

Meeting Minutes State Senator's Capital Investment Committee

Monday, January 30, 2018 @ 10:00 am.

Andrew Matthews organized the meeting as the Legislators were on a bus tour visiting for the day. These were the members of the Capital Investment Committee from the State Legislature. We had introductions all arounds. Todd, Lloyd, Maureen, Dave Senjem from Rochester, head of the committee. Sandy Pappas from St. Paul, Bill Ingebretson from Alexandria, John Jasinski from Fairbault, Gary Dahms from Red Wood Falls along with researchers and fiscal analysts. Chris Byrd and Ed Popp from Benton County. Ray Thompson, Julie Johnson, John Olson, Craig Gondeck, Ed Kacures, Doug Harden, Donna Rothstein, Jessica Storkamp, Dave Johnson.

Todd pulled up the power point presentation showing the intersections. Everyone had a handout. County Road 13, affects 300 residents on the east side of highway 10. People have started using the back roads if they can get to them. We do not know if MN DOT is considering the volume of traffic on the weekends and in the summer. The limit is 65 mph and traffic is usually going 75 mph. We have several gravel pits in our township and heavy trucks trying to access the highway. There are times on the weekends where there is an accident and the traffic is backed up for miles. Craig said traffic counts are 24000 or so going each way. He said these are 2015 figures. Lloyd explained there are line ups of cars trying to get out onto highway 10 on the weekends on all the access roads.

Question from Dave from Rochester-What will solve the problem? Todd explained the issue we would like one or two overpasses or frontage roads for access. Lloyd explained how the frontage roads would also help. The legislators reviewed the hand out for the proposed overpasses. Lloyd explained that the overpass was on the original MN DOT 20-year road plan about 25 years ago. The slides are a general plan we pulled together for the meeting. We do not know the estimated costs.

Todd explains that a Cty Rd 13 overpass would be more expensive but would serve more people. Todd discussed snow plowing on the crossings. MN Dot leaves ice on the crossings. Todd discussed how RDO and Johnson Construction (both with heavy equipment) are right on Highway 10 and have no choice how to get onto highway 10. Lloyd talked about the verbal agreements with the land owners to do a frontage road along highway 10. Discussed the golf course T within the set back from MN DOT. Problems with # 4 in that we have granite and wetlands on the west side of highway 10. Frontage roads would help a lot.

Chris Byrd does not know where MNDOT is at on these overpasses. It does not seem to be a high priority. Question-where is the county at with this? Chris Byrd -We did the Rice interchange three years ago. \$12 M, County paid 1.8 million on that. County had discussions with MN DOT for 3 or 4 years before that. He estimates about 15 million per

interchange and the county would be responsible for 15%? We do not have the money set aside to do this. The county is not prepared at this time to kick in funds. Did not include frontage roads. Question. Has the county done the ½ cent sales tax? Ed Popp we have lots of state aid roads we need to use that money on. The state aid is not enough to cover what we need He feels sorry for the people trying to commute to St. Cloud. They cannot get on highway 10. Lloyd. Traffic in Rice used to have a stop light and we'd get a gap in the traffic so we could access the highway. We don't have that anymore. Little gap caused by St. Cloud when the traffic gets here. We've had some serious accidents at these intersections. Todd; County Road 13 is the only way emergency services can get to the east side of the lake to support the east side.

Lloyd we'd be happy if we got some funds for frontage roads to get access to highway 10. Todd if we got frontage road funds, we could prepare it for an overpass. Dave Senjem, lead on the committee, asked what kind of price are we looking at? We do not have any idea. Lloyd-Chris's estimate of the costs would be close. Do we know how much the frontage roads would cost? Chris Byrd, a non-existing road costs about \$1M per mile, rebuilding a mile of road is about \$ 750K or \$ 800K per mile. Does not include cost to purchase land. Lloyd- we have sandy soil, not clay. This makes the costs cheaper.

Todd, we are building our roads to 10T road specifications. We need to get MNDOT involved and we need help. Last time they said the traffic counts are not enough on the side roads. We need to push back. We do not know the current traffic counts. Weekends are the biggest problem. Lloyd does not know if any traffic counts have been done lately.

Julie Johnson-We don't use highway 10 on the weekends. South of Cty road 4 is watershed and oak savannah and we want to protect that. The wetland behind our office cannot be taken for a road. She was in Iceland and they have high speed roundabouts that work marvelously. She loved it. They also do their stop lights red, yellow green. Works great.

Completed at 10:54am. Thank you all for coming.

Respectfully submitted:

Maureen Graber

1/30/2018