that's 10 feet or 20 feet. If it's finished or not, where that falls within that that makes sense, and is reasonable, and so people know what they're commenting or not commenting on. It sounds like largely the people who are adjacent are opposed with the people who utilize it and live peripherally are in support of keeping this. So, I think seems like we need more information from and comment from some a wider neighborhood than just the eight homes. And it seems like we also need to understand what improvement we might want to consider, if any.

Following this motion, and again before a second, the Council engaged in a discussion. Council Member Groff said that they did not have enough information about establishing an improved pathway. Council Member Schroeder expressed confusion about what was being considered. Finally, Mayor Roe asked clarifying questions of staff regarding establishing an improved pathway.

Council Member Strahan again amended her motion as follows:

Mayor, I'd like to propose tabling for discussion of the public pathway in that area as well as changing the language for clarification from the lawyer.

Council Member Groff seconded Council Member Strahan's motion. Based on a question from Council Member Schroeder, Mayor Roe clarified that the motion was just to table the matter in order to gather information on establishing an improved pathway, but that the vote on the pathway itself would come later. The motion passed unanimously.

COMPLAINTS & ALLEGATIONS

The City Manager received two written complaints following the April 21st hearing. Both complainants own property abutting the Aldine ROW.

On April 23, 2025, the City received an ethics complaint from M. Erickson, whose address is 93 Mid Oaks Lane. Ms. Erickson and her husband T. Brown testified at the public hearing in favor of the proposed vacation. In her complaint, Ms. Erickson stated the following:

. . . In my opinion, counsel person Julie Strahan used her position of power to sway a vote regarding area V³. Once the public comment period ended, Julie Strahan made a statement about her sister living near the path and using the path that goes through the easement. Julie's statement shows that she has a clear conflict of interest when it comes to the vacation of area V. I also feel, she violated the code of ethics, specifically code 3M, but possibly more. In addition, the code of ethics clearly states a public official should remain impartial. Julie's comments make it clear that she is not impartial. I think the only option is for Julie Strahan to recuse herself from further votes regarding area V. Thank you for reading my complaint and considering taking action to prevent a biased vote.

On April 24, 2025, the City received an ethics complaint from S. Quinn, whose address is 89 Mid Oaks Lane, who was also one of the individuals who testified at the public hearing. In her complaint, Ms. Quinn stated the following:

. . . After the public comment period . . . Council member Julie Strahan made a series of inappropriate comments and a biased motion. Her comments advocated against the proposed Aldine ROW vacation on behalf of family members – in direct opposition to the property owner comments plus a written petition signed by all affected property owners, who are all in support of the proposed Aldine ROW vacation.

In my opinion, Council member Strahan's behavior violated the Roseville City Council's ethics code, specifically Section 3M, which prohibits favoritism towards family members. Council member Strahan may say that she would have that opinion anyway; however her comments involved mentioning family members, which was her choice and indicated family connection motive for the comments. Also, in my opinion, the appropriate remedy is an apology from Council member Strahan, recusing herself from any further comment on the matter, and recusing herself from the eventual Council vote to vacate the Aldine ROW or take other action.

³ "Area V" is the label given to the Aldine ROW in the Request for Council Action.

ETHICS CODE

Members of every city council must live in the city they are elected to represent. They drive on its roads and walk on its sidewalks for which they are responsible for maintaining; use its parks for which they are responsible for funding; eat at restaurants which must receive a city-issued license; and they notify staff when they observe code violations. Council Members express their personal experiences during Council discussion and often, during Council meetings, bring issues they have observed to the attention of City staff. Having a personal experience related to items that come before a City Council is part of the role of being a Council Member.

Ethics codes are not intended to remove elected officials from participating in the day-to-day life of the communities they represent. Rather, they are intended to prevent public officials from using their position for personal gain. In the introduction to Section 3, the Roseville Code of Ethics explains:

Public Officials are to serve all persons fairly and equitably without regard to their personal or financial benefit. The credibility of Roseville government hinges on the proper discharge of duties in the public interest. Public Officials must assure that the independence of their judgment and actions, without any consideration for personal gain, is preserved.

Section 3 of the Roseville Code of Ethics enumerates 16 specific ethics violations⁴. Both complaints alleged a violation of Section 5, Paragraph M⁵. Paragraph M reads as follows:

Official Action. No Public Official shall take an official action or attempt to influence any process which will **benefit** any person or entity where such Public Official would not have otherwise have taken such action **but for**⁶ the Public Official's **family relationship**, friendship, or business relationship with such person or entity. [emphasis added]

Potentially relevant to the allegations in the Complaints, Section 2 of the Roseville Code of Ethics includes several definitions.

Public Official includes members of the City Council.

Anything of value is defined as: money, real or personal property, a permit or license, a favor, a service, forgiveness of a loan or promise of future employment.

Immediate family is defined as: spouse, minor children, minor stepchildren or other person residing in the same household.

Under Section 5, Paragraph F, the standard to apply to allegations of ethical violations is “clear and convincing evidence,” which means that, based on the evidence presented, it is highly and

⁴ The Roseville Code of Ethics explains that the enumerated violations “do not necessarily encompass all the possible ethical considerations that might arise.” Neither complaint alleged any violations other than those enumerated in the Roseville Code of Ethics.

⁵ It should be noted that the Quinn Complaint states: “I . . . feel she violated the code of ethics, specifically code 3.M, but possibly more.” I reviewed all of the enumerated violations in Section 3 and do not believe any, other than Section 3 Paragraph M as discussed herein, apply in this instance.

⁶ It should be noted that a “but-for” test is a common concept in law that is used to determine whether one thing is the proximate cause for another. Proximate cause is also referred to as the primary cause, or direct cause.

substantially more likely that a violation has occurred, than not. It is a higher standard than a “preponderance of the evidence” (the standard for most civil cases) but lower than “beyond a reasonable doubt” (the standard in criminal cases).

DISCUSSION

The facts are not in dispute. Both complaints rely solely on what happened at the public hearing on April 21, 2025. Council Member Strahan is a public official subject to the Code of Ethics for Public Officials in the City of Roseville. The language in Section 3, Paragraph M prohibits a Public Official from taking an official action or influencing any process that would benefit any person if such action would not have been taken “but for” a family or other relationship. Any ethical violation must be shown by clear and convincing evidence.

To be clear, the test is not that a listed person will benefit from the action alone, but instead requires that the action taken will benefit the listed person and that the action would not have occurred “but for” the listed person’s relationship to a City Council Member.

The Roseville Code of Ethics does not define “benefit” or “family relationship.”

Benefit

The Roseville Code of Ethics does not define the term “benefit.” The Roseville Code of Ethics does define “thing of value” to include money, real or personal property, a permit or license, a favor, a service, forgiveness of a loan or promise of future employment.

There is no allegation, and no evidence, that Council Member Strahan, or her sister-in-law, will financially benefit from a City Council decision to deny the vacation. It should be noted that, if the term “thing of value” was intended to be equivalent to “benefit”, the only item listed in that definition that may apply to Council Member Strahan’s actions, would be a favor – however no evidence presented supports that there was a favor exchanged here.

It is not clear from the language of the ethics code whether the use of the term “benefit” was intended to be different than a “thing of value.” Given this lack of clarity, the analysis herein is made without drawing a conclusion regarding whether Council Member Strahan’s sister-in-law will “benefit” from Council Member Strahan’s actions.

Further, it is not clear that keeping, as opposed to vacating, the Aldine ROW (maintaining the status quo) provides a “benefit” that is any different than improving (or even maintaining) a park, trail, sidewalk, or other park amenity that a family member of a city council member might use or is near that family members house. Classifying such an action as a “benefit” as being disqualifying could have far-reaching implications.

Family relationship

The Roseville Code of Ethics does not define the term “family relationship.” However, it does define “immediate family” and the definition does not include siblings or siblings-in-law.

Again, however, it is not clear from the language of the Code of Ethics whether the use of the term “family relationship” was intended to be more expansive than “immediate family.” Therefore, the analysis herein is made without drawing a conclusion regarding whether Council Member Strahan’s has a “family relationship” with her sister-in-law.

The Roseville Code of Ethics requires application of a “but for” test.

First, Council Member Strahan moved to table the action, in part, to resolve a legal question. She did not move to deny, or approve, the proposed vacation. Rather, the only action taken by the Council on April 21st was to table the matter to get clarification on language in the resolution from the City Attorney, and for further information from staff and the neighborhood. The record is clear that the layover would likely have occurred simply to get clarification from the City Attorney. Therefore, in my opinion, there is not clear and convincing evidence that Council Member Strahan’s action of moving to table the consideration of the vacation, when viewed as either an “action” or “influencing a process”, would not have taken place, but-for her relationship with her sister-in-law.

