



**AGENDA ITEM #9.4**

**REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL**

**Report Prepared by: Nancy Malecha**

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**Date:** July 2, 2019

**Subject:** Highway 371/County Road 29 Intersection Update

**Report:** At the February 5<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting, the Council discussed the Intersection Evaluation Report for the intersection at Highway 371 & County Road 29 with Ken Hansen and Darren Nelson from MnDOT. Mr. Hansen stated that MnDOT would discuss possible signage at this intersection while keeping in mind not to create a false sense of security. Mr. Nelson stated they would go back and talk with the state experts on static signage at this intersection and will report back.

Attached please find a recent e-mail I received from Ken Hansen at MnDOT regarding the installation of static pedestrian signage along northbound and southbound Highway 371.

**Council Action Requested:** No Council action requested.

## Nancy Malecha

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**From:** Hansen, Kenneth (DOT) <kenneth.hansen@state.mn.us>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 31, 2019 3:19 PM  
**To:** Nancy Malecha  
**Cc:** Nelson, Darren (DOT)  
**Subject:** Hwy 371 at CR 29/Wilderness Rd

Good Afternoon Nancy,

Following the previous City Council meeting where Darren Nelson and I discussed vehicle and pedestrian safety at the intersection of Hwy 371 at County Road 29/Wilderness Rd, we have had many internal discussions about the intersection. To help alert drivers to the possibility of pedestrians at the intersection, we plan to install highway signing on northbound and southbound Hwy 371. The signs will be W11-2 (shown below) with "Ahead" plaques. I'll place a work order to our sign crew to start the process of installing those signs as soon as possible.



While signing may help alert drivers of potential pedestrian conflict, this does not eliminate the conflict. In my report for the Council, I wrote about the crash risk involved with stopping traffic on Hwy 371 (with a traffic signal/roundabout/HAWK system). The only option that would eliminate the conflict while maintaining safety for drivers on Hwy 371 would be a grade separated trail. Due to the high water table at the intersection, a grade separated trail would need to go above the highway.

Pedestrian bridges require significant resources both in terms of construction cost but also engineering time, neither of which we have at the moment. We encourage the City to look into potential grants including a yearly solicitation from MnDOT State Aid. The State Aid solicitation is typically sent out in the fall and is competitive with other Cities, Counties, and Townships within MnDOT District 3. Please contact Kelvin Howieson for more details.

I will continue to monitor the crash rate at this intersection.

Let me know if you or the Council have any questions.

Thank you,  
Ken

Kenneth Hansen, PE  
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