

## I-94 Corridor Project Development

November 2015

### History

Today, motorists on I-94 experience significant daily congestion. Traffic volumes on I-94, between downtown Minneapolis and downtown St. Paul, currently exceeds 150,000 vehicles a day. Congestion sometimes extends several miles eastbound and westbound in the AM and PM peak period. Traffic volumes in the I-94/I-35E Commons in St. Paul currently exceed 180,000 vehicles a day. Traffic volumes surpass 260,000 in the area south of the I-94/I-35W commons area in Minneapolis, which adds to the congestion along the I-94 corridor. With more than 80 lane miles of pavement, two tunnels and more than 50 bridges on and over the corridor, there are substantial assets to be preserved between Minneapolis and St. Paul. Many of these assets were built in the 1960s and 1970s, and MnDOT needs to plan for their replacement.



### Objective

MnDOT along with its partners will develop and refine a variety of alternative concepts for the I-94 corridor. Concepts will connect asset related objectives to issues identified through stakeholder engagement. These concepts shall be developed in a thorough and comprehensive public involvement process with all partners along the I-94 corridor. Stakeholders along the corridor as well as MnDOT's partners will help define and develop effective and efficient framework for the corridor.

Any proposed recommended changes to the I-94 corridor should:

- Protect the corridor's role as a local, regional, state, and national connection by preserving the many assets along the corridor,
- Support and advance additional objectives identified through the community engagement process regarding transportation system performance,
- Enhance network and modal connectivity to and across the I-94 corridor,
- Enhance corridor safety for all users,
- Fully use existing right-of-way and infrastructure investments, and
- Enhance advantages for people using transit, carpools, and those drivers willing to pay.

## Project Goals

This work is intended to lead into an implementation schedule that guides future project development efforts and lead into construction projects. While there is some project funding identified in 2020 and 2021, and there are some locations that will need rehabilitation in the short term, of which funding will need to be identified and secured. The goals of this project include:

- ❖ Gain a better understanding of the condition of MnDOT's assets (roads, bridges, walls and tunnels) along the corridor
- ❖ Better understand who uses the corridor and how they use it
- ❖ Better understand what parts of the corridor work and what parts do not work for people
- ❖ Develop an approach to address corridor needs in a comprehensive, long term, and community based way

## Scope of Work

The scope of work includes the following elements:

- Develop Project Alternatives
- Comprehensive evaluation of corridor asset condition
- Travel Demand Forecasting & Traffic Modeling
- Comprehensive Corridor Origin and Destination and Transit Operation Analysis
- Benefit/Cost Analysis
- Short & Long-Term recommendations including a Phased Implementation Plan
- Market Segmentation
- Develop recommended engagement strategies and tactics

## Current Status

MnDOT is developing contracts with engineering firms and market research firms to be part of the I-94 Corridor Project Team. We expect to have this team in place in the fall of 2015.



**We would like to hear from you**



- What works well on the I-94 Corridor?
- What do you want to know about the I-94 Corridor?
- How could I-94 better reflect the needs of your community?

## For More Information

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