



Real People. Real Solutions.

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MEMORANDUM

Date: May 11, 2023
To: Kevin McCann, City Administrator
From: Daniel R. Sarff, P.E., City Engineer
CC: Luke Arnold, Public Works Director
Matt Lasonde, City Planner
Subject: 200 Block Belgrade Avenue

Attached is a memo dated December 7 that provides background on the proposed conversion of the 200 block of Belgrade Avenue from 4 traffic lanes to 3 traffic lanes. This information was presented at a Council Work Session on December 12.

As directed by the City Council, an application for federal funding was submitted to MnDOT for the 4-lane to 3-lane conversion, related sidewalk, and street lighting improvements along with the City's share of the Trunk Highway (TH) 169/Belgrade Avenue interchange improvement project. As you know, the City was successful in securing federal funds in the amount of approximately \$1,225,000 for the Belgrade Avenue Improvements as well as the City's anticipated share of the interchange project. Municipal State Aid funding will also be available to utilize on this project.

Since the time that the federal grant award was made, City staff has been working on further refining of the roadway layout for the 200 block of Belgrade Avenue. Attached are the following preliminary geometric layouts for discussion at the May 15 Council Work Session:

- Preliminary Geometric Layouts 4.1: 3-lane section with 4-way stop, parking on the south side only, and bump-outs
- Preliminary Geometric Layouts 5.1: 3-lane section with 4-way stop, parking on both sides, and bump-outs

City Planner Matt Lasonde and Public Works Director Luke Arnold reviewed the layouts with Belgrade Avenue business owners having potential to be impacted by sidewalk bumpouts at the Belgrade Avenue/Range Street intersection.

Businesses were generally accepting of preliminary designs for the three-lane conversion and accompanying sidewalk bumpouts, stating they were excited about the increased potential this will have regarding pedestrian movement and safety as well as area beautification. Most participants supported parking on the north side of Belgrade while those opposing wished to see wider sidewalks to accommodate more pedestrian amenities and/or wished to see a concept that includes bicycle lanes.

