



City Council Memorandum

To: Mayor Fasbender & City Council Members
From: Nick Egger – Public Works Director
Date: August 13, 2020
Item: Resolution Requesting New Items in 2021-2025 Dakota County Capital Improvements Plan

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED

The City Council is requested to adopt the enclosed resolution supporting Dakota County's 2021-2025 Capital Improvement Program and use of Transportation Sales and Use Taxes on County transportation infrastructure projects.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The County about to begin leading a transportation corridor study along County Road 46. This study will wrap up in the early fall of 2021 and its goal is to generate a scope of the most promising improvements for consideration as a future construction project, for which a year cannot yet be targeted.

County and City staff have also preliminarily discussed a smaller scale pedestrian safety and speed study along County Road 42 in the area west of W 1st Street, which could look into recorded data and statistical realities, safety risk assessments, and the potential to implement low-cost, high-impact solutions to pedestrian access and safety, and traffic calming. A recommendation of exact timing for this study has not yet been determined, but each agency's staff felt at this point it should find a place to land within the 2021-2025 period.

Aside from the aforementioned studies, there are little in the way of actual construction projects on County Roads within the City in the near term.

Additionally, staff has now had multiple conversations with County transportation staff on the possibility of garnering County assistance towards filling part or all of the funding gap that currently exists on the Highway 316 project, which still sits at \$1.1 Million. There continues to be high uncertainty as to whether the State Legislature will adopt a bonding bill or other State budget allocation(s) to fill the funding gap, and so gaining County assistance would be a very favorable outcome for the sake of making the project a reality.

County staff is discussing updates to the County's Capital Improvements Plan with the County Board. County staff feels that the Highway 316 Project is in the interest of the regional transportation network and therefore worthy of being considered for inclusion on the County's listing of State Trunk Highway projects for which the County can financially contribute from County Transportation Sales and Use Tax revenues. To strengthen the County staff's recommendation, the City is being requested to adopt a resolution advocating for this action to be taken by the County Board.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Of all that is discussed above, the two studies would have City cost impacts, and the Highway 316 request would not. The County Road 46 Study was already approved to go forward and the City's cost share obligation is about \$115,000. The City has options for how to fund its share of this study through any combination of general fund dollars and State Aid funds. This has been discussed within Public Works' 2021 Budget requests documents.

As for the study on County Road 42, although we are still working with County staff to develop a scope and study parameters, we estimate that the City's cost participation would be up to \$25,000. Again, a recommendation of exact timing for this study has not yet been determined, but each agency's staff felt at this point it should find a place to land within the 2021-2025 period.

ATTACHMENTS

- Resolution Requesting Inclusion of Projects, Funding Assistance, and Transportation Studies in Dakota County 2021-2025 Transportation Capital Improvements Plan

CITY OF HASTINGS

DAKOTA COUNTY, MINNESOTA

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING INCLUSION OF PROJECTS, FUNDING ASSISTANCE,
AND TRANSPORTATION STUDIES IN DAKOTA COUNTY 2021-2025
TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN**

WHEREAS, Dakota County is currently soliciting requests from cities for inclusion of new items within their 2021-2025 Transportation Capital Improvements Plan, and

WHEREAS, a transportation study of the County State Aid Highway 46 corridor is about to begin, which will determine a vision and scope of recommended improvements to infrastructure along this corridor, for which a future construction project timeline will be targeted, and

WHEREAS, the City would value engineering and analysis work to closely examine pedestrian safety and vehicle speed realities along County Road 42 in the vicinity of Pleasant Drive, and evaluation of potential low-cost, high-impact modifications that offer improved safety conditions, and

WHEREAS, there continues to be great uncertainty at State level on the matter of legislated allocations of funding to close the \$1.1 Million gap for the completion of the full scope for the Highway 316 improvements, and the City greatly appreciates County consideration of becoming a funding partner in this project through the use of County Transportation Sales & Use Tax revenues, and

WHEREAS, the City of Hastings welcomes continually ongoing discussions with Dakota County to explore possibilities for enhancements to existing facilities as well as the construction of new facilities that will help to better serve the Hastings area.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HASTINGS; that the City of Hastings hereby requests inclusion of the following within the 2021-2025 Dakota County Transportation Capital Improvements Plan:

1. Amendment of the County’s list of State Highway projects for which County Transportation Sales & Use Tax Revenues can be used to support, in the amount of \$1.1 Million, for County contribution to the Highway 316 Improvements project to close the funding gap.
2. Inclusion of a Pedestrian Safety & Vehicle Speed Evaluation along County Road 42 between West 1st Street and Lock Boulevard.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF HASTINGS, MINNESOTA, THIS 17TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2020

Ayes:

Nays:

Mary D. Fasbender, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Julie Flaten, City Clerk

SEAL