



# **Dakota County**

## **Physical Development Committee of the Whole**

### **Minutes**

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**Tuesday, September 13, 2022**

**10:00 AM**

**Conference Room L139 Western  
Service Center, Apple Valley**

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**(or following Community Services Committee of the Whole)**

#### **1. Call To Order And Roll Call**

Also in attendance were Matt Smith, County Manager; Tom Donely, First Assistant County Attorney; Georg Fischer, Physical Development Division Director; Liz Hansen, Administrative Coordinator.

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. by Commissioner Liz Workman.

**Present**

- Commissioner Mike Slavik
- Commissioner Kathleen A. Gaylord
- Commissioner Laurie Halverson
- Commissioner Joe Atkins
- Chairperson Liz Workman
- Commissioner Mary Liz Holberg
- Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland

#### **2. Audience**

Commissioner Workman asked if there was anyone in the audience that wished to address the Physical Development Committee of the Whole on an item not on the agenda or an item on the consent agenda. No one came forward and no comments were submitted to CountyAdmin@co.dakota.mn.us.

#### **3. Approval Of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)**

##### **3.1 Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)**

Motion: Mike Slavik

Second: Laurie Halverson

On a motion by Commissioner Slavik, seconded by Commissioner Halverson, the agenda was unanimously approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Ayes: 7

#### **4. Consent Agenda**

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: Joe Atkins

On a motion by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, seconded by Commissioner Atkins, the consent agenda was unanimously approved as follows:

**4.1** Approval of Minutes Of Meeting Held On August 16, 2022

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: Joe Atkins

**4.2** Authorization To Submit Grant Applications To Federal Railroad Authority For Infrastructure Investment And Jobs Act Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant For Funding To Remove Or Improve Railroad Crossings

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: Joe Atkins

WHEREAS, to promote a safe and efficient transportation system throughout Dakota County, the County pursues transportation funding through external sources to address priority transportation needs; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Railroad Authority is requesting project submittals for the Railroad Crossing Elimination (RCE) grant allocated by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act that is funded with \$573,264,000 in federal funding; and

WHEREAS, the RCE grants provide funding for highway-rail and pathway-rail grade crossing improvement projects that focus on improving the safety and mobility of people and goods; and

WHEREAS, the RCE grant funds up to 80 percent of project construction costs; and

WHEREAS, application submittals are due on October 4, 2022; and

WHEREAS, all projects proposed are consistent with the adopted Dakota County Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, subject to federal funding award, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners would be asked to consider authorization to execute a grant agreement at a future meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the following County led projects for submittal to Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for federal funding:

- 1) Mississippi River Greenway along Pine Bend Trail in Rosemount
- 2) Minnesota River Greenway in Fort Snelling State Park at the Union Pacific railroad crossing in Eagan

This item was approved and recommended for action by the Board of Commissioners on 9/20/2022.

**4.3** Authorization To Execute Jurisdictional Transfer Agreement, County State Aid Highway 9 And Accept Quit Claim Deed For Right Of Way From City Of Lakeville

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: Joe Atkins

WHEREAS, Dakota County's 2040 Transportation Plan identifies a portion of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 9 (Dodd Boulevard) between Hayes Avenue and CSAH 31 (Pilot Knob Road) as a turnback to the City of Lakeville; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County's 2040 Transportation Plan identifies 179th Street W between Hayes Avenue and CSAH 31 (Pilot Knob Road) as a future County Highway; and

WHEREAS, the County State Aid Screening Board awarded Dakota County an additional 39.6 miles of CSAHs to be added to Dakota County's State Aid Highway System in the fall of 2012; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 163.11 Subdivision 5 and 9 authorize the County Board to transfer jurisdiction and ownership of a County highway to another road authority upon agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Director/County Engineer recommends revoking County State Aid status from Dodd Boulevard between Hayes Avenue and CSAH 31 (Pilot Knob Road); and