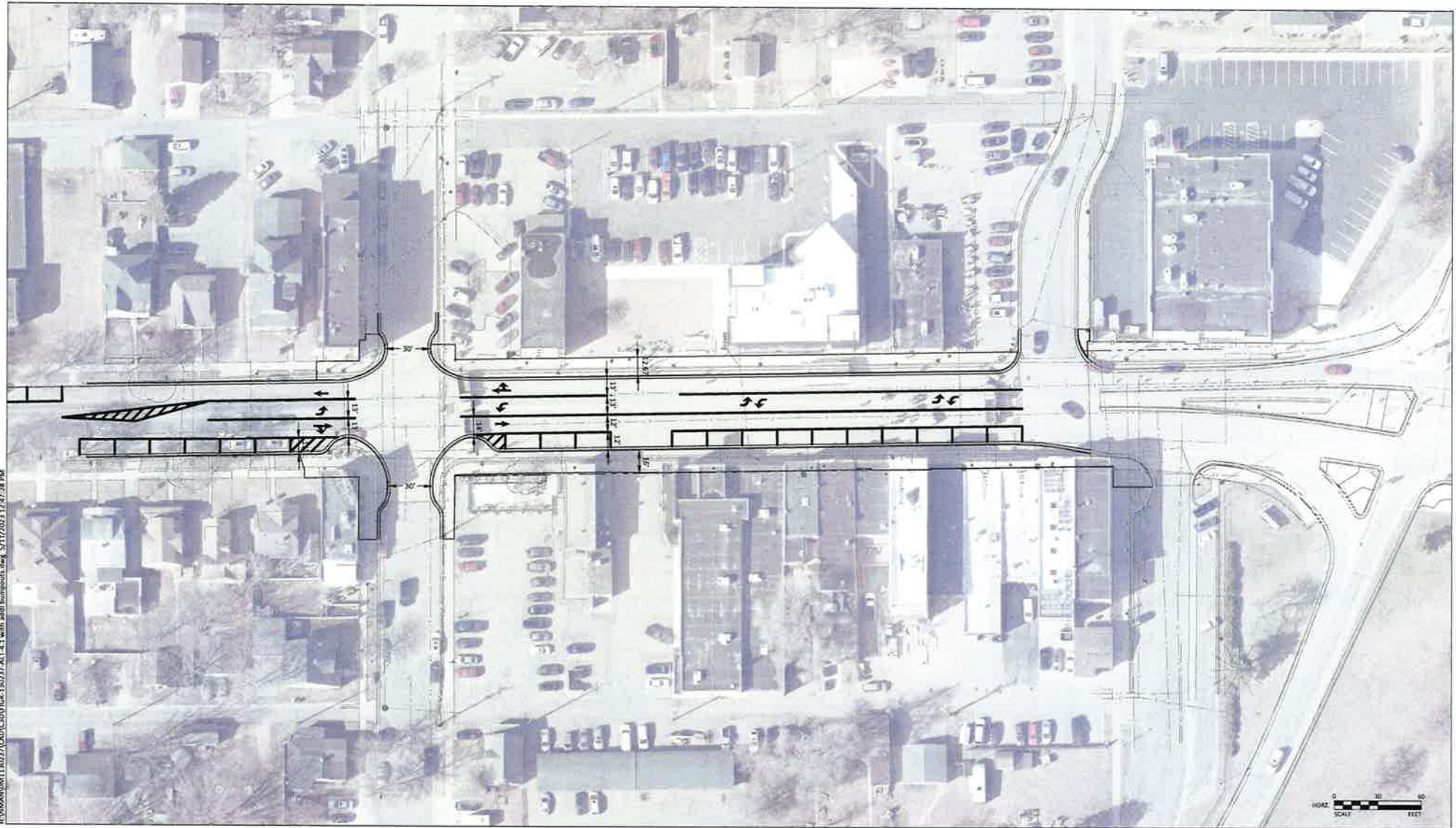
Concerns were associated with an anticipated loss of parking associated with constructing bumpouts, which staff does not anticipate. Participants would like to see the parking striped on Range and Belgrade to better control how parking is utilized. Other concerns were related to potential assessments that property owners might incur as well as how construction will be staged to maintain access to businesses. These are all items that will be considered as design ensues.

