



## Public Works Agenda Item

Meeting Date:	April 12, 2023
Agenda Item:	4c. Putnam Street Design
Staff Contact (name, email, phone):	Brad Marquardt, <a href="mailto:bmarquardt@whitewater-wi.gov">bmarquardt@whitewater-wi.gov</a> , 262-473-0139

### BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

When the Task Order was approved for Strand to do the design work for Putnam Street, the Public Works Committee asked for Strand to investigate options other than the installation of curb and gutter. Putnam Street is approximately 600 feet in length. Currently there is approximately 264 feet of curb and gutter on the east/south side and 108 feet on the west side. After reviewing the existing conditions, the layout of the street and the use of the surrounding properties, Strand is recommending the installation of curb and gutter for the following reasons:

1. Curb and gutter defines and delineates the vehicle travel way. This is important due to the large private parking areas along the east side of Putnam Street.
2. Curb and gutter prevents vehicles from pulling off of the street at random locations which can cause damage to the edge of pavement and rutting of turf areas.
3. Curb and gutter provides support for the edge of pavement which helps prevent cracking. If curb and gutter is not installed, regularly maintained gravel shoulders would be recommended.
4. Curb and gutter controls and directs stormwater. This is particularly important on Putnam Street where longitudinal slopes are very flat in some areas. If curb and gutter is not installed, ditches and driveway culverts would be recommended to control drainage and protect the pavement structure. Properly constructed ditches can be very disruptive to private property. (It also should be noted that Putnam Street is very narrow with the street taking up nearly all of the right-of-way. Any ditches/culverts would be on private property.)
5. Curb and gutter is generally considered part of standard street infrastructure in most urban areas. The investment in curb and gutter tends to enhance property values over time.

### PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

Public Works Committee approved the Task Order at the August 9, 2022 meeting. Council approved the Task Order at the August 16, 2022 meeting.

### FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

While there is cost associated with the installation of curb and gutter, there would be other costs associated with gravel shoulders, ditches and culverts if curb and gutter is not installed. The estimated cost of curb and gutter is \$25,000.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends to move forward with the installation of curb and gutter on Putnam Street.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED  
(If none, state N/A)

1. Conceptual Design
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