



CITY OF MANITOWOC

WISCONSIN, USA

www.manitowoc.org

MEMO

TO: Public Infrastructure Committee
FROM: Greg Minikel, PE, Engineering Division Manager
DATE: June 6, 2023
RE: Request to Fill In Ditch at 4506 Harvest Circle

Members of the Public Infrastructure Committee:

The property owner at 4506 Harvest Circle, Katie Haese, contacted us in April 2023 about filling in the ditch in front of her property.

She is citing safety concerns with the ditches and culverts.

The safety concerns that she is bringing forward are certainly concerns, however, this is what any typical rural road section is like. There are ditches, sometimes deep ditches and there are culverts under driveways and intersections. They bought the property about 4 years ago and they knew what the street, driveway and ditches were like.

The current project that was recently bid and is expected to be awarded at the June 19th Council Meeting was specifically for drainage issues and not related to safety. We are not filling in any new ditch areas with the current City project.

We do not feel that the Haese's proposed ditch filling should be part of the City's current project which is being done to fix drainage issues due to improper culvert elevations and ditch grades, etc.

Other properties that filled in ditches on Harvest Circle over the years, with or without City permission, were completed at the home owners' expense and not the City's expense.

If they want to fill the ditch, then we feel that they should hire an engineering consultant to design the filled ditch area and they should also be responsible to pay for the cost of those improvements.

We believe that other stub pipes and/or drains may be needed behind or towards the house side of the filled ditch. They also need to verify that they are not blocking any drainage from upstream areas or in any other way.

Therefore, we would recommend the PI Committee to deny the request for the City to fill in the ditch area. They would be allowed to fill in the ditch at their cost after providing the necessary plans to show that everything works and will drain properly and their contractor would not to obtain a Right-of-Way Excavation Permit.