



### Agenda

October 22, 2020

7:00 P.M.

via WebEx

1. Call to Order: 7:00 PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call/ Establish Quorum
  - a. Counties: Anoka, Isanti, Kanabec
  - b. Cities: Blaine, Braham, Cambridge, East Bethel, Ham Lake, Isanti, Oak Grove, Spring Lake Park
  - c. Townships: Athens, Brunswick, Cambridge, Comfort, Ford, Isanti, Knife Lake*Per JPA Article VI Section 4: 40% of the membership constitutes a quorum (40% of 17 = 7.2)*

Members Present: Robyn West (Chair), Anoka County  
Julie Braastad, Anoka County  
Gene Anderson, Kanabec County  
Jess Robertson, City of Blaine  
Robert Knowles, City of Braham  
Marcia Westover, City of Cambridge  
Jack Davis, City of East Bethel  
Steve Voss, City of East Bethel  
Sheila Sellman, City of Isanti  
Dan Denno, City of Oak Grove  
Barbara Goodboe-Bisschoff, City of Spring Lake Park

Others Present: Joe MacPherson, Anoka County (Administrative Representative)  
Angie Huss, Lock Law  
Ann Lenczewski, Lock Law  
Jill Kent, Anoka County (Administrative Assistant)

4. Approval of Minutes from the July 23, 2020 Meeting  
Motion: Jess R.  
Motion: Sheila S  
Motion: Passed
5. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Approval of Treasurer's Report  
Steve Voss – all dues have been received. Townships that are still missing from the deposit have not been invoiced. Only activity since last meeting was interest payment.  
  
Motion: Dan Denno  
Motion: Gene Anderson



Motion: Passed

- b. 2020 Membership Dues Status Report
  
6. Administrative Representative Report
  - a. Discuss potential videos or ads to help “tell the TH 65 story”

Discussion: At the meeting three months ago, Emily Hyland and Stephanie Roth from HDR Engineering were present; they represent a highly regarded communications specialist group. They have been tasked to come up with ideas or what is important to each community that we can showcase. Can use video for lobbying for funding from state, there is a huge potential in these cities. East Bethel has previously done videos for promotional effort, and have found them to be effective and a good way of communication. Each community is unique with their own identity. Potential topics for the video:

    - Explain corridor, TH 65 changes from urban to suburban, then to rural to even more rural.
    - Issues with the Corridor? Congestion, mobility, crisscross from one side to the other, 25 minutes to go 2 blocks.
    - Potential topics:
      - Shatter stigma of TH 65, of residents trapped on corridor
      - Highlight 3M tournament and sports center, places that draw crowds
      - Economic development projects
      - Safety on County roads and TH 65
      - What counties and cities are doing with traffic off TH 65
      - Relieving congestion
      - Opening up opportunities for business.
      - Aerial video during rush hour
      - Use still images or video with drone flights, and insert words and images (smart art), can drag cursor over to explain
      - Showcase the more rural communities, that have industry and commercial work. Traffic does head north in AM’s also. Show that not all people head into the metro area for work.
      - Commercial parks, separate businesses that are in the communities
      - “Episode 1” - what the entire corridor looks like, and how it affects everyone, and “Episode 2” – highlight each community

Joe will send this list of items to HDR, and get quotes for costs to get still imagery along with the whole corridor, and put together video. Joe to bring back ideas and thoughts from Emily, and what the costs would be, as it would be using coalition funds.
  
7. Programmed Projects
  - a. MnDOT Metro District: Melissa Barnes and Jennifer Wiltgen  
Discussion: (from Jennifer Wiltgen’s email)



TH 65/Viking: There have been no crashes reported since implementation of the No Turn on Red for Eastbound/Westbound Viking Blvd. Additionally, the violation rates (for No Turn on Red) have been really low at this intersection. We are continuing to work on signal timing adjustments to improve traffic flow across and to TH 65 from Viking Blvd. We are also in the process of hiring a consultant to identify and evaluate some long-term changes at this intersection.

TH 65 PEL: We have wrapped up public engagement on the alternatives analysis and will be moving forward with finalizing the report this winter. We will be gathering local agency letters of support for the study and we hope that the cities of Ham Lake and Blaine can offer their support. You can expect to see requests for letters in the coming months. Thank you to all our city, county, and elected partners that participated in this process with us and we look forward to implementing the PEL Vision with you in the future.

b. MnDOT District 3

Discussion: There are no new updates from D3 for TH 65. Construction is wrapped up for season.

- c. Other: Bonding Bill – Anoka County received \$1.5M bond for preliminary design and environmental documentation to start design at 109<sup>th</sup> Avenue and TH 65. Also, will be starting work on 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue. TH 610 and East River Road in Coon Rapids – also received \$1.5M bond for preliminary design and environmental documentation for converting intersection to full interchange. We were not successful for the add a lane on TH 10 in Coon Rapids. Ramsey Gateway Project - signals will be removed at Fairoak Avenue and Thurston Avenue will be taken out, and the last 2 signals on TH10 at Ramsey Boulevard and Sunfish Lake Boulevard will be converted to interchanges.

8. Community Updates

Discussion:

Blaine: Have received almost all funds needed through grants and funding for eliminating the spotlight and constructing a grade-separated intersection at TH 65 and 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

East Bethel – MnDOT looking to improve safety at TH65 and Viking Boulevard, including sight lines and timing of signals. City is in constant communication with MnDOT. Working with Anoka County to start second phase of frontage road on east side of TH 65 from 187<sup>th</sup> Lane to Viking Boulevard, which will relieve traffic and congestion issues. Experiencing development of up to 150 homes, one high density complex and commercial development on the west side.

Spring Lake Park – have had a rash of ped fatalities, and both PEL Study and Chapter 2 of the PEL study are being completed on the TH 65 and TH 47 corridors. Osborne Road is currently being worked on. HyVee is still looking forward to opening by summer 2021. Property located at 525 Osborne has been sold for a Memory Care Center.



Oak Grove – Citizen’s concerns are that TH65 and Viking Boulevard intersection is worse now than ever before. MnDOT looking at signal timing for Right Turn Lanes and J turn. Would like to see flashing yellow lights (flash before light turns red) at any intersection with stoplights on TH 65, particularly at the J turn.

9. Other Business

Discussion:

Motion: Gene Anderson

Motion: Jess

10. Adjourn – 7:58 PM