

Shall City Council adopt Resolution No. 2023-25 declaring a public need to acquire the easements and the City of Salem's intent to negotiate for the acquisition of easements for the State Street at 25th Street SE Intersection Improvement project?

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Resolution 2023-25 declaring a public need to acquire the easements and the City of Salem's intent to negotiate for the acquisition of easements for the State Street at 25th Street SE Intersection Improvement project.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

This project will improve vehicle and pedestrian safety at the intersection of State Street and 25th Street SE. The estimated cost for the project is \$637,000 and it is funded through the Oregon Department of Transportation's All Roads Transportation Safety Program. City match funding is provided by City Gas Tax revenue and 2008 Streets and Bridges Bond savings.

The project is being designed in the public interest and there is a public need to acquire permanent and temporary easements from five properties to construct the required improvements. The locations and property owners of the easement acquisitions are shown on Resolution 2023-25, Exhibit 1 (Attachment 3). The City will negotiate with the property owners to acquire the required easements and will pay just compensation for all acquisitions. Most of the temporary easement areas will be used for temporary pedestrian access routes during construction of the project.

A single resolution for the entire project declaring the need to acquire the easements is all that is required at this time. A separate resolution authorizing eminent domain will be issued at a later date if easement negotiations between the City and any property owner fails.

The project was presented to the NEN and SESNA Neighborhood Associations and both neighborhoods were in support of the project.

BACKGROUND:

This intersection was identified as a hotspot intersection due to a high number of rear-end and turning movement crashes within a five-year period. Pedestrians in the area have complained about pedestrian safety and visibility at this intersection. The improvements will help to reduce the number of turning movement conflicts and address the pedestrian safety concerns.

Allen Dannen, PE
Acting City Engineer

Attachments:

1. Project Location Map
2. Resolution No. 2023-25

3. Identified Properties (Exhibit 1 to Resolution)