



March 17, 2010

Re: Property Meetings and Electric Line Burial

Dear Resident:

As you are likely aware, the city will be undertaking the Fourth Street Improvement Project this coming summer. The project will entail the reconstruction of the streets, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, watermain, sidewalks and other items associated with a project of this nature. The project corridor includes:

- Fourth Street from Division Street to Nevada Street
- Union Street, College Street, Winona Street and Nevada Street from Fourth to Fifth Street
- Union Street from Second to Fourth Street and from Sixth Street to Seventh Street

We want to thank everyone for your comments and information that were provided at the neighborhood meetings as well as the city council meetings. As we prepare for construction, we would like to set up individual meetings with property owners along the project area. We use this meeting to assist in determining service locations, landscaping concerns and other details specific to the individual properties. We have set aside half-hour blocks during the week of April 26<sup>th</sup> to conduct these on-site meetings. **Please contact Sean Simonson at (507) 645-3049 to set up a meeting time.** Sean will be one of the project representatives during construction and will be actively involved with resident communications. If for some reason a time during this week does not work, please let Sean know and he will try to accommodate a different meeting time.

As a part of this project, the City approached Xcel Energy to discuss the possibility of burying the overhead power lines. Xcel Energy has completed a preliminary design and cost estimate for the burial if this work was to be incorporated into the City's project. The total project cost is estimated to be \$114,000.

The City's policy is to assess 100% of these costs to the properties along the project corridor. These costs would be in addition to the project and service assessments. The costs have been estimated to be \$2,200 or less per residential property for the main line plus the cost of the individual electrical service connections between the main line and the home. The service connection work is coordinated directly with Xcel and has been estimated to be \$1,500-\$2,500 per connection, which is not assessable.

Since the main line burial costs are assessed entirely to the abutting properties, it will be necessary to receive 100% approval from all of the affected property owners to incorporate the electrical line burial into the project. We have enclosed a petition and waiver of assessment appeal for those property owners potentially affected by this component of the project: those whose properties are adjacent to electrical main lines. Please review the petition and sign and send to the City's Engineering Department no later than **April 9, 2010** to show your understanding and support for this option. If you did not receive a petition, your property is not impacted by the electrical burial.

If you have any additional comments or questions, please feel free to call me at (507) 645-3006.

Sincerely,  
City of Northfield

Katy Gehler, P.E.  
City Engineer

Cc: Mayor and City Council; Joel Walinski, City Administrator; Brian Hilgardner, P.E., Project Manager