

Roseville Public Works, Environment and Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 25, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.
City Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive
Roseville, Minnesota 55113

1. Introduction / Roll Call

Chair Ficek called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m., and at his request, Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer called the roll.

Present: Chair Bryant Ficek, Vice Chair Edwin Hodder, and Members Allison Luongo, Des Mueller, and Katie Brokaw Palalay

Youth Commissioners: Carsten Bauer

Absent: Member Jarrod Cicha, Daniel Fergus, and Youth Commissioner Alexis Jendro (Excused)

Staff Present: Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer; and Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Jennifer Lowry

2. Approve Agenda

Motion

Member Mueller moved, Member Hodder seconded, approval of the November 25, 2025, Agenda as presented.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

3. Public Comments

4. Business Items

a. Communication Items

Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Lowry provided a brief review and update on projects and maintenance activities listed in the staff report dated November 20, 2025.

Ms. Lowry provided updates on construction, noting that most projects were wrapping up, and wayfinding signage was ongoing. She indicated that the job posting for five Public Works intern positions has received 58 applications. Ms. Bakken has been busy with the climate equity action plan, including community engagement and staff advisory group meetings, and Eureka completed a final sweep of the city to remove old carts.

b. 2026 Public Works Work Plan

Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Lowry presented the 2026 work plan, highlighting the City's 123 miles of roadway and a \$2.7 million budget for pavement management. Key projects included mill and overlay on Walnut Street, reclamation on local streets, and pathway work in various neighborhoods. The City plans to install 45 new streetlights and replace 15 existing ones with enhanced lighting on Long Lake Road and Lincoln Drive. The City will also address sanitary sewer lining, lift-station improvements, and water-main repairs.

Chair Ficek and Public Works Director Freihammer discussed removing bike lanes on Hamline Avenue due to operational concerns. The plan was to reinstall the bike lanes next year with better planning.

Chair Ficek praised the new wayfinding signs, noting their accuracy and visibility.

Ms. Lowry mentioned the ongoing installation of wayfinding signs and the challenges with railroad right-of-way agreements.

Mr. Freihammer provided updates on the leaf site closure, noting it was full and closed to vehicles on November 24. The City completed its second street sweep before the snowfall and planned to start plowing at 4 a.m. the next morning, anticipating 5 to 8 inches of snow.

c. Pathway Master Plan Discussion

Public Works Director Freihammer began reviewing the Pathway Master Plan, starting with segments A and B on Long Lake.

The commission discussed the importance of connecting existing trails and providing access to employment areas.

Motion

Member Ficek moved; Member Brokaw-Palalay seconded, approving the addition of segments A & B to the Pathway Master Plan.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Freihammer continued his review of segment C on Cleveland Avenue, explaining that it was added to address a topographic hazard and to complete a gap in the existing pathway.

Motion

Member Ficek moved, Member Brokaw-Palalay seconded, approving the addition of segment C to the Pathway Master Plan.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Freihammer also reviewed segment D on Snelling Avenue.

The commission debated this segment, noting concerns about pedestrian safety and the need for a direct route for commuters.

Motion

Member Brokaw-Palalay moved, Member Bauer seconded, approving the addition of segment D to the Pathway Master Plan.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Freihammer reviewed additional pathway segments, including segment E on Woodhill Drive. He noted this was added to connect to the Civic Campus upgrade and provide better access to Howard Johnson Park.

Motion

Member Mueller moved, Member Luongo seconded, approving the addition of segment E, Hamlin to Lexington, to the Pathway Master Plan.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Freihammer discussed segments F, G, and H, focusing on connecting to Materion Park and improving pedestrian safety.

The commission considered the feasibility of adding sidewalks or pathways, taking neighborhood engagement and future road reconstruction into account. The importance of connecting pathways to transit and employment areas was emphasized throughout the discussion.

Mr. Freihammer reviewed street connections and pathways with the commission.

Member Luongo discussed the neighborhood being cut off by Hwy 36, limiting walking options.

Mr. Freihammer discussed the status of Western Avenue and other collector streets.

Chair Ficek questioned the importance of segment G and other pathways, with Member Luongo emphasizing segment H as the key segment.

Mr. Freihammer and Ms. Lowry discussed the bike plan and the potential bridge over Hwy 36.

Vice Chair Hodder inquired about the elimination of exits on Hwy 36.

Mr. Freihammer explained the concept options.

Chair Ficek and Vice Chair Hodder discussed the continuity of sidewalks and pathways.

Motion

Member Luongo moved, Member Hodder seconded, approving the addition of segments F, G, and H to the Pathway Master Plan.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Member Mueller raised concerns about the accessibility of pathways, particularly those without proper entry points.

Mr. Freihammer and Ms. Lowry discussed specific issues at Sandhurst and Villa Park.

Member Brokaw Palalay offered to provide feedback on ADA compliance and suggested a form for reporting issues.

Mr. Freihammer explained the process of prioritizing ADA improvements and the possibility of specialized projects.

Chair Ficek and Mr. Freihammer discussed the need for continuous pathways and the potential for extending trails.

Mr. Freihammer suggested prioritizing trails over sidewalks and offered to add suggested segments for future review.

Ms. Lowry and Member Mueller discussed existing bike lanes and potential improvements.

Chair Ficek and Mr. Freihammer agreed to continue the exercise and gather additional suggestions for the next meeting.

Mr. Freihammer presented Snelling Avenue as a segment for road and off-road pathways, with support from MnDOT.

Mr. Lowry and Member Brokaw Palalay discussed the Snelling Avenue study and its recommendations.

Mr. Freihammer and Member Mueller discussed the removal of the County Road C segment due to planned bike lanes.

Chair Ficek and Mr. Freihammer agreed to extend the pathway on the east side of Snelling Avenue as a trail.

Mr. Freihammer outlined the next steps for the Pathway Master Plan, including gathering additional suggestions.

Chair Ficek suggested adding a topic on upcoming traffic control and construction impacts for the next meeting.

Mr. Freihammer mentioned the need for a sustainability goal review and updates on various projects.

d. 2026 PWET Commission Meeting Dates

Public Works Director Freihammer presented the meeting calendar for next year, proposing a change to the May meeting date.

The commission discussed the calendar and agreed to move the May meeting to the third Tuesday.

Motion

Member Hodder moved, Member Mueller seconded, approval of the 2026 PWET Commission Calendar with the May date change.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Freihammer noted there would not be a meeting in December.

5. Commission Direction on Member-Initiated Agenda Items

6. Approval of October 28, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Comments and corrections to the draft minutes had been submitted by PWETC commissioners prior to tonight's meeting, and those revisions were incorporated into the draft presented in the meeting materials.

Motion

Member Hodder moved, Member Luongo seconded, approval of the October 28, 2025, meeting minutes as presented.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

7. Adjourn

Motion

Member Mueller moved, Member Hodder seconded, adjournment of the meeting at approximately 8:25 p.m.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion carried.