Second, the question of whether to designate or improve the Aldine ROW as a pathway was discussed by City staff, and other council members. The idea of moving to table the matter in order to obtain further information on establishing an improved pathway was first suggested by Mr. Freihammer, who said that the staff was not aware that residents were using the Aldine ROW. There was subsequent discussion by the Council regarding the pathway master plan and other factors to consider regarding installing an improved path. Therefore, in my opinion, there is not clear and convincing evidence that Council Member Strahan’s action of moving to table the consideration of the vacation, when viewed as either an “action” or “influencing a process”, would not have taken place, but-for her relationship with her sister-in-law.

Third, Council Member Strahan’s comments include the that the path is a valuable resource for access to the neighborhood between Fairview and Snelling, and the fact that the Aldine ROW has been a footpath for a long time. Further, when explaining why she was moving to table the motion, Council Member Strahan mentioned wanting to better understand the pathway options and to hear from more people in the neighborhood. While Linda Strahan testified in opposition to vacating the Aldine ROW, so did several other residents. Therefore, in my opinion, there is not clear and convincing evidence that Council Member Strahan’s action of moving to table the consideration of the vacation, when viewed as either an “action” or “influencing a process”, would not have taken place, but-for her relationship with her sister-in-law.

Conclusion

The conclusion of this Report is that, based on the information from the April 21, 2025, public hearing, and for the reasons stated above, there is not clear and convincing evidence in the record that Council Member Strahan’s actions violated the Code of Ethics.

The Complaints request that Council Member Strahan recuse herself from voting on the final action related to vacating the Aldine ROW. Since there is not clear and convincing evidence that acting on the Aldine ROW would violate the Code of Ethics, there is not a direct legal or policy requirement requiring her to recuse herself.



Online Form Submittal: Complaint Form

From noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>

Date Wed 4/23/2025 4:58 PM

To Pat Trudgeon <pat.trudgeon@cityofroseville.com>

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

The following form was submitted via your website: Complaint Form

Name:: Melinda Erickson

Address:: 93 Mid Oaks Lane

City:: Roseville

State:: MN

Zip:: 55113

Home Phone:: [REDACTED]

Daytime Phone:: Same

Email Address:: [REDACTED]

Employee's Name:
: Council member Julie Strahan

Second Employee's Name (if applicable):<P>: None

Name of Witness (if applicable):<P>: Self and everyone attending 4/21/25 council meeting/public hearing

Contact Information for Witness:: Above, official attendance list, speaker list.

Name of Second Witness (if applicable):: See above

Contact Information for Second Witness:: See above

Date and Time of the Action:: 4/21/25 council meeting/public hearing, about 7:30 pm.

Location of Action:: City council chambers

Describe What Happened:: After the public comment period regarding the proposed vacation of the Aldine Street ROW along the back of selected lots on Mid Oaks Lane, Council member Julie Strahan made a series of inappropriate comments and a biased motion. Her comments advocated against the proposed Aldine ROW vacation on behalf of family members - in direct opposition to the property owner comments plus a written petition signed of all affected property owners, who are all in support of the proposed Aldine ROW vacation.

In my opinion, Council member Strahan's behavior violated the Roseville City Council's ethics code, specifically Section 3.M, which prohibits favoritism towards family members. Council member Strahan may say that she would have had the opinion anyway; however her comments involved mentioning family members, which was her choice and indicates family connection motive for the comments. Also in my opinion, the appropriate remedy is an apology from Council member Strahan, recusing herself from any further comment on the matter, and recusing herself from the eventual Council vote to vacate the Aldine ROW or take another action.

The council meeting was recorded, so Council member Strahan's behavior can be reviewed rather than relying on memory or this reporting.

Thank you for considering this ethics complaint and potentially taking action to remedy or offset the bias and favoritism towards family members by the behavior of Council member Julie Strahan at the 4/21/25 council meeting/public hearing.

Melinda Erickson

Additional Information:

Form submitted on: 4/23/2025 4:58:36 PM

Submitted from IP Address: 24.118.98.226

Referrer Page: <https://www.google.com/>

Form Address: <http://www.cityofroseville.com/Forms.aspx?FID=276>



Online Form Submittal: Ethics Complaint Form

From noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>

Date Thu 4/24/2025 7:39 PM

To Pat Trudgeon <pat.trudgeon@cityofroseville.com>; Dawn O'Connor <dawn.oconnor@cityofroseville.com>

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

Ethics Complaint Form

Please complete this online form and submit.

Contact Information

First Name	Sara
Last Name	Quinn
Address 1	89 Mid Oaks Lane
Address 2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	Roseville
State	MN
Zip Code	55113
Home or Cell Phone Number	██████████
Email Address	████████████████████
Select how would you prefer to be contacted	Email

Please share your comment, question or concern (no character limit)

I attended the April 21, 2025, council meeting that addressed the vacation of area V. In my opinion, council person Julie Strahan used her position of power to sway a vote regarding area V. Once the public comment period ended, Julie Strahan made a statement about her sister living near the path and using the path that goes through the easement. Julie's statement shows that she has a clear conflict of interest when it comes to the vacation of area V. I also feel, she violated the code of ethics, specifically code 3.M, but possibly more. In addition, the code of ethics clearly states a public official should remain impartial. Julie's comments make it clear that she is not

impartial. I think the only option is for Julie Strahan to recuse herself from further votes regarding area V. Attachment 2

Thank you for reading my complaint and considering taking action to prevent a biased vote.

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

**EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROSEVILLE**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Roseville, County of Ramsey, Minnesota, was held on the 14th day of July 2014, at 6:00 p.m.

The following members were present: McGehee, Willmus, Laliberte, Etten, Roe
and the following members were absent: None.

Council Member Laliberte introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION NO. 11163
A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR PUBLIC
OFFICIALS IN THE CITY OF ROSEVILLE
(RESOLUTION NO 10905)**

WHEREAS, it is the Council's desire to create and maintain ethical standards that guide Public Officials in the transaction of public business; and

WHEREAS, the Council has determined the most effective way to do so is to adopt and enforce a Code of Ethics that guides the conduct of Public Officials:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Roseville City Council, that the following Code of Ethics is hereby adopted:

**CODE OF ETHICS FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS IN THE CITY OF
ROSEVILLE**

Purpose

Officials in the public service must maintain the highest possible standards of ethical conduct in their transactions of public business. Such standards must be clearly defined and known to the public as well as to the Public Officials. Violations of the ethical standards in this ordinance are punishable by the City Council and are not to be deemed criminal misdemeanors of any other type of crime except as those behaviors or activities may separately be determined to be criminal under state or federal law.

Section 1. Declaration of Policy

The proper operation of democratic government requires that Public Officials be independent, impartial and responsible to the people; that government decisions and policy be made in the proper channels of the government structure; that public office not be used for personal gain; and that the public have confidence in the integrity of its government.

In recognition of these goals, there is hereby established a Code of Ethics for all Public Officials of the City of Roseville. The purpose of this Code is to establish ethical standards of conduct for all such officials by setting forth those acts or actions that are incompatible with the best interests of the City, and by directing disclosure by such officials of private financial or other interests in matters affecting the City. The provisions and purpose of this Code and such rules and regulations as may be established are in the best interests of the City of Roseville.

Recognizing that education on ethics in government is the key to having good government, this code requires that annual training be held to discuss the meaning of this code with Public Officials, and in addition such training shall involve trained experts on government ethics. The City Manager shall be the coordinator for the annual training. The training will keep the subject of ethics in government fresh in everyone's mind.
(amended 5-23-2011)

To increase the awareness and understanding of the importance of ethical considerations and behavior among the public as well as government employees, communication of the role of the ethics commission and this Code must occur at least annually in local newspapers and the Roseville website as determined by the City Manager. Additionally, this Code of Ethics shall be reviewed annually to determine if modifications are appropriate.

Section 2. Definitions of Terms

Public Official

Any person that has been elected to office, appointed to a City board or commission, or hired by the City to serve as a department head or assistant department head.

Public Officials include the following:

- a. Members of the City Council and Mayor;
- b. The department head and assistant department head of each City department;

- c. Any person that has been appointed by the Roseville City Council. This would include City commission, board, and task force members; and
- d. The City Manager.

Anything of Value

Money, real or personal property, a permit or license, a favor, a service, forgiveness of a loan or promise of future employment. The term “Anything of Value” shall not be deemed to include:

- (1) Services to assist an official in the performance of official duties, including but not limited to providing advice, consultation, information, and communication in connection with legislation, and services to constituents;
- (2) Services of insignificant monetary value;
- (3) A plaque or similar memento recognizing individual services in a field of specialty or to a charitable cause;
- (4) A trinket or memento costing \$5 or less;
- (5) Informational material of unexceptional value;
- (6) Food or a beverage given at a reception, meal, or meeting away from the recipient’s place of work by an organization before whom the recipient appears to make a speech or answer questions as part of a program; or
- (7) A contribution as defined in Minn. Stat. § 211A.01, subd. 5.

