

Highway 25 Coalition

Agenda

Thursday, June 29, 2017

7:30 AM

North Mississippi Room, Monticello City Hall

1. Call to order
2. Consideration of approval of meeting minutes from meeting held March 30, 2017
3. Update on Highway 25 Corridor Study (Andrew Witter)
4. 2018 Work Plan Ideas – Discussion only - work plan to be adopted at regular meeting in July (2017 Work Plan – see attached meeting minutes from June 2016).

2018 potential work plan ideas listed below developed by at the Highway 25 Coalition work group level with assistance from Josh Maus.

- A. Completion of Transportation Plan
 - B. Adoption of Transportation Plan by member jurisdictions
 - C. Conduct feasibility study on priority projects
 - D. Assist member jurisdictions with implementation of priority projects
 - E. Identification of Federal and State Funding Opportunities
 - F. Initiation of official mapping by member jurisdictions as needed
 - G. Lobby for project funding in support of member projects
 - H. Exploration of Private and Public Partnerships
 - I. Coordinate/Communication with - 94 Coalitions
 - J. Consider being a forum for discussing related short a long term initiatives that promote achievement of mutual economic development and environmental goals.
 - Coordinated response to economic impact associated with closure of coal power facilities
 - Federal State and Local Grant application development – studies and projects
 - Economic/Job creating goals – BNSF and available land optimization –
 - Sewer and water system planning – efficient coordination of system expansions
 - Consolidation of sewer and water treatment plan development and operation.
 - Land use planning coordination
 - Parks and Trail/Mississippi River / environmental protection/ ground water protection
 - Coordination and support for SEDS initiatives
5. Budget Discussion – proposed same as previous year - \$150,000 (same as last year)
 6. Update on Monticello Downtown Area Study (Jeff O'Neill)

- 7. Transportation and related Economic Development or Land Use Updates**
 - A. Becker
 - B. Becker Township
 - C. Big Lake
 - D. Big Lake Township (Fiscal Agent)
 - E. Monticello
 - F. Sherburne County
 - G. Wright County

- 8. I94 Coalition Update**

- 9. Legislative Updates**

- 10. Other**

- 11. Adjourn**

Highway 25 Coalition
Meeting Minutes – March 30, 2017
7:30 AM
Monticello Community Center – North Mississippi Room

Members Present - **Big Lake Township** - Bob Hofer; **Sherburne County** – Tim Dolan, Dan Weber, and Andrew Witter; **Wright County** – Virgil Hawkins; **City of Becker** – Tracy Bertram and Greg Pruszinske; **Becker Township** – Brian Kolbinger; **City of Big Lake** – Clay Wilfahrt, Raeanne Danielowski, Hanna Klimmek and Layne Otteson; and **City of Monticello** – Brian Stumpf, Jeff O’Neill, and Jennifer Schreiber

Others Present – **MnDOT** – Claudia Dumont;

1. *Call to order.*
2. *Consideration of approval of meeting minutes from meeting February 23 2017.*

Motion made by Raeanne Danielowski and seconded by Tracy Bertram to approve the minutes from the meeting held February 23, 2017. Motion passed unanimously.

3. *Update on Highway 25 Corridor Study*

Andrew Witter provided an update on the draft agreement with SRF for the Highway 25 Corridor Study. He is in the process of arranging a project management team. Some members of the board expressed interest in attending the project management team meetings. Those interested were to contact Mr. Witter. There will be a standing update of these meetings at each coalition meeting.

The group discussed the draft agreement and its review by an attorney. Jeff O’Neill stated that Monticello City Attorney Joel Jamnik, Campbell Knutson, would review the agreement.

The committee also discussed execution of the agreement. There was consensus to allow the City of Monticello execute the agreement as Mayor Stumpf is the Chair of the Coalition.

Motion made by Raeanne Danielowski and seconded by Bob Hofer to recommend that Brian Stumpf direct Campbell Knutson to review the Highway 25 Corridor Study contract with SRF. Motion carried unanimously.

4. *Update on Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Program.*

Dan Weber updated the group on the CEDS program and noted that they are holding their third public meeting on March 29. There will be one additional meeting held and documents will be drafted. There is concern that the Federal government may cut funding to this program, however, it remains a benefit to have a plan completed.

5. *Update on Monticello Downtown Planning Study*

Jeff O'Neill provided an update on the Monticello Downtown Planning Study. A plan should be adopted in the next couple of months. Discussion ensued on the Highway 25 corridor and the plan to improve the appearance and experience for motorists.

