



## SWCTC Membership Meeting

December 3, 2021  
Waconia City Council Chambers & via Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 7:35 am by President Randy Maluchnik.

Maluchnik asked for members to introduce themselves.

Carver County Engineer Lyndon Robjert presented an update on the work being done in Highways 212 and 5. He noted that the project on US Highway 212 is well ahead of schedule and is going well.

The request for funding for Highway 212 through the federal RAISE grant program was not successful, but the state legislature provided funding through the two-year transportation budget bill. Project development for phase II is continuing. By the spring of 2024, the county would like to start on the phase II project. Preliminary engineering will refine the cost of the project. A grade separation at Bongards would be ideal. MnDOT has confirmed that savings from phase I can be used on the phase II project.

Lyndon then provided an update on transportation improvements that have been identified for Highway 5. The projects around the Arboretum will be a big challenge. Legislation has been introduced to provide \$10 million in bond authorization for Highway 5. The 2022 Session is the usual bonding year.

Carver County's long-range plan determined that the area roadways around the MN Landscape Arboretum are vital to the transportation users in the community. Carver County is the fastest growing county in Minnesota with 50% population growth expected by 2040. This will add 10,000 more east to west trips in the Arboretum Area.

The County along with the Cities of Victoria, Chanhassen, and Chaska along with the Mn Landscape Arboretum and MnDOT just completed a 2 year study:

- Engage communities to develop an area-wide transportation vision for the project corridors
- Develop locally supported transportation improvements that address safety, mobility, and bike/ped
- Identify short-, mid-, and long-term transportation improvements that can be phased in over time
- Trunk Highway 5 carries approximately 25,000 vehicle a day in this area on a 2-lane road. Severe backups caused. Higher than average crash rates.

The Arboretum Area Transportation Plan includes 20 Projects:

- Total Investment Needed \$206M\*
  - State \$140 million
  - County \$46 million
  - City \$20 million

•Funding

- State \$15 million
- County \$16 million
- City \$7 million
- Grants to Date \$10 million
- Remaining **\$158 million**
  - County Sales Tax \$79 million
  - Future Grants \$79 million
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Funding Requests, Next Steps:

- Congressional Requests Highway 5:
  - \$2,000,000 for Design and Environmental Documentation
  - \$27,000,000 for Construction
- TED Highway 5
  - \$5,000,000
- State Bonding:
  - \$10,000,000 for CSAH 18 (82nd Street)
- Next Steps
  - Hire Program Manager – Dec 2021
  - Proceed with Preliminary Engineering - 2022
  - Submit Regional Solicitation Applications – Spring 2022
  - Apply for other State Funds, Bonding?
  - DOT Grants, RAISE, BUILD
  - Earmarks

MnDOT staff provided information on the work being done to update the 20-year Minnesota Highway Investment Plan (MnSHIP).

Margaret Donahoe provided a legislative update. She discussed the 2022 state legislative session which begins on January 31, 2022 and is the second year of the biennium when the legislature usually passes a capital bonding bill. She noted that the November budget forecast is expected to show a substantial surplus in the state's general fund.

Margaret also discussed the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and noted that a workshop will be held on December 16<sup>th</sup> in Chaska in conjunction with MnDOT to provide more detailed information on the legislation. The bill does provide more funding for discretionary grant programs like RAISE and INFRA that could be helpful for the coalition in securing funding for area highway projects.