Compensation

A payment of Anything of Value to an individual in return for that individual's services of any kind.

Association

A business entity of any kind, a labor union, a club or any other group of two or more persons other than the immediate family.

Immediate Family

A reporting individual, spouse, minor children, minor stepchildren or other person residing in the same household.

Gift

The payment or receipt of Anything of Value unless consideration of greater or equal value is provided in return.

City Manager

The person that heads up the administration of the operating government of Roseville.

Section 3. Ethical Considerations

Public Officials are to serve all persons fairly and equitably without regard to their personal or financial benefit. The credibility of Roseville government hinges on the proper discharge of duties in the public interest. Public Officials must assure that the independence of their judgment and actions, without any consideration for personal gain, is preserved.

Specific ethical violations are enumerated below for the guidance of Public Officials, but these do not necessarily encompass all the possible ethical considerations that might arise.

- A. Other Offices or Employment. An elected Public Official shall not hold another incompatible office, as that term has been interpreted from time to time by statute, the courts, and by the Attorney General. Employed Public Officials shall not hold such incompatible office nor shall they engage in any regular outside employment without notice to and approval by the City Council, in the case of the City Manager, and the City Manager in the case of other employed Public Officials.

Elected and appointed Public Officials shall not hold other office or employment which compromises the performance of their elected or appointed duties without disclosure of said office or employment and self disqualification from any particular action which might be compromised by such office or employment.

- B. Use of Confidential Information. No Public Official shall use information gained as a Public Official which is not generally made available to and/or is not known to the public, to directly or indirectly gain anything of value, or for the benefit of any other person or entity; nor shall any Public Official make such information available when it would be reasonably foreseeable that a person or entity would benefit from it.
- C. Solicitation of or Receipt of Anything of Value. A Public Official shall not solicit or receive anything of value from any person or association, directly or indirectly, in consideration of some action to be taken or not to be taken in the performance of the Public Official's duties.

- D. Holding Investments. No Public Official shall hold any investment which might compromise the performance of the Public Official's duties without disclosure of said investment and self disqualification from any particular action which might be compromised by such investment, except as permitted by statute, such as Minnesota Statute 471.88.
- E. Representation of Others. A Public Official shall not represent persons or associations in dealings with the City where the persons or associations have paid or promised to pay compensation to the Public Official.
- F. Financial Interest. Where a Public Official or a member of the Public Official's immediate family has a financial interest in any matter being considered by the Public Official, such interest, if known to the Public Official, shall be disclosed by the Public Official. If the Public Official has such a financial interest or if the minor child of a Public Official has such a financial interest, the Public Official shall be disqualified from further participation in the matter.
- G. City Property. No Public Official shall use City-owned property such as vehicles, equipment, or supplies for personal convenience or profit except when such property is available to the public generally, or where such property is provided by specific City policy in the conduct of official City business.
- H. Special consideration. No Public Official shall grant any special consideration, treatment, or advantage to any citizen beyond that which is available to every other citizen.
- I. Giving Anything of Value. No elected Public Official shall give anything of value to potential voters in return for their votes, promises, or financial considerations which would be prohibited by the State Minnesota Fair Campaign Practices statute.
- J. Public Funds, etc. No Public Official shall use public funds, personnel, facilities, or equipment for private gain or political campaign activities, except as may be authorized by law.
- K. Expenses. Public Officials shall provide complete documentation to support requests for expense reimbursement. Expense reimbursement shall be made in accordance with City policy.
- L. Donations. No Public Official shall take an official action which will benefit any person or entity because of a donation of Anything of Value to the City by such person or entity.

- M. Official Action. No Public Official shall take an official action or attempt to influence any process which will benefit any person or entity where such Public Official would not have otherwise have taken such action but for the Public Official's family relationship, friendship, or business relationship with such person or entity.
- N. Compliance with Laws. Public Officials shall comply with all local ordinances and State and Federal Statutes including, but not limited to, the Criminal Code, Fair Campaign Practices Act, and laws governing the functioning of municipalities, their elected and appointed officials, and employees.
- O. Cooperation with Ethics Committee Investigations. Public Officials shall cooperate with ethics investigations and shall respond in good faith to reasonable requests for information.
- P. Resolution of Ethics Complaints. The Ethics Commission, City Attorney, or City Manager, as the case may be, shall promptly attend to all ethics complaints in the manner provided in this Code. It is expected that most complaints will be investigated as necessary and presented to the City Council for consideration within 45 days of submission of the complaint.

Section 4. Special Considerations

Situations can arise where a member of a commission, a board, or the City Council abstains from voting because of a conflict of interest, but his or her abstention becomes a vote either for or against the matter because a majority are required to pass or reject that matter. This can happen where four-fifths vote is needed to pass an issue, or the vote has to be a clear majority and a split vote does not pass or reject.

When this happens, the City Attorney must be consulted and the final vote should carry a public notice explaining what took place, and how it was resolved.

Section 5. Handling Alleged Violations of Code of Ethics

- A. Complaints alleging ethical violations by Public Officials must be submitted in written form to the City Attorney. Complaints alleging ethical violations by City employee Public Officials shall be submitted in written form to the City Manager.
- B. The City Attorney shall investigate all ethics complaints pertaining to non-employee Public Officials unless the City Attorney has a conflict, in which case outside counsel will be assigned the complaint. The City Manager will investigate complaints pertaining to employee Public Officials.

- C. If the City Attorney or City Manager determines that the subject of the complaint may have committed a crime, the City Attorney and City Manager shall refer the matter to the appropriate criminal authority.
- D. If the criminal proceeding ends with a sentencing, said sentencing shall be considered to be the final disposition of the complaint.
- E. If there has been no violation of a criminal law, the City Attorney or City Manager, as the case may be, shall issue a report that documents the results of the City Attorney's or City Manager's investigation(s).
1. The report shall be sent directly to the City Council if the complaint involves an Ethics Commission member. The Council shall have the authority to dismiss any Ethics Commission member found to have violated the Ethics Code.
 2. The report shall be sent to the Ethics Commission if the complaint involves other Public Officials. The Ethics Commission shall have the authority to convene and issue its own report and recommendation to the City Council. Thereafter, the City Council shall take action as the Council deems appropriate.
- F. The standard for decisions regarding allegations of ethical violations covered by Section 3 of this code shall be "clear and convincing evidence." The term "clear and convincing evidence" shall mean that burden of proof as defined by Minnesota State law.
- G. In processing complaints, the City Attorney, City Manager, Ethics Commission and City Council shall process and maintain data in a manner consistent with Minn. Stat. Ch. 13, the Minnesota Data Practices Act.
- H. **A complainant may withdraw a complaint, filed under this Code at any time, in writing with the City Manager or City Attorney. Unless the City Council directs otherwise, City personnel need not take any further action in accordance with the Code after such withdrawal. Once acceptance by the City Council has been granted, the City Attorney or City Manager shall provide notice to the complainant, the subject of the complaint if appropriate, and the Ethics Commission that the withdrawal has been accepted.**

Section 6. Disclosure of Financial Interests

Not later than ninety (90) days after the date of approval of this Code, each Public Official of the City shall file as a public record, in the office of the City Manager, a statement containing the following:

1. A list naming all business enterprises known by the Public Official to be licensed by or to be doing business with the City in which the Public Official or any member of the Public Official's immediate family is connected as an employee, officer, owner, investor, creditor of, director, trustee, partner, advisor, or consultant; and
2. A list of the Public Officials and members of the Public Officials' immediate family's interests in real property located in the City or which may be competing with the interests of the City located elsewhere, other than property occupied as a personal residence.

Each person who enters upon duty after the date of this code in an office or position as to which a statement is required by this Code shall file such a statement on forms to be provided by the City not less than thirty (30) days after the date of his/her entrance on duty.

Each person who made an initial filing shall file a new Statement by January 30 of each year thereafter giving the information called for above as of the time of the new statement. If a change in financial interest or property ownership occurs between filings, a new filing shall be made within thirty (30) days of the change.

The interest of any member of the immediate family shall be considered to be an interest of a person required to file a statement by or pursuant to this Code.

This Code shall not be construed to require the filing of any information relating to any person's connection with or interest in any professional society or any charitable, religious, social, fraternal, educational, recreational, public service, civil, or political organization, or any similar organization not conducted as a business enterprise and which is not engaged in the ownership or conduct of a business enterprise.

