Legislative Priority: CR 104 (60th AVE)/TH 14 Proposed Interchange

Olmsted County requests state funding for improvements to County Road (CR) 104 at Trunk Highway (TH) 14 which will increase safety and support regional growth and economic development.

BACKGROUND: The intersection of CR 104 (60th Avenue NW) and TH 14 in Olmsted County is located on the west side of Rochester. CR 104 intersects TH 14 at a skewed angle and subsequently has significant safety concerns due to that and the number of vehicles passing through the intersection. TH 14 carries 30,000 vehicles per day traveling at 65 MPH and CR 104 has 3,000 per day at this location. Crashes at the intersection average 10-13 per year. TH 14 is also a regional corridor serving as a primary commuter route from the west into Rochester. This intersection provides access to existing commercial development and, due to its location within the Rochester future urban growth boundary, will be relied upon to provide access for future growth and economic development.

CURRENT SITUATION: Based on traffic volumes at the intersection, the MnDOT Access Management Manual indicates high risk conditions for vehicles on CR 104 trying to find an adequate gap in traffic flows on TH 14. The proposed interchange removes two at-grade intersections which will eliminate 64 conflict points. A new interchange at CR 104/TH 14 will not only address safety concerns, but also improve the regional corridor for commuters into Rochester, improve a regional freight route, and support future economic growth and development for the region. Additionally, this interchange is identified as a need in the Long-Range Transportation Plan of the Rochester-Olmsted Council of Governments. As such, a 2009 Corridor Study, a federal environmental report, and an adopted official map have been completed. The project is also supported by the City of Rochester and Kalmar Township.

2019 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY: Olmsted County requests state funding for improvements to CR 104 at TH 14 which will increase safety and support regional growth and economic development. The project will consist of the construction of a new interchange with an associated fly-over at 7th Street NW, thereby eliminating two at-grade intersections. The total estimated cost of the project is $40 million. Possible funding sources include local, state, and federal resources.

Olmsted County Lead Staff

**Deputy Administrator for Physical Development**
Mike Sheehan
Office: 507-328-7070
sheehan.mike@co.olmsted.mn.us

**Director of Public Works/County Engineer**
Kaye Bieniek
Office: 507-328-7060
bieniek.kaye@co.olmsted.mn.us

**Legislative Analyst**
Jennifer Berquam
Office: 507-328-6060
Cell: 651-308-8266
berquam.jennifer@co.olmsted.mn.us