

Project Purpose & Description



Project Purpose

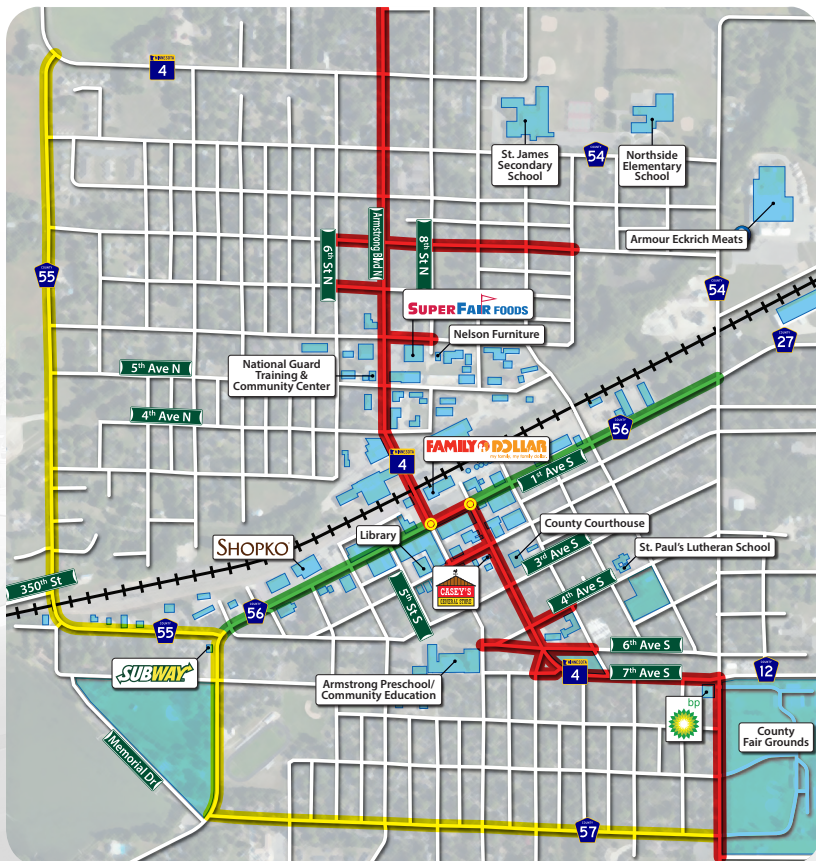
The purpose of the Highway 4 project is to achieve a smooth ride, replace poor utilities beneath the highway, and to enhance pedestrian accommodations.

Project Description

Highway 4 through the City of St. James is in poor condition and in disrepair. The city utility infrastructure is also in poor condition and is currently experiencing multiple breaks each winter. MnDOT received municipal consent for the proposed project in December 2014. The project includes reconstruction of approximately 1.6 miles of Highway 4, including two new mini-roundabouts.

Project elements include:

- Reconstruct Highway 4 from approximately 200 feet south of 10th Avenue S. to 11th Ave N.
- Realign 7th Avenue S. to address the skew and increase safety
- Construct mini-roundabouts at the two existing signals on 1st Ave S.
- Provide back-in angle parking on 1st Ave S.
- Replace existing sidewalks and install new sidewalks
- Bring all pedestrian accommodations up to American's with Disability Act (ADA) standards
- Improve boulevard aesthetics and safety
- Upgrade storm sewer throughout the corridor
- Update lighting standards and fixtures



Project Schedule:

- Apr. – Sept. 2015.....Project design
- Oct. 2015 – Jan. 2016.....Agency approvals
- Feb. – Apr. 2016.....Project bidding
- May – Nov. 2016.....Planned construction

Legend

- Project Area
- Business Route
- Hwy 4 Detour
- Proposed Mini-Roundabout



Highway 4 at 1st Avenue South



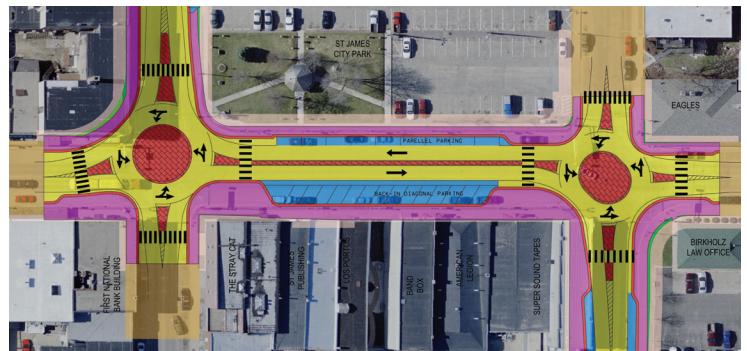
Mini Roundabouts

The two mini-roundabouts will be constructed at the intersection of 1st Ave S. with Armstrong Blvd and 1st Ave S. with 7th St S. Mini-roundabouts are much smaller than traditional roundabouts, allowing for its construction within a physically constrained location. They are an ideal intersection for two-lane urban intersections. They provide better safety, traffic flow, fuel efficiency and air quality.

The mini-roundabouts will contain approach lanes with a median to ensure drivers are slowing down prior to entering the intersection. The center of the mini-roundabouts will contain a central island, which is surrounded by a continuous travel lane. The mini-roundabout is designed to allow passenger cars to use the travel lanes as they travel around the central island. Buses and trucks may travel over the central island to complete turning movements.

Quick Facts:

- 1/2 the overall motorist delay of a traffic signal
- 1/3 fewer vehicles stopping than with a traffic signal
- 1/3 less vehicle emissions and fuel consumption
- 1/4 decrease in crashes anticipated
- Shorter pedestrian crossings

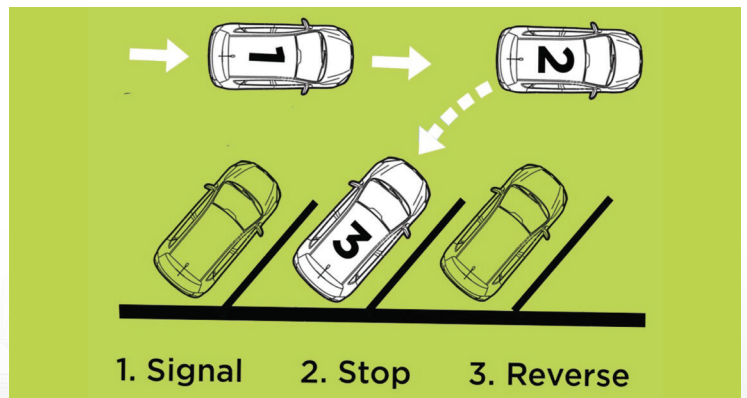


Back-In Angle Parking

Back-in angle parking will be constructed on the south side of 1st Ave S. between 7th Street S and Armstrong Blvd. Back-in angle parking provides a reduced risk of crashes, improves visibility, simplifies parking maneuvers, and improves loading and unloading of vehicles.

Quick Facts:

- Parking maneuver is similar to but easier than parallel parking
- Vehicle doors and trunk are more readily accessible from sidewalk
- Improved visibility of traffic when leaving the stall



Project Contacts

Sue Jensen

MnDOT Construction Liaison
Susan.Jensen@state.mn.us
507-831-8029 office
507-317-6149 mobile

Chris Chromy

Bolton & Menk, Inc., Project Manager
chrisch@bolton-menk.com
507-625-4171 ext. 2428

Zachary Tess

MnDOT Project Manager
zachary.tess@state.mn.us
(507) 304-6199

Project Website

For project updates please visit our website: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d7/projects/hwy4stjames/>