However, if any of such organizations seeking any action or benefit come before a Roseville commission or the Council, then membership in the organization shall be a potential conflict of interest and must be reported as such to the City Manager by the Public Official in an amended disclosure statement. The other stipulations of this Code then apply.

The City Manager shall inform each person who is required to file of the time and place for filing. The City Manager shall inform the Council whenever a person who is required to file a statement fails to do so.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Council Member McGehee and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor: McGehee, Willmus, Laliberte, Etten, Roe

and the following voted against: none.

WHEREUPON said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

ROSEVILLE
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Date: 4/21/2025

Item No.: 7.a.

Department Approval

City Manager Approval




Item Description: Public Hearing and Approve Resolutions Approving the Vacation of Multiple Streets Easements and Rights-of-Way

1
2 **Background**

3 Over the past several years, staff has identified rights-of-way that the City no longer needs
4 for public benefit. Some of these rights-of-way were dedicated to the City for future
5 roadways that were never constructed, some were partial right-of-way dedications, while
6 others were alley dedications. In all the cases, the City has no plans to construct a future
7 roadway.

8
9 By vacating these rights-of-way, the area will revert to the underlying property owners. The
10 owners will benefit from having more control over the former right-of-way areas. This also
11 helps with confusion and disagreements over how the right-of-way area should be
12 maintained in regards to vegetation control and debris management.

13
14 Some of the corridors have utilities or trails within the right-of-way. However, since a
15 roadway will not be constructed, an easement would be more appropriate for the identified
16 vacation area. Where it is appropriate, the proposed resolution will reserve utility easement
17 rights in the vacated areas.

18
19 On April 11, 2022, Council authorized staff to begin the vacation process for these
20 locations. Staff has brought four phases of vacations previously, and these four vacation
21 areas are part of Phase 5. Additional public hearings are anticipated later this summer with
22 staff anticipating a total of six phases.

23
24 The vacation resolutions were publicly noticed in the newspaper on March 11, 2025 and
25 March 18, 2025, and a mailing to the affected residents postmarked March 25, 2025, per
26 State Statute requirements. Affidavits of Publication and Mailing are available in the office
27 of the City Engineer.

28
29 Specific to Vacation Area V (Aldine Street), the City has received feedback from residents
30 indicating that the neighborhood uses this right-of-way (ROW) corridor as an informal
31 walking trail. Although this segment is not identified on the City's Pathway Master Plan, if
32 the Council wishes to preserve the corridor for potential future trail use, staff recommends
33 vacating only the western 20 feet and retaining the eastern 30 feet for that purpose. Should

34 the Council wish to proceed with this approach, staff requests direction to prepare a revised
35 vacation description and bring forward a new public hearing at a future date.

36
37 After the public hearing on the vacations is closed, each resolution would be voted on
38 separately. Since these are City-initiated vacations, a four-fifths vote is required to approve
39 vacation of these rights-of-way. No vacation will be official until such time as the City
40 Manager executes and records a Notice of Completion.

41 **Policy Objectives**

42 This action is intended to “right-size” the City’s property rights and property management
43 responsibilities for Roseville’s current and future needs.

44 **Equity Impact Summary**

45 There should be no equity impacts associated with these vacations as they have no public
46 use for a future roadway. If there are utilities or pathways in the rights-of-way, easements
47 are retained per the resolution.

48 **Budget Implications**

49 Aside from costs related to filing the vacations with Ramsey County, publishing the public
50 notices, and the mailings to notify the residents, there are no direct costs to the City of
51 Roseville to vacate right-of-way corridors.

52 **Staff Recommendations**

53 Staff recommends that the City Council approve the attached resolutions approving
54 vacation of the rights-of-way.

55 **Requested Council Action**

56 Conduct a public hearing receiving any public comments related to all proposed rights-of-
57 way and easement vacations.

58
59 Consider approval of a resolution approving the right-of-way vacation of a portion of Eustis
60 Street as described in the Easement Deed dated July 15, 1960 filed in Book 1694, page
61 459 of deeds between the properties located at 2420 and 2460 County Road C W.
62 [Vacation Area K – Attachment 1]

63
64 Consider approval of a resolution approving the right-of-way vacation of a portion of Aldine
65 Place that is located between the properties located at 1693 North Ridgewood Lane W and
66 1710 South Ridgewood Lane W in the plat of Ridgewood. [Vacation Area U – Attachment
67 2]

68
69 Consider approval of a resolution approving the right-of-way vacation of a portion of Aldine
70 Street that is located between the properties located at 1706 Ryan Avenue West, 1705
71 Roselawn Avenue West, 77 Mid Oaks Lane, 85 Mid Oaks Lane, 87 Mid Oaks Lane, 89 Mid
72 Oaks Lane, 91 Mid Oaks Lane, and 93 Mid Oaks Lane in the plat of Mid Oaks. [Vacation
73 Area V – Attachment 3]

74
75 Consider approval of a resolution approving the right-of-way vacation of a portion of
76 Wheeler Street that is located between the properties located at 1763 Shryer Avenue and
77
78
79
80
81

82 1751 Shryer Avenue in the plat of Woodside. [Vacation Area W – Attachment 4]

83

84 A four-fifths vote is required for all resolution approvals, as the vacations are City-led, not
85 petitioned.

86

87

Prepared by: Erik Henricksen, Assistant City Engineer

- Attachments:**
1. Resolution for Vacation Area K
 2. Resolution for Vacation Area U
 3. Resolution for Vacation Area V
 4. Resolution for Vacation Area W
 5. Map of Phase 5 Vacation Areas
 6. Map of Vacation Area K
 7. Map of Vacation Area U
 8. Map of Vacation Area V
 9. Map of Vacation Area W
 10. Public Hearing Agenda
 11. Comments from Residents
 12. Presentation
 13. Aldine Street Vacation - Bench Handout 2
 14. FW_ Vacation of Area V - Aldine ROW Extension - Bench Handout 3
 15. Trail Issue - Bench Handout 4
 16. 04212025 Item 7.a Petition

88

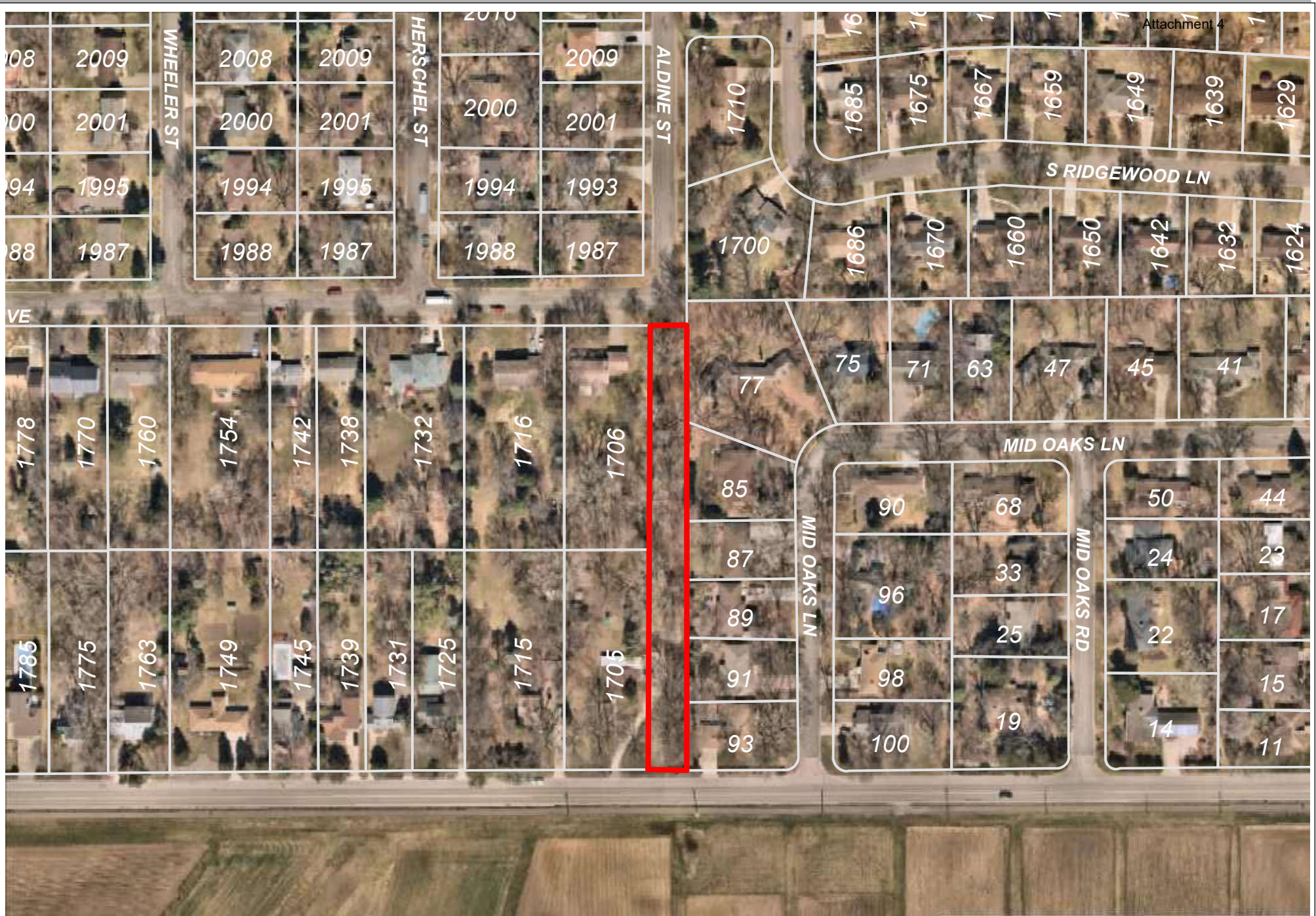



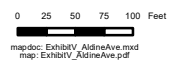
Exhibit V: Aldine Ave Right-of-Way Vacation