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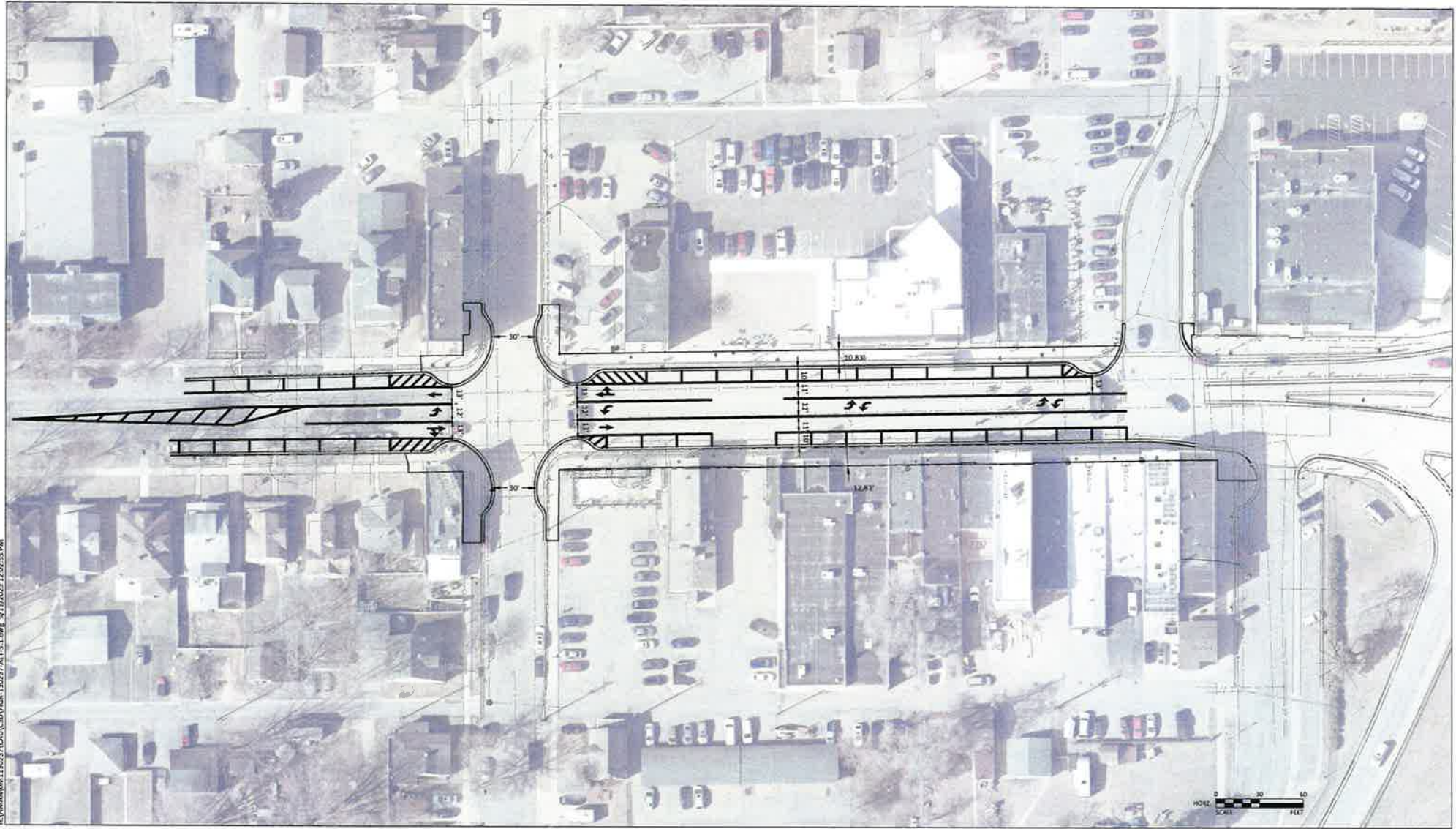
The public input process will continue with the remainder of the Belgrade Avenue business community as well as the public in general after feedback is received from the City Council and the layouts are further refined.

City staff has also met with MnDOT staff and their consultants who are working on the TH 169/Belgrade Avenue interchange improvements. Attached is an updated geometric layout for the TH 169 SB Ramp/Belgrade Avenue signalized intersection. We will continue to work with MnDOT and their consultants on the geometric layouts.

I will attend the May 15 Council Work Session to review this information with the City Council and Public Works Director Arnold and City Planner Lassonde and I will answer any questions the Council may have.



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City of North Mankato

Mission statement - *Provide a clean, safe, and vibrant community experience by planning for the future in a dynamic and inclusive way.*

Vision statement:

Option 1: *Building a destination community.*

Option 2: *Building a community for a day or a lifetime.*

Option 3: *Building a superior place to play, work, live, and thrive.*



Core Values

1. There appears to be 50/50 split on keeping current core values with edit (swapped **Leader** value for **Inclusivity** value) for versus **CORE** acronym.
2. It also appears most, if not all, could live with what is proposed/finalized.

Core Values –Option I

- *Adaptability: The ability to innovate and adjust means and methods to resolve changing situations.*
- *Excellence: Going above and beyond expectations.*
- *Responsibility: Taking initiative, ownership and being accountable for performance.*
- *Integrity: Being honest, impartial and aligning actions with principles.*
- *Inclusivity: Your individuality is valued and acknowledged here.*



Core Values –Option 2

CORE

C: Care for Community

O: Outstanding Service

R: Respect for Resources

E: Equality