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## *Memorandum:*

TO: Mayor Krachmer and City Council Members

FROM: Jesse Farrell, Director of Public Works / City Engineer

DATE: April 18, 2023

SUBJECT: Koehler Road Trail – 2024 Improvements – Project Update

### **Background**

A Koehler Road Trail in the vicinity of Vadnais Heights Elementary has been discussed for many years. Koehler Road is a county facility, but most public feedback is directed to the city. Following ongoing and significant public feedback, the city created the Koehler Road Taskforce in 2018 which sought to move the project beyond the conceptual level. A deliberate and robust public engagement process yielded a preferred alternative of a trail on the north side, which was then used to solicit various grants.

This project was awarded \$557,654 of federal funds in the Safe Routes to School category. Conceptual cost estimates were completed for the grant application process and a working budget of \$1,000,000 was established. One part of the design process will be finding ways to reduce the project cost while still meeting project goals. The City and Ramsey County will generally share the remaining expense of approximately \$200,000 each. Staff will work with the County to put together an agreement as the project develops, and will bring that back for City Council consideration at a later date.

SEH Project Manager Dustin Cesafsky and I will be available for any questions you may have at the April 18, 2023 City Council workshop meeting.