ROSEVILLE
 Prepared by:
 Engineering Department
 March 29, 2022

 Right-of-Way Vacation Area

Data Sources and Contacts:
 * Ramsey County GIS Base Map (2/02/22)
 * City of Roseville Engineering Department
 For further information regarding the contents of this map contact:
 City of Roseville, Engineering Department,
 2650 Civic Center Drive, Roseville MN

DISCLAIMER:
 This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey and is not intended to be used as one. This map is a compilation of records, information and data located in various city, county, state and federal offices and other sources regarding the area shown, and it is to be used for reference purposes only. The City does not warrant that the Geographic Information System (GIS) data used to prepare this map is error free, and the City does not warrant that the City shall be liable for any damages, including any consequential damages, arising from the use of this map. The City shall not be liable for any damages, and expressly waives all claims, and agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the City from any and all claims brought by User, its employees or agents, or third parties which arise out of the user's access or use of data provided.

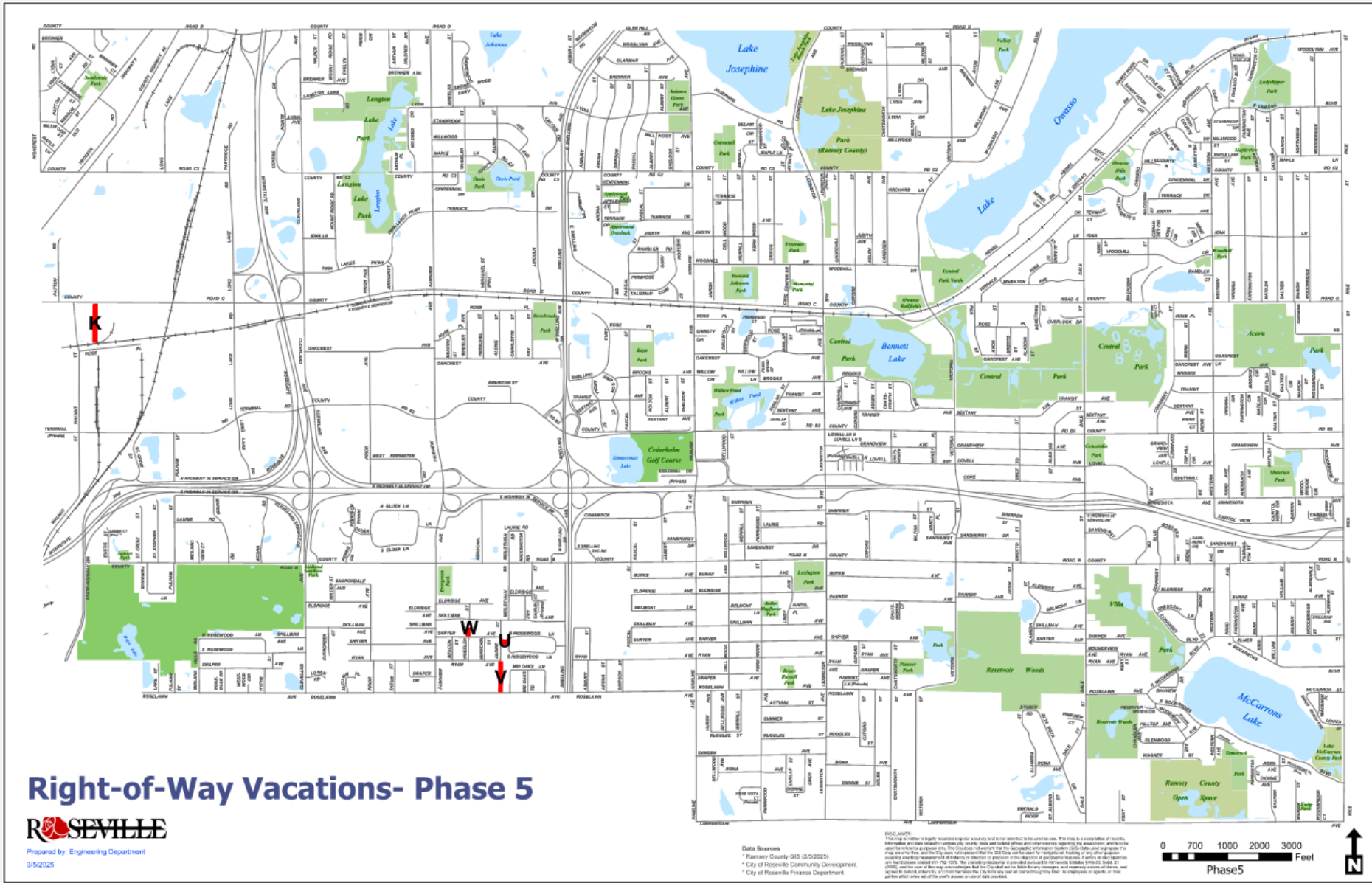


Vacation of Multiple Street Rights-of-Way Phase 5

Public Works

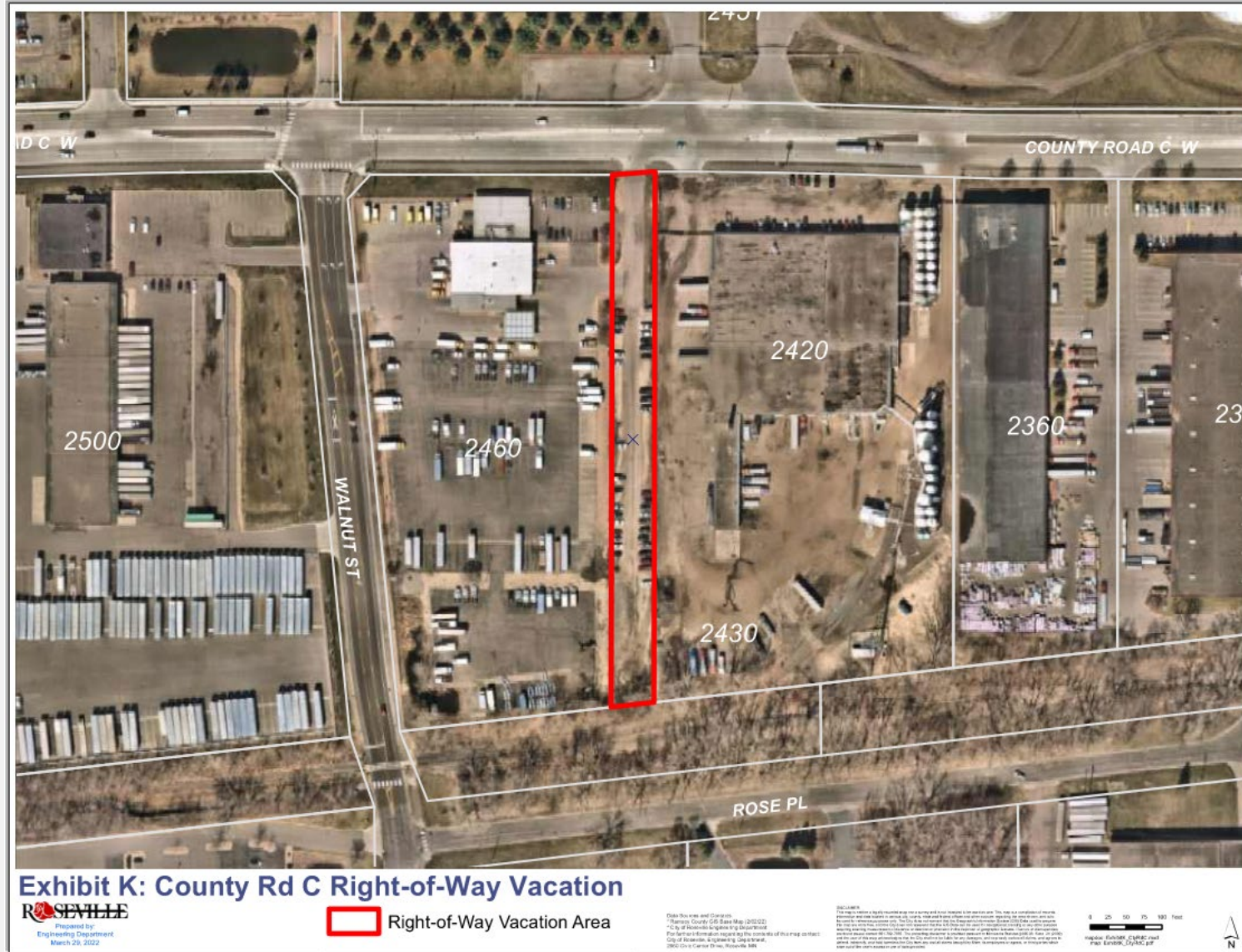


Proposed Vacations Map



Vacation K – Resolution 1

A PORTION OF EUSTIS STREET



Vacation U – Resolution 2

PORTION OF ALDINE PLACE THAT LIES WITHIN THE PLAT OF RIDGEWOOD



Vacation V – Resolution 3

PORTION OF ALDINE STREET THAT LIES WITHIN THE PLAT OF MID OAKS

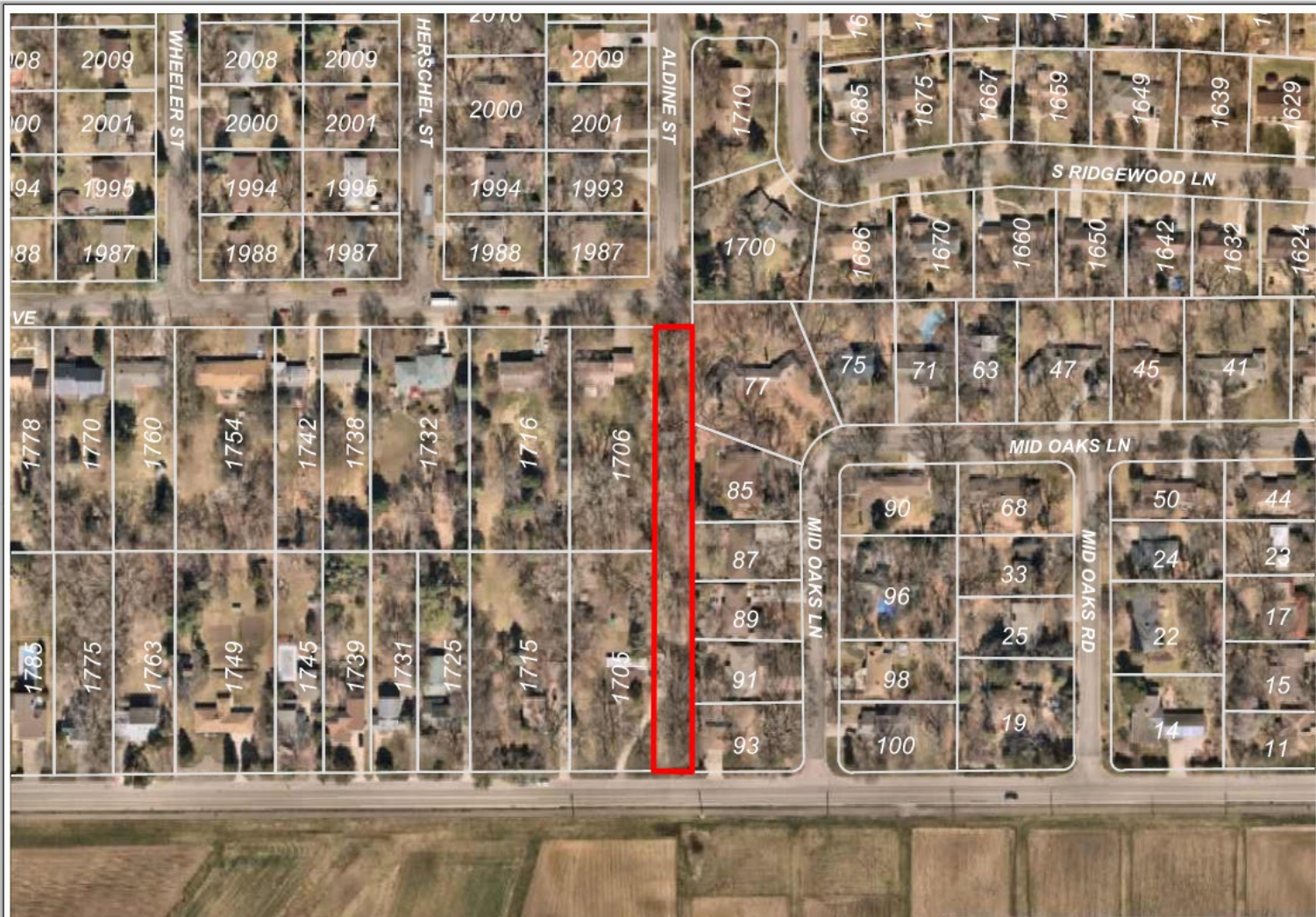



Exhibit V: Aldine Ave Right-of-Way Vacation

ROSELVILLE
 Prepared by
 Engineering Department
 March 28, 2022

 Right-of-Way Vacation Area

THIS DRAWING AND CONTENTS:
 1. Represent County GIS Base Map (2008/09)
 2. City of Roselville Engineering Department
 For further information regarding the contents of this map contact:
 City of Roselville, Engineering Department
 2009 City Center Drive, Roselville, MO

DISCLAIMER:
 This drawing is a field measurement as it exists, not intended to be used as a construction document. The user assumes all responsibility for the accuracy of the information shown on this drawing. The City of Roselville is not responsible for any errors or omissions on this drawing. The City of Roselville is not responsible for any damages or liabilities arising from the use of this drawing. The City of Roselville is not responsible for any damages or liabilities arising from the use of this drawing. The City of Roselville is not responsible for any damages or liabilities arising from the use of this drawing.



Vacation W – Resolution 4

PORTION OF WHEELER STREET THAT LIES WITHIN THE PLAT OF WOODSIDE



All Vacation Areas

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing as Required by Minnesota State Statute 412.851

In an attempt to provide everyone an opportunity to be heard and yet conduct the hearing in an efficient manner, we would suggest that rules be used for the hearing for this project. These would include the following:

