

From: [Paula jelinek](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul Contact-Council](#)
Subject: Fwd: Update for Hatch/Orchard/Kilburn/Ryde Alley Project
Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2026 2:59:57 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

You don't often get email from paulajelinek777@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To St. Paul City Council,

Please see the note below regarding the Hatch/Orchard/Kilburn/Ryde alley reconstruction project. I wanted to share my gratitude and appreciation for the work being done to make this project happen and to address the long-standing flooding issues in our community.

Thank you for your dedication to these improvements.

Best regards,

Paula Jelinek

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Paula jelinek** <paulajelinek777@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Jun 4, 2026 at 7:15 AM
Subject: Re: Update for Hatch/Orchard/Kilburn/Ryde Alley Project
To: Steve Dodge <Steve.Dodge@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
CC: Hwa Jeong Kim <HwaJeong.Kim@ci.stpaul.mn.us>, #CI-StPaul_Ward5 <Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us>, Bill Vos <bill.vos@ci.stpaul.mn.us>, Don Pflaum <Don.Pflaum@ci.stpaul.mn.us>, Eric McCarthy <Eric.McCarthy@ci.stpaul.mn.us>, Jeannette Rebar <Jeannette.Rebar@ci.stpaul.mn.us>, Lynn Rolf <Lynn.Rolf@ci.stpaul.mn.us>, Nick Peterson <Nick.Peterson@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

To all,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for the Hatch/Orchard/Kilburn/Ryde alley reconstruction project. I understand objections are to be forwarded to the City Council Hearing, but feel it is important to express my gratitude.

As a property owner who has been actively monitoring and mitigating flood risks for the past 34 years without city support, I want to acknowledge the tremendous relief this project brings to our community and to my property in particular. For over three decades, the risk of flooding has been a persistent challenge that demanded constant vigilance and effort, especially by the properties most affected. Knowing that the reconstruction project is scheduled for Fall 2026 gives us hope and reassurance that there is finally an end in sight to these concerns.

Thank you for your dedication, hard work and commitment to making our alley safer and more resilient. Your efforts have a meaningful, lasting impact. It is encouraging to see these necessary improvements moving forward according to the schedule, with the public hearing and final design phases occurring this June and July.

Thank you for your work on this. Feel free to forward this to the people that need to know. If you know of anyone that needs #550 sandbags, we have plenty and are glad to let them go.

With gratitude,

Paula Jelinek

On Wed, May 20, 2026 at 11:07 AM Paula jelinek <paulajelinek777@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Steve,

I wanted to provide an update ahead of tomorrow's virtual public meeting now that we have received the assessment estimates for the Hatch/Orchard/Kilburn/Ryde alley project.

I feel the process for determining the assessments was fair and equitable. There is a significant difference compared to our previous experience, and I am pleased to see the dollar amounts are similar for each resident

regardless of property size. For the most part, even after the initial sticker shock, there seems to be continued support for the project. The alley continues to deteriorate, and the ponding is worsening even with minimal rainfall.

There is one homeowner (formerly a landlord, now a resident) who misunderstood our previous conversations and assumed the cost was covered by city taxes. He is expressing financial difficulties, so I reminded him of the option to work with the city to pay the assessment over an extended period.

I hope the meeting goes well tomorrow and is not too contentious. Mark has navigated these types of meetings before and understands the challenges you may face.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Most sincerely,

Paula

On Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 7:46 AM Paula jelinek <paulajelinek777@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Steve, and all,

Thank you for providing the update and the projected timeline for the Hatch/Orchard/Kilburn/Ryde alley project. I will ensure this information is shared with the local homeowners.

Regarding specific resident concerns, could a member of the project team please contact Randy? He is the homeowner managing a deteriorating garage and has been awaiting communication before proceeding with deconstruction and ground preparation, and would like to get started as soon as possible.

Additionally, could you provide a preliminary estimate for the assessment? While we do understand this figure may change until the final bid is approved, the residents are wanting this information to begin their financial planning. Providing a rough estimate would be very helpful for their budgeting purposes.

Thank you.

Best regards,

Paula Jelinek

On Fri, Apr 3, 2026 at 1:25 PM Steve Dodge <Steve.Dodge@ci.stpaul.mn.us> wrote:

CM Kim et al,

We have identified the necessary steps and set the schedule to deliver the Hatch/Orchard/Kilburn/Ryde alley project. We expect this to be a Fall 2026 construction project based on the project steps to be taken:

- April/May - Preliminary Design and Public Engagement Meetings
- June – Public Hearing #1, Improvement Hearing to Order Project (includes Preliminary Assessment Roll)
- June/July – Final Design and Contract Documents for Bidding
- August – Bid Opening
- Sept/October – Neighborhood Information Meeting and **Construction**.

The project team, Bill and Don moving forward, would like to set up a meeting with your office to go over the project in more detail and answer any questions you may have. The key to this project is we will need to host Public Hearing No. 1, which is the Improvement Hearing sharing the preliminary assessment roll and the Council considers ordering the project. Once the City Council orders the project, we will proceed with the bidding process. At this point it looks like we have an approximately 8-week project that will start in the fall and will be completed by the end of the construction season.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. FYI, Eric McCarthy is starting paternal leave will be back the end of July.

Best,

Steve Dodge, P.E.

Assistant City Engineer

Division Manager – Street Engineering and Construction

Pronouns: He/Him/His

Department of Public Works

900 City Hall Annex

25 West Fourth Street

Saint Paul, MN 55102

P: 651-266-6020

steve.dodge@ci.stpaul.mn.us

www.StPaul.gov



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MINNESOTA