WHEREAS, Dakota County will turnback operations and maintenance of this segment of Dodd Boulevard to the City of Lakeville in accordance with the terms of the turnback agreement; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County will construct Dodd Boulevard to Municipal State Aid standards as part of County Project (CP) 9-56 and CP 9-64; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County accepts the jurisdictional transfer of 179th Street W between Hayes Avenue and CSAH 31 (Pilot Knob Road) from the City of Lakeville in accordance with the terms of the turnback agreement; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County will construct 179th Street W between Hayes Avenue and CSAH 23 (Cedar Avenue) to County State Aid standards as part of CP 9-56; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lakeville constructed 179th Street W between CSAH 23 (Cedar Avenue) and CSAH 31 (Pilot Knob Road) to County State Aid standards as part of CP 97-203; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Director/County Engineer recommends designating County State Aid status for 179th Street W between Hayes Avenue and CSAH 31 (Pilot Knob Road) as CSAH 9.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Physical Development Director to enter into an agreement with the City of Lakeville for the revocation and turnback of a portion of County State Aid Highway 9 (Dodd Boulevard) between Hayes Avenue and County State Aid Highway 31 (Pilot Knob Road) and accept the jurisdictional transfer of 179th Street W between Hayes Avenue and County State Aid Highway 31 (Pilot Knob Road); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, By the County Board of the County of Dakota, that the road described as follows, to-wit:

Dodd Boulevard between Hayes Avenue and County State Aid Highway 31 (Pilot Knob Road)

be, and hereby is, revoked as a County State Aid Highway of said County, subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Transportation of the State of Minnesota; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, By the County Board of the County of Dakota, that the road described as follows, to-wit:

179th Street W between Hayes Avenue and County State Aid Highway 31 (Pilot Knob Road)

be, and hereby is, established, located, and designated a County State Aid Highway of said County, subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Transportation of the State of Minnesota; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the County Auditor is hereby authorized and directed to forward two certified copies of this resolution to the Commissioner of Transportation for consideration and that upon approval of the designation of said road or portion thereof, that same be constructed, improved, and maintained as a County State Aid Highway of the County of Dakota, to be numbered and known as a County State Aid Highway.

This item was approved and recommended for action by the Board of Commissioners on 9/20/2022.

**4.4 Authorization To Amend County State Aid Highway 31 Wetland Bank**

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: Joe Atkins

WHEREAS, planned improvements to County State Aid Highway 31 in the early 2000s would negatively impact existing wetlands; and

WHEREAS, the state Wetland Conservation Act of 1991 required mitigation for wetland impacts; and

WHEREAS, a 17.1-acre wetland bank, administered through the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resource (BWSR), was proposed to locally mitigate these wetland impacts; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 02-562 (November 5, 2002), the County Board of Commissioners approved the establishment of a 17.1-acre wetland bank and authorized the execution of a Declaration of Restrictions and Covenants for Dakota County State Aid Highway 31 Wetland Bank (Declaration) which described wetland bank requirements and the legal description of the wetland bank area; and

WHEREAS, the intent of the mitigation project and Declaration was to also exclude 25 feet of the southern portion of the identified property parcel and reserve it for future public use as a trail corridor; and

WHEREAS, it was recently discovered during the North Creek Greenway trail design and construction process that the legal description for the Declaration did not exclude the future trail corridor in the wetland bank area; and

WHEREAS, the Declaration includes language to request the modification of the Declaration with written approval by the City of Lakeville and BWSR; and

WHEREAS, staff and the County Attorney's Office prepared an Amendment to Declaration of Restrictions and Covenants for Dakota County State Aid Highway 31 Wetland Bank; and

WHEREAS, the Amendment to Declaration of Restrictions and Covenants for Dakota County State Aid Highway 31 Wetland Bank includes a revised legal description for the wetland bank area that excludes the trail corridor and reaffirms that all other terms and conditions of the 2002 Declaration shall remain in full force and effect for the amended wetland bank area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes amending the Declaration of Restrictions and Covenants for Dakota County State Aid Highway 31 Wetland Bank; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chair to execute the Amendment to Declaration of

Restrictions and Covenants for Dakota County State Aid Highway 31 Wetland Bank and to submit the amended Declaration to Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon approval by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, the fully executed Declaration of Restrictions and Covenants for Dakota County State Aid Highway 31 Wetland Bank will be recorded in the County's Recorder's Office and a copy of the recorded Amendment to Declaration of Restrictions and Covenants for Dakota County State Aid Highway 31 Wetland Bank will be provided to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources.

This item was approved and recommended for action by the Board of Commissioners on 9/20/2022.

**4.5** Update On Lebanon Hills Sustainable Trails Study

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: Joe Atkins

Information only; no action requested

**4.6** Planning Commission Update

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: Joe Atkins

Information only; no action requested.