1. Individuals should identify themselves by giving their name and address and should speak into the microphone.
2. Each speaker can speak one time and should limit questions and comments to three minutes.
3. Be courteous. No comments from audience or applause during question/ comment period.

Recommended Council Action

1. Consider approval of a resolution approving the right-of-way vacation of a portion of Eustis Street.
[Vacation Area K – Resolution 1]
2. Consider approval of a resolution approving the right-of-way vacation of a portion of Aldine Place that lies within the plat of Ridgewood.
[Vacation Area U – Resolution 2]
3. Consider approval of a resolution approving the right-of-way vacation of a portion of Aldine Street that lies within the plat of Mid Oaks.
[Vacation Area V – Resolution 3]
4. Consider approval of a resolution approving the right-of-way vacation of a portion of Wheeler Street that lies within the plat of Woodside.
[Vacation Area W – Resolution 4]

A 4/5th vote is required since these are city-initiated vacations.

**EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROSEVILLE**

* * * * *

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Roseville, County of Ramsey, Minnesota was duly held on the 21st day of April, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

The following members were present: , , , and Mayor .
and the following were absent: .

Member introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION No.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE VACATION OF A CERTAIN PORTION OF
ALDINE STREET**

WHEREAS, the City Council pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 412.851 desires to consider the vacation of Aldine Street that is located between the properties located at 77 Mid Oaks Lane, 85 Mid Oaks Lane, 87 Mid Oaks Lane, 89 Mid Oaks Lane, 91 Mid Oaks Lane, and 93 Mid Oaks Lane in the plat of Mid Oaks and possibly on the properties located at 1705 Roselawn Avenue West and 1706 Ryan Avenue West; and

WHEREAS, the portion of Aldine Street that is being vacated is legally described on the attached Exhibit A and as shown on the attached Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, the City Clerk published, posted, and mailed notice of a public hearing as required by law, and a public hearing was held on the proposed vacation on the 21st day of April, 2025; and

WHEREAS, a public street is not currently, nor is planned to be, constructed within this right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the City Council in its discretion has determined that the vacation will benefit the public interest because this portion of Aldine Street is not needed for current or future right-of-way purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Roseville, that:

- 1. That portion of Aldine Street that lies between 1706 Ryan Avenue West, 1705 Roselawn Avenue West, 77 Mid Oaks Lane, 85 Mid Oaks Lane, 87 Mid Oaks Lane, 89 Mid Oaks Lane, 91 Mid Oaks Lane, and 93 Mid Oaks Lane in the plat of Mid Oaks with the exception that an easement for utility purposes within the vacated right-of-way is hereby reserved if said property contains a right-of-way easement.

