

CITY OF NORTHFIELD TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

PARTNERING AGENCY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

Thursday, November 15, 2007
9:00 – 10:30 AM
City Hall – Council Chambers

INVITED

John McCarthey, City of Dundas
John Dudley, Waterford Township
Richard Moore, Greenvale Township
Mike Groth, Northfield Township
Gary Ebling, Bridgewater Township
Greg Paulson, P.E., Mn/DOT District 6 – Rochester
Lynn Clarkowski, P.E., Mn/DOT Metro District – South Area
Dennis Luebbe, P.E., Rice County Highway Department
Mark Krebsbach, P.E., Dakota County Transportation Department
Joel Wager, Mn/DNR Trails and Waterways

PARTICIPANTS

John Dudley, Waterford Township
Scott Peters, Dakota County
Dennis Luebbe, Rice County (input received by email)
Chris Moates, Mn/DOT (input received by email)
Katy Gehler-Hess, City of Northfield
Joel Walinski, City of Northfield

FACILITATORS: Bolton & Menk, Inc. – Chris Chromy, Gina Mitchell, Bryan Nemeth

Workshop Purpose: Provide a forum for other public agencies to express how their needs and challenges, as well as potential solutions, fit into the context of the transportation system in and around Northfield. Each agency was asked to summarize their top 3 priorities they would like the City of Northfield to consider as the City updates its Transportation Plan.

Written comments regarding each participant's top 3 priorities are attached to this summary. Below is a summary of priorities identified within discussion of the meeting participants.

Summary of Priorities

Roadway Connectivity Needs – Several developing areas were identified as lacking roadway connectivity and the need for new roadway corridors including:

- North-South between TH 19 and CSAH 23 (NW Corridor Study Area)
- East-West between developing areas east of the Cannon River and I-35 (Cannon River Bridge)
- North-South, west of the Cannon River, south of TH 19
- East-West between CSAH 23 and TH 3

Existing and Anticipated Roadway Deficiencies

- TH 19 capacity and pavement conditions between City and I-35
- County Road 96 between CSAH 23 and TH 3; Once paved, there is concern for new issues on TH 3 and CSAH 47.
- Lack of Connectivity between neighborhoods results in higher traffic volumes on collector and arterial roadways

Agency Partnerships – The established and developing partnerships were identified as necessary components in solving complex transportation issues facing Northfield. Partnerships established for the TH 19 Access Management Study, CSAH 1 Corridor Preservation Study, and Northwest Corridor Study should be maintained and further developed.



CITY OF NORTHFIELD

TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

BUSINESSES STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

Thursday, November 15, 2007
1:00 – 2:30 PM
Northfield Community Resource Center, Rm 103

INVITED

Northfield Area Chamber of Commerce
Northfield Downtown Development Committee
Holden Farms, Inc.
Malt-O-Meal Company, Inc.
McLane Company, Inc.
Multek, Inc.
Target/Cub Foods

PARTICIPATED

Jerry Anderson
Jim Gleason
Rob Taylor
Larry Larson, Land Vista
David Ludescher, Chamber
Chris Sawyer, College City Beverage
Joseph Kuchinka, Insurance Brokers of MN
Rick Risberg, Frandseu Bank & Trust
Mark DuChene, I&S Engineers and Architects
Nancy Johnson, Northfield Lines Inc. Benjamin Bus Inc.
Roy Barwelt, Multer
John McCarthy, City of Dundas
Tom McMahan, City of Dundas
Kathy Filslerieqqe, Northfield Chamber of Commerce
Charlene Covlonbe Fiore, EDA Office
Mary Quinn Ceou, Northfield Hospital
Andrew Yurek, Northfield Hospital, EMS
Katy Ciehler-Hess, City of Northfield
Robert Bierman, Furniture & Flooring
Marilyn Maas, Kwik Trip

FACILITATORS: Bolton & Menk, Inc. – Chris Chromy, Gina Mitchell, Bryan Nemeth

Workshop Purpose: Provide a forum for roadway users to identify their needs and current challenges, as well as potential solutions. Each participant was asked to summarize their top 3 priorities they would like the City of Northfield to consider as the City updates its Transportation Plan.

