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TO: Honorable County Commissioners
Scott Arneson, County Administrator

FROM: Greg Isakson, Public Works Director

RE: 01 Oct 20 County Board Meeting
TH 52 Southbound Regrading Project Update

Date: 24 Nov 20

Summary

The purpose of this agenda item is to give the Board an update on MnDOT's anticipated Notice to Proceed dates, County costs, and to have a discussion and make a decision on the inclusion of a Park and Ride Lot at TH 52/CSAH 8.

Background

Schedule: MnDOT continues to work on creating the documentation required to publish a Request for Proposals to Short Listed proposers (scheduled for 18 Nov 20). Their technical proposals will be due in early February, followed by a price proposal in late February. The winning proposal will be awarded sometime in April or May.

County Costs: The County will be responsible for 15% of the Hader Interchange (TH 52 / CSAH 8), and 100% of the construction costs for the realignment of CSAH 14 from its current intersection with TH 52 up to the frontage road that ties into the roundabout on CSAH 24. Additionally, the County will be responsible for the cost to build a Park and Ride Lot on CSAH 8 near TH 52. MnDOT's preliminary estimate has the County's total project cost at under \$5 Million, which is significantly less than anticipated.

Park and Ride Lot: The current plan includes a Park and Ride Lot on CSAH 8 just east of the new bridge over TH 52. This lot is replacing the current parking that has been allowed along CSAH 8 on the west side of TH 52.

These parking lots are very popular with commuters, save fuel, and reduce traffic on the highways that serve the larger metropolitan areas. There was a lot of support for this parking lot at the public meetings held during the development of this project. This lot could become a stop for the commuter buses that bring workers into Rochester, which would be convenient for County citizens who use this parking lot.

MnDOT's policy is that local partners are responsible for the construction and maintenance of these lots. The anticipated cost for this lot is less than \$200,000 and this figure is included in the anticipated total cost of less than \$5 Million for the project as a whole.

Alternatives

- Approve the inclusion of the Park and Ride Lot in the design of the TH 52 project with the County.
- Request MnDOT drop the Park and Ride Lot from the current plans for the TH 52 project.

Recommendation

It is the recommendation of staff that the County Board approve the inclusion of the Park and Ride Lot in the design of the TH 52 project, with the County being responsible for the construction and maintenance of this lot.