33 2. City staff and consultants are hereby authorized and directed to file a notice of
34 completion of vacation proceedings.

35 The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member ,
36 and upon a vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: , ,
37 , and Mayor .
38 and the following voted against the same: .

39 WHEREUPON said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
) ss
COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

I, the undersigned, being the duly qualified City Manager of the City of Roseville, County of Ramsey, State of Minnesota, do hereby certify that I have carefully compared the attached and foregoing extract of minutes of a regular meeting of said City Council held on the 21st day of April, 2025, with the original thereof on file in my office.

WITNESS MY HAND officially as such Manager this 21st day of April, 2025.

Patrick Trudgeon, City Manager

EXHIBIT A

Legal Description of the Vacated Area

That portion of Aldine Street lying adjacent to Lots 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10, Block 4 dedicated in the plat of Mid Oaks, County of Ramsey, State of Minnesota.

Any portion of Aldine Street that may be located on the property described as follows:

The South 293 feet of the East 132 feet of the Southeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Southwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Northeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 16, Township 29, Range 23, County of Ramsey, State of Minnesota.

Any portion of Aldine Street that may be located on the property described as follows:

The East 132 feet of Southeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of Southwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of Northeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 16, Township 29, Range 23, except the South 293 feet thereof, subject to highway easements along the North 30 feet and the East 20 feet thereof, according to the United States Government Survey thereof and situate in Ramsey County, Minnesota.

From: [Rachel Brown](#)
To: [Dan Roe](#)
Subject: Aldine Street Vacation -
Date: Monday, April 21, 2025 10:50:37 AM

You don't often get email from brown-rachel@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

Hi Mayor Roe,

I am one of the 8 underlying property owners of the Aline Street Vacation (Area V) that you will be voting on tonight.

I ask you to please vote Yes on the full vacation of the Area V tonight.

All 8 property owners are eager to have full access to our land (subject to the utility easement). We also all agree that we do not want a formal, city-code compliant paved path that would completely alter our landscapes, change our use of our properties, disrupt our lives during planning and construction, remove or distress, existing oak trees, and cost the city a lot of time and money.

And for me, personally, the full vacation lets me finally address significant issues on my property where I have lived for 25 years.

1) The ROW line is just a few feet from my garage entry. (First photos below shows the approximate line from two perspectives). The house, built in 1934, well before the 1950's ROW was enacted, had a small tuck-under garage. A 1960s addition (white siding part) extended the garage a bit, but either way, the ROW was very close to the garage. This means that in order to have car access to the garage, my driveway must be on the ROW land.

2) Because of this, I have a gravel driveway that is not code-compliant and is expensive to maintain. (Third photo shows one of the gravel piles, left on the lawn after a season of snow removal.) Full re-graveling costs about \$2,000 and needs to be done every 2-3 years.

3) The raising of the roof line in the 1960s remodel also created an issue with the back bedroom windows - they were originally windows to the outside; now they open into the garage (fourth photo). This is a problem that I intend to correct with a garage/house remodel. But without the ROW portion returned to me, there is little space for me to build a normal garage.

All this to say, I was very thankful to learn of the city's plan to vacate the ROW for me and the other underlying property owners of this land.

My fiancé and I have begun work with an architect on the home and garage design, but we cannot move forward with this until the ROW issue is resolved.

So we really hope you will vote yes for the full vacation tonight.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,
Rachel





To: Roseville City Council
Director of Public Works, Jesse Freihammer
Assistant City Engineer, Erik Henriksen

I am writing to the Council as I will be unable to attend the meeting tonight. However, I have learned that there may be discussion of the creation of a formal City pathway along the Aldine/Roselawn easement.

There are several reasons I believe a formal City pathway here is unnecessary, unsafe, costly, and damaging to the neighborhood environment. I am hopeful that the Council will vacate the easement as recommended by Public Works for the reasons outlined below.

1. The City has held this land for well over 40 years without a plan or identified use.
2. This trail is not now and has never been part of the Pathway Master Plan and does not appear to meet the usual and standard criteria for such a designation.
3. This right-of-way area has never been maintained by the City.
4. To undertake any formal pathway project would result in the destruction of many large, heritage trees, including some that have been used by significant wildlife in our area.
5. Construction of a formal pathway would have considerable financial costs for both construction and maintenance, costs borne by the public for very limited.
6. The school district provides safe bus service to all school age children on Mid Oaks Lane and Mid Oaks Road with a pick-up point on the Lane for elementary students.
7. The current safe and accessible Fairview pathway links to pathways along Roselawn and across Snelling and both north and south along Fairview.
8. There is no pedestrian crossing along Roselawn at the point of this pathway, and Roselawn is a busy street, especially at rush hour.
9. There is excellent access for the entire area north of this proposed vacated area to the well-maintained, established, safe, and accessible pathway along Fairview.
10. The predominant use of this trail is by dog owners accessing the University Fields. The safer and easier route is to use the existing Fairview pathway and accessing the Roselawn pathway and University Fields at the four-way stop and pedestrian crossing at Fairview and Roselawn.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tam

Tam McGehee
Easement Adjacent Homeowner

From: [Tammy McGehee](#)
To: [Erik Henricksen](#)
Subject: Aldine Easement
Date: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 4:51:07 PM

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

Hi Erik,

Thanks so much for the time yesterday answering my questions regarding the City's plan to vacate the easement adjacent to my property and return it to our plats. We are residents at 77 Mid Oaks Lane, just at the corner of Ryan and Aldine. We also own 85 Mid Oaks Lane, right next door where our daughter stays when she is in town. It is also where I have the best sun for gardening and maintain our vegetable garden there.

We are excited to have the easement vacated for many reasons. Naturally everyone along the Mid Oaks side heading to Roselawn have very shallow rear yards. Whether you have small children or enjoy gardening or having outdoor parties in the summer, the extra 30 feet is very nice. We are looking forward to cleaning up the buckthorn, nettles, and burdock along our portion and replacing these invasives with native plants consistent with anticipated climate changes. We are also very anxious to take responsibility for the large, heritage oak in the easement. We regularly fertilize one side when we have our oaks done, but actually having access to provide fertilization and water all around the base of the tree would be ideal.

As the City is aware there is an ad-hoc footpath used by a few dog walkers as a shortcut to the University Fields. Since Roselawn is a busy street with no pedestrian crosswalks in the area, the crossing of folks with dogs on leashes-- and some with dogs not leashed-- is a hazard for drivers as well as pedestrians. The much safer way is the well-maintained City pathway along Fairview, crossing Roselawn and the four way stop with marked pedestrian crossings. The school district provides excellent bus service for all the students on Mid Oaks Lane. For the safety of everyone, we feel it is best to remove the expense and liability of this easement from the City and return the property to the current plats.

Thank you again for returning this land to our plats for us to enjoy. We are looking forward to the opportunity to care for it.

Tam and Dick McGehee

77 and 85 Mid Oaks Lane

From: [Art Quinn](#)
To: [Erik Henricksen](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Aldine easement vacation
Date: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 8:54:43 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-A picture .png](#)

[REDACTED]

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

Erik,

My name is Art Quinn. My wife, Sara Quinn, and I own the house at 89 Mind Oaks Lane in Roseville. Our home is one of the properties that back up to the Aldine easement currently being considered by the Roseville City Council for vacation. We are very much in support of releasing that easement back to the homeowners in that area. The city does not maintain the pseudo path today and is lightly used by dog walkers, who typically use it to cut through to the U of M farm fields nearby. There are other, safer means to travel in that direction instead of using the unlit and uneven path that currently exists today.

When we purchased our home, we knew the easement had a lightly used path. However, to make the path safe, investments in paving, lighting, and removing many dead trees would be required. Given its light use and the fact that safer travel options exist today, it seems a waste of taxpayer money to invest in it to that extent. Thank you and the Counsel for considering the release of this easement, and we look forward to the possibility of more space to garden and enjoy our neighborhood.