6. *Transportation and related Economic Development or Land Use Updates*

- **Becker Township** – Tracy Bertram commented that Northern Meadow Recycling is relocating to Becker from Minneapolis. There will be a study to gauge which roadway should be used to access Highway 10. Greg Pruszinske noted that a stakeholders meeting is planned for discussion on County Road 8 realignment.
- **Becker Township** – No update.
- **Big Lake** – Raeanne Danielowski reviewed the following: The industrial park was permitted for fiber; 80-100 single family homes will be constructed this year; Lisi Medical is doing an expansion; and a new dental building and a Casey general store are being constructed.
- **Big Lake Township** – A portion of County Road 5 is closed until June 15.
- **Monticello** – Brian Stumpf commented that there will be construction on the Highway 25/7th Street intersection beginning in April with completion by July 1. He also mentioned that the Fallon Avenue overpass project is moving forward and set to begin next year.
- **Sherburne County** – Dan Weber stated that Sherburne County is the fastest growing County in the State. Andrew Witter noted that the County is releasing an RFP for their long term transportation plan. Local communities are able to review and comment. The process will take approximately 16 months to complete.
- **Wright County** – Virgil Hawkins commented on Wright County's NE Transportation Plan. The County is in the process of reaching out to local partners to participate in the RFP process, which is scheduled to be released this fall. He also mentioned that the County is setting a public hearing on a local option sales tax which will be used to fund road construction projects.

7. *I-94 Coalition – Corridors for Commerce Update*

Claudia Dumont, MnDOT, provided an update on the I-94 Coalition. MnDOT is currently in the process of developing traffic layout piece of Albertville to St. Michael. There have been unsuccessful attempts made to get information on time line for the Sony amusement park being developed in Albertville.

8. *Legislative Updates*

Claudia Dumont expressed that there is a concern about transportation bonding. Ms. Dumont commented that excessive bonding is not beneficial for MnDOT.

9. *Adjourn.* By consensus meeting was adjourned at 8:14 a.m.

Minutes approved June 29, 2017 (JS)

6/24/16 Minutes

proposal documentation. The goal for the next meeting is to have a request for proposal process format ready for review by the Coalition with distribution to Engineering firms to occur soon thereafter.

For the purpose of establishing a work plan and budget for 2017, the group then discussed the scope of the study in general terms and reviewed a cost estimate provided by Claudia Dumont: Primary elements of the study to likely include:

- Establishment of base line traffic data
- Preparation of traffic model utilizing base traffic data and land use information
- Identification of trends and congestion projections
- Formulation of strategies and identification of improvements needed over time as the area develops

O'Neill forwarded thoughts from Claudia Dumont on the cost to complete a comprehensive traffic study. In her email to O'Neill, Claudia Dumont mentioned that the last two traffic modeling contracts she administered came in at \$82,000 and \$94,000. She went on to note "These contracts were for freeway traffic modeling. Depending on how large a network gets modeled for TH 25 – I would expect the cost to be higher, especially since there are a number of local roads that would be key components of the model. I would budget for \$150,000 and hope the estimates come in for less."

Mike Potter noted that conducting a complete and comprehensive study is a critical factor in developing credibility. The group will be listened to when lobbying for funding if we have reliable traffic planning data and information. RaeAnne Danielowski stated that people are dismayed by the traffic situation and expect us to act to solve problems. Development of this information will help us in that regard. It was also noted that perhaps MNDOT will be interested in shouldering the expense. Brian Stumpf asked for a motion.

Mike Potter made a motion to approve a work plan as follows In 2016, conduct a request for proposals process and select an engineer to complete a comprehensive traffic study. In 2017, complete a comprehensive traffic study at an estimated cost of \$150,000. Motion seconded by RaeAnne Danielowski. Motion carried unanimously.

It was the consensus that lobbying activities will be identified as the need arises and specific goals were not included in the work plan. Dan Webber said that a representative from David Turch and Associates has been invited to attend an upcoming meeting to discuss providing lobbying services to the Coalition.

- 3 Monticello/Wright County - update on improvements to Highway 25 Intersections at CSAH 75 and 7th Street.

Brief discussion. It was noted that the worst is over on the Highway 25/75 project with major portions of the project now complete.

3. Sherburne County Transportation topics of interest

Clay Wilfahrt indicated that a meeting with the developer and MNDOT regarding the intermodal hub development will be held in the next few weeks. Members from the Highway 25 Coalition will be invited to attend.

Work Plan 2017