Written comments regarding each participant's top 3 priorities are attached to this summary. Below is a summary of priorities identified by small group discussions.

Summary of Priorities

Roadway Connectivity Needs – Several developing areas were identified as lacking roadway connectivity and the need for new roadway corridors including:

- North-South between TH 19 and CSAH 23 (NW Corridor Study Area), including second access to hospital from CSAH 23
- East-West between developing areas east of the Cannon River and I-35 (Cannon River Bridge)
- East-West between CSAH 23 and TH 3 (Thye Parkway, 320th Street)
- Ring Road concept and establishing a grid of roadways to help alleviate travel demand on TH 3 and TH 19
- Improving continuity of CSAH 23
- Need to integrate east–west & north–south corridor links now and stop pushing out further to the edges; needed internal and external to the city

Accommodating All Roadway Users

- Roadways need to be designed to better accommodate buses, trucks, emergency vehicles, and other large vehicles, especially at intersections. Turn lanes are necessary.
- Collector streets need to be designed as collector streets, not residential streets
- Bicycle facilities should be included on some, but not all roads
- Connections need to be provided between different modes of transportation (i.e. sidewalks to access bus stops)
- Safety of pedestrian and bicyclists needs to be considered

Growth and Development Concerns

- Growth should be encouraged on the north and west sides of the city so it can easily access I-35 and the metro area. Growth should be discouraged on the south and east sides of the city until sufficient corridors can be established
- Lack of connections between neighborhoods results in higher traffic volumes and congestion on collector and arterial roadways (i.e. Jefferson Parkway and TH 246)
- Maintaining accessibility to business districts along TH 19
- Future business park in northwest part of city would require improvements to Garrett/Decker Avenue, intersection with TH 19
- TH 246 and County Road intersections need improvements
- Paving of CR 96 may impact needed improvements to connect with CSAH 47

Existing Roadway Deficiencies

- Woodley Street and Division Street Intersection needs turn lanes
- Woodley Street is too narrow and needs sidewalks
- Cedar Avenue needs sidewalks
- Jefferson Parkway, congested and portions do not accommodate buses or bicycles
- Emergency vehicles are held up by traffic signals, need preemption equipment
- Lack of Connectivity between neighborhoods results in higher traffic volumes on collector and arterial roadways
- CSAH 1 from between TH 246 & TH 3 intersection needs capacity and realignment improvements
- TH 19 & Laurel Court intersection needs improvements to accommodate turning movements
- New railroad crossings necessary to reduce congestion and allow for emergency vehicle access
- Lack of collector roadways with adequate mobility (roadway capacity and design speed) for responding vehicles to efficiently travel between emergency site and hospital
- TH 19 has safety and congestion problems, need additional lanes
- TH 3 transition from 4 lanes to 2 lanes

Implementation

- Be proactive rather than reactive
- Lost opportunities due to political indecision is not acceptable
- Regional vision (Northfield, Dundas, Rice County, Dakota County & adjacent townships) to support improvements on CSAH 1, TH 19, and Northwest Corridor are necessary
- Acquire necessary right-of-way to meet long term needs
- Need a plan with timeframe to complete CSAH 1 & TH 19 corridor improvements
- Identify priorities in the transportation plan and establish community “buy-in” for correct engineering solution to transportation problem; focus on common good for the transportation system and not the vocal minority neighborhood interest
- Need to establish expertise to bring stakeholders together
- Need city staff person to be given directive to go out and obtain funding for identified priorities
- Many small scale, less expensive problem areas could be addressed versus a do nothing approach

CITY OF NORTHFIELD

TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

Thursday, November 15, 2007
4:00 – 5:30 PM
Northfield Community Resource Center, Rm 103

INVITED

Northfield Fire Department
Northfield Police Department
Northfield Hospital EMS
State Highway Patrol
Benjamin Bus, Inc.
Deb Little, Northfield Transit
Alice Sather, A & R Taxi, Inc.
Tom Stringer, Northfield School District
Perkins Specialized Transportation
Taylor Truck Line, Inc.
St. Olaf College
Carlton College