Art Quinn
89 Mid Oaks Lane, Roseville, MN 55113

[REDACTED]

From: [Tim Brown](#)
To: [Erik Henricksen](#)
Subject: Aldine Street ROW Vacation comments
Date: Wednesday, April 16, 2025 7:54:33 AM

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

From:
Timothy Brown and Melinda Erickson
93 Mid Oaks Lane, Roseville, 55113

To:
The Roseville City Council
In c/o Erik Henricksen, Assistant City Engineer

Subject: Aldine Street ROW Vacation comments

Dear City Council and City Staff:

We purchased our home here at 93 Mid Oaks Lane in December 2018. We have come to love the 10 large oak trees on the lot and have invested time and money to help ensure they remain healthy. We have also removed invasive species and planted native "pollinator" species over more than 2000 square feet of our yard. We take much pleasure in tending our work and watching critters of many stripes thrive here.

The 30 feet of ROW along the western margin of our lot is an area we would love to extend our stewardship into. This area contains an additional 4 mature oak trees but has had very little attention paid to invasive species and regular tending to the trees needs. It's status as ROW has put a damper on potential work due to the unknown long term status and barriers to landscaping there.


We strongly support the vacation of the the ROW that maintains the utility easement in the Aldine Street zone. We greatly appreciate the City Council and Staff bringing this issue forward for consideration. We hope this approval can come at the April 21 meeting and that we can then use the spring planting season to begin work!

Thank you for your consideration,

Tim Brown & Mindy Erickson


From: [Rachel Brown](#)
To: [Erik Henriksen](#)
Subject: Aldine Street vacation.
Date: Wednesday, April 16, 2025 7:15:20 AM
Attachments: [RBrown - Aldine Vacation April 2025.pdf](#)

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

Hi Erik,
Attached is a letter about the Aldine Street vacation.
Looking forward to meeting you next Monday.
Rachel


Rachel Brown
1705 Roselawn Avenue West
Roseville, MN 55113

April 16, 2025

Erik Henriksen
Assistant City Engineer
2660 Civic Center Drive
Roseville, MN 55113

Dear Erik,

I am writing to thank you, the other city staff, and the City Council for working to vacate the unused Aldine Street right-of-way that runs along the full length of my property at 1705 Roselawn Avenue West.

I am in full support of the vacation and deeply hope that the City Council Members will vote in favor of the proposed resolution at the meeting on April 21, 2025.

The home was built in 1934, well before the 20-foot right-of-way was set on what is now my property.

Since I moved here in 2000, I have been a diligent steward of the city land along my property line – mowing grass, mulching leaves, and pruning trees and bushes. The proposed vacation will allow me to have more control over these activities on the 2,640 square feet that is set to be released to me (132 ft. x 20 ft), subject to utility easement.

More importantly, the vacation will let me address the problem created when the right-of-way was established in 1951 and made more problematic when the existing garage was extended a bit (sometime in the 1960s): **there is no viable option for me to have a driveway that is solely on my property and connects to my garage.** The existing gravel driveway is expensive to maintain, a challenge for snow removal, and non-compliant with city code.

When I received notice of the vacation, I was delighted to have a long-awaited resolution to this problem. As I plan a home remodel, including a garage to replace/expand the very small 1-car one, I am looking forward to having access to land that will allow me to create a code-compliant driveway that is paved and fully on my property.

Again, many thanks for your work on this. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to make this happen as planned on April 21.

Rachel

From: [SHAWN CHA](#)
To: [Erik Henricksen](#)
Subject: Vacating areas and paths
Date: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 6:54:56 PM

[REDACTED]

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

Hi Erik,

We recently received two letters from the city regarding some of the paths surrounding our neighborhood. I was made aware by a few people around our home that there are letters being sent in regarding keeping the path. However, I own a home that sits directly on the path and I kindly request that the use of these paths be vacated.

Thank you,
S & M

From: [Hanna Cox](#)
To: [Erik Henricksen](#)
Subject: Aldine Vacation / Mid Oaks Lane
Date: Wednesday, April 16, 2025 9:48:36 AM



Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

Hi Eric,

I'm writing to express our support for the proposed vacation of the Aldine right-of-way adjacent to our property. We live at 91 Mid Oaks Lane and believe that incorporating this parcel into our lot would enhance the usability and flexibility of our outdoor space.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let us know if any additional information is needed.

Best regards,
Hanna Connor



From: [Jesse Freihammer](#)
To: [Allie Sertich](#)
Subject: FW: Vacation of Area V - Aldine ROW Extension
Date: Monday, April 21, 2025 12:50:37 PM

#2 resident feedback.

Jesse Freihammer, P.E.

Public Works Director

Office 651.792.7041 | Cell 651.444.9810



2660 Civic Center Drive | Roseville, MN 55113

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#)

From: Kevin Watson <watson.kevin.p@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, April 21, 2025 12:00 PM

To: Dan Roe <dan.roe@cityofroseville.com>; Matt Bauer <matt.bauer@cityofroseville.com>; Wayne Groff <wayne.groff@cityofroseville.com>; Robin Schroeder <robin.schroeder@cityofroseville.com>; Julie Strahan <julie.strahan@cityofroseville.com>

Cc: Pat Trudgeon <pat.trudgeon@cityofroseville.com>; Erik Henricksen <erik.henricksen@cityofroseville.com>; Jesse Freihammer <jesse.freihammer@cityofroseville.com>; Jennifer Lowry <jennifer.lowry@cityofroseville.com>; Kathryn Watson <watson.kathryn.a@gmail.com>

Subject: Vacation of Area V - Aldine ROW Extension

Some people who received this message don't often get email from watson.kevin.p@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

Mayor and Council, I hope this email finds you well. My name is Kevin Watson, my wife and three kids live at 2001 Aldine St., two doors away from this empty ROW. This empty ROW is an amenity to the Woodside and Ridgewood neighborhoods that appears to date back to the 1980s, if not the 1970s. I've attached three Ramsey County GIS aerials from the different decades that show this trail has existed going back half a century. Our family and others use this ROW all the time to access Roselawn and the trail along the farm fields. Specifically our family uses it to walk to the State Fair, across the UofM farm fields. On nice summer days, we've used it to walk to Stouts for dinner. But mostly, we use it to walk our dog around the neighborhood. I've attached pictures of other neighbors walking this path with their dogs. While this is an unimproved pathway, it's still a wonderful pedestrian connection and one I'd like to see remain, if not made more permanent. In the icloud link below, I've attached a 2min video of me walking this path this morning. You may need to download it as a zip file to open it. You can see it's fairly well used, especially through the wooded section. Obviously many of the bordering

neighbors use this ROW for outdoor storage or dumping leaves. Most have fences that buffer them from the ROW, although the end property at Mid Oaks/Roselawn extended the fence into the middle of the public ROW back in the 80s/90s

I'm writing today to ask the City Council to direct the City staff to explore what it might take to retain or make a permanent trail/sidewalk through the easement known as area V (the extension of Aldine Street from Aldine/Ryan intersection to Roselawn). I believe this trail would support your current Strategic Plan priorities related to environmental sustainability, pedestrian connectivity and inclusivity. The City has owned this ROW for decades. Affording more time to explore a permanent trail solution through it would be prudent. Lastly, I recognize the old farmhouse uses the ROW to access their garage. I'm confident there's an option for the City and the homeowner to work around a trail.

<https://share.icloud.com/photos/0efm9Mm3Gu11kKDgaudZ4HXuw>

Lastly, as far as the neighborhood, I have no concerns about the vacation of ROW for Area U and W. The extra area surrounding the existing sidewalks can be given to the neighbors as they are maintaining them anyway. I envision a similar solution could be created for the Aldine extension. These trails are such an amenity to the neighborhoods and kids walking to Brimhall Elementary for school. I would imagine some also use this Aldine ROW to walk to school or baseball practice at Evergreen Park.

I plan to be at the meeting tonight to make a similar request, but wanted to share the video if you haven't walked this stretch yet.

Kevin

Petition Supporting the Vacation of the Right of Way

Portions of Aldine Street Adjacent to Lots 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 on Mid Oaks Lane,

1705 Roselawn Avenue, and 1706 Ryan Avenue

We wish to thank the ^{Right of Way} city for supporting the vacation of the Aldine Easement. We are grateful be able to have this land returned to us for our stewardship, protection, and control.

Owner's Name	Address
1. Richard McGehee	77 Mid Oaks Lane
2. Tamara McGehee	85 Mid Oaks Lane
3. Art Quinn	89 Mid Oaks Lane
4. Sara Quinn	89 Mid Oaks Lane
5. Tom Burrell	87 Mid Oaks Ln
6. Keegan Connor	91 Mid Oaks Ln

7. Rachyl Brown 1705 Roselawn Ave W

8. Jim Brown 93 MID OAKS LANE

9. Melinda Embert 93 Mid Oak Lane

10. Shawna 1706 Ryan Ave W

11. Marnie 1706 Ryan Ave W

12. _____

13. _____

14. _____

15. _____