

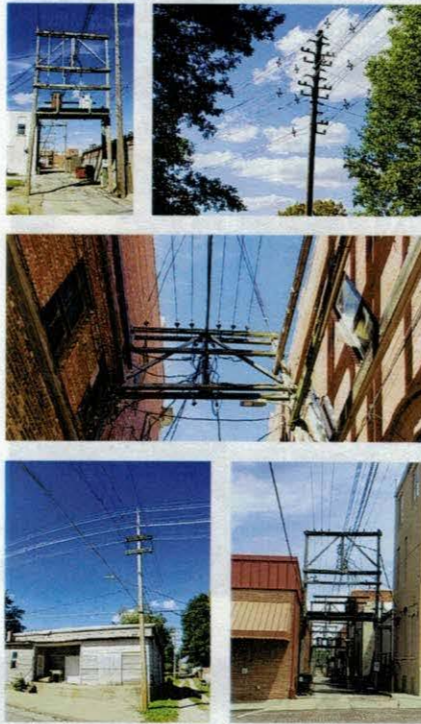


# Falls City Electrical Distribution System Improvements

## Project Overview

The City of Falls City is designing upgrades to the electrical distribution system to supply reliable, resilient, and redundant service throughout the city.

- ▶ The age and condition of the existing overhead system is nearing the end of its useful life and no longer provides reliable electricity to the Falls City community.
- ▶ The initial phase includes converting approximately 14 blocks of the downtown business alley overhead powerlines to an underground system, making the system more resilient to weather events and safer for the public.
- ▶ A loss of the current 5 kV switch structure would result in a 60-70 percent system outage, affecting 1,500 electrical meters. A new 15 kV Power Distribution Center will be built as part of this project to alleviate this concern while allowing the remaining 5 kV to be upgraded to 15 kV in the future. The voltage upgrade will also increase system efficiency while reducing overall system losses.



## Funding

JEO Consulting Group, the firm leading the project, and the city are looking at federal hazard mitigation grants to help address redundancy, reliability, and resiliency of the electrical system.

- ▶ The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant focuses on building the capacity and capabilities of communities through implementing innovative projects that address community risk as a whole.
- ▶ Additionally, FEMA has the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) that provides funding to local communities following presidentially declared disasters to rebuild that reduces or mitigates future losses.
- ▶ To obtain funding, the project team will send grant applications and information to the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) prior to FEMA submittal for review.
- ▶ FEMA grants require the city to match 25 percent of the funds needed for the project. If a grant is not awarded to Falls City, the city will look at alternative ways of funding the project.

## Project Location



**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Falls City staff will be reaching out to businesses and residential property owners to discuss how they can assist in the grant application process. Please fill out a comment form or contact **Ray Luhning** at **(402) 245-2724** for more information.

## Project Schedule

The project will be put out to bid in late 2022 with construction anticipated to begin in spring 2023. A public meeting will be held prior to construction.

