

News Release

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MnDOT's Rochester listening session for mowing/haying on state right of way is Dec. 6

Nine listening sessions taking place across the state to hear from all Minnesotans

ST. PAUL, Minn. – Rochester is the latest stop, scheduled for Dec. 6, as part of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's listening sessions regarding mowing and haying on state rights of way. That session will take place from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Dec. 6 at MnDOT's District 6 headquarters at 2900 48th St. NW, Rochester.

The agency is conducting a series of listening sessions across the state to hear from Minnesotans about their concerns and wishes regarding mowing and haying. Rochester is the ninth stop in the listening tour. Previous sessions have been held in Baxter, Crookston, Mankato, Marshall, Morris, St. Cloud and two Twin Cities metropolitan locations.

Detailed information on the listening sessions is available on MnDOT's <u>mowing and haying website</u>. Concerned individuals who cannot attend a listening session, are invited to submit a public comment via <u>a comment form</u> on MnDOT's website.

In late 2016, MnDOT sent out a news release reminding the public that permits were required to mow and hay in state rights of way. It provided a new permit form and announced the deadlines for permit applications. Due to public concern, during the 2017 state legislative session, the Legislature imposed a one-year moratorium on enforcing the permitting requirements for mowing and haying on state rights of way. Legislators directed MnDOT to conduct public outreach and provide recommendations to the legislature regarding mowing and haying in state rights of way. The legislation regarding this issue can be found here.

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