

presentation materials and an informational video available at the meeting, along with the MN 65 Access Management Plan.

Sheila Kauppi, MnDOT, noted that MnDOT has been working on the 65/Viking intersection for two years. MnDOT has also been focusing on the East Bethel/Ham Lake area on Hwy 65. Ms. Kauppi reviewed the study objectives of safety and mobility, and reviewed problems being addressed. She shared DRAFT site maps of possible frontage road sites.

Tod Sherman spoke on the benefits to non-signalized reduced conflict intersections (RCI). MnDOT is looking at a signalized RCI for Viking Blvd and four other non-signalized intersections along Hwy 65. It was noted that four other alternatives were looked at for this intersection, but data shows that an RCI will operate significantly better. Mr. Sherman reviewed the benefits to RCIs, frontage/backage road benefits, and the next steps to be taken. Ham Lake's Road Committee voted to recommend approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with MnDOT to its City Council. Mr. Sherman explained that the MOU with East Bethel is non-binding, however, it does show a commitment to work together; it also helps with finding funding sources.

Mr. Nowack noted most truck drivers prefer one lane U-turns over two lane U-turns. Paul Jung, MnDOT North Area Engineer, noted that trucks turning in U-turns were considered when the template was designed. The U-turns will be located 800'-1,000' north and south of the intersection.

Mr. DeRoche asked if a strip mall is built on the NW corner of this intersection is there a possibility of an entrance being located off the intersection of Viking and Hwy 65 and if so, will a U-turn present a problem. The main entrance to the commercial area will be ¼ mile west of TH65 on Viking Blvd.

Mr. Sherman was asked if there would be right turns permitted on red lights or would they be controlled. Left turns on red would probably not be permitted, however, MnDOT is still in the process of evaluation. Speed limits would remain the same.

Audience member Joe Anderson, Durant Street, clarified the wait times proposed with the RCI. He also questioned how snowplowing can be done in this type of intersection. Ms. Kauppi said this was looked into and that it will take more time to plow the RCI. Mr. Anderson would rather see money go into frontage roads.

It was asked if emergency vehicles would do the U-turns or go straight across with low curbs installed. The intent is to have a signalized intersection with emergency vehicles using the U-turns, as will volunteer responders in non-emergency vehicles. Surmountable curbs are still being considered.

Mr. Nowack moved and Ms. Pierson-Kolodzienski seconded to

recommend City Council enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Cities of Ham Lake and East Bethel, Anoka County, and the State of Minnesota, Department of Transportation to develop an improvement plan for the TH 65 corridor from Bunker Lake Blvd to the northern border of Anoka County. Motion carried.

6. Council
Report and
Other Business

City Council liaison, Ron Koller reported:

- Election judge roster has been approved.
- Fillmore Street residents agreed to have the street paved, but do not want sewer or water hook-up. A public hearing is needed to approve the paving of Fillmore St.
- The decommissioned sewer at Castle Towers needed to be modified due to a cement pad under the sewage tank.

7. Adjourn

Mr. DeRoche moved and Mr. Nowack seconded to adjourn at 7:50 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Gessner, Recording Secretary
Submitted 10/20/16