**5. Regular Agenda**

**5.1** Adoption Of Recommendations For County Project 97-197, Regional Roadway System Visioning Study Update Addressing Transportation Needs Within Northwest Inver Grove Heights, Northeast Eagan And Adjacent Areas Of Mendota Heights And Sunfish Lake

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Laurie Halverson

Kristi Sebastian, Traffic Engineer, presented this item and responded to questions.

WHEREAS, to promote safe and efficient transportation throughout the County and region, Dakota County partnered with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) and the Cities of Eagan, Inver Grove Heights, Mendota Heights, and Sunfish Lake for County Project (CP) 97-197, Regional Roadway System Visioning Study (RRSVS) Update; and

WHEREAS, the study included an investigation of potential future transportation system needs in northern Dakota County to develop a vision for the transportation system that will result in safe and efficient travel in the area as cost-effectively as possible while at the same time recognizing agency land use development objectives; and

WHEREAS, the Cities of Eagan and Inver Grove Heights have planned for continued growth and development through their 2040 Comprehensive Plans that will result in additional impacts on the area transportation system; and

WHEREAS, continued growth in surrounding communities will result in additional impacts on the area transportation system; and

WHEREAS, representatives of Dakota County, MnDOT, and the Cities of Mendota Heights, Sunfish Lake, Eagan, and Inver Grove Heights have participated as members of a Study Advisory Committee and have reviewed study findings and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the study process involved the public through in-person public open houses, virtual material, and engagement on the website and in city council meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Roadway System Vision Update recommendations support future growth in the area in a way that will result in a safe and efficient system of City, County, State, and Federal roadways in the future; and

WHEREAS, the County recognizes there are additional steps necessary to gain requisite agency approvals before the improvements included in the recommendations can be constructed; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Engineer recommends the adoption of the recommendations for CP 97-197, RRSVS Update.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the study recommendations for County Project 97-197, the Regional Roadway System Visioning Study Update, as presented to the Physical Development Committee of the Whole on September 13, 2022.

This item was approved and recommended for action by the Board of

Commissioners

Ayes: 7

**5.2 Adoption Of Natural Resource Management Plan For North Creek Greenway**

Motion: Mike Slavik

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

Chris Klatt, Natural Resources Specialist, presented this item and responded to questions.

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 17-274 (May 23, 2017), the County Board adopted the Natural Resources Management System Plan, which determined that Natural Resource Management Plans (NRMPs) would be developed for all County Parks, Greenways, and Easements; and

WHEREAS, Stantec was hired to develop the Lake Marion and North Creek Greenway NRMPs, and it addresses natural resource management on non-County lands in proximity to the Greenway; and

WHEREAS, a Technical Advisory Committee consisting of staff from host communities, other agencies, and major landowners convened on January 7, 2022, to discuss future development and natural resource management on these lands; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Planning Commission reviewed the Lake Marion and North Creek Greenway NRMP Study Areas and initial findings on July 22, 2021, then reviewed the recommendations, restoration work plan, and proposed cost-share structure and recommended the Drafts be released to the public on February 24, 2022; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 22-122 (March 22, 2022), the County Board approved the release of the Drafts to the public for a 60-day review period; and

WHEREAS, during the public review period, County staff presented and solicited feedback from municipal citizen advisory boards and two Public Open Houses; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Planning Commission reviewed the final Draft of the North Creek Greenway NRMP and recommended the adoption of the Plan on August 25, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the North Creek Greenway Natural Resources Management Plan.

This item was approved and recommended for action by the Board of Commissioners on 9/20/2022.

Ayes: 7



**5.3 Update On 2022 Dakota County Greenway Projects**

Jeff Bransford, Parks Administrative Manager, and Tony Wotzka, Sr. Project Manager presented this item and responded to questions.

Information only; no action requested.

**5.4 Overview And Update On County Project 66-15 Needs And Alternatives For Trunk Highway 52 Interchange At County Roads 62 Or 66 In Vermillion Township**

Doug Abere, Sr. Project Manager, presented this item and responded to questions.

Information only; no action requested.

**6. Physical Development Director's Report**

Georg Fischer, Physical Development Director, provided the Committee with a written Division update.

**7. Adjournment**

**7.1 Adjournment**

Motion: Laurie Halverson

Second: Mike Slavik

On a motion by Commissioner Laurie Halverson, seconded by Commissioner Mike Slavik, the meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

Ayes: 7

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Hansen  
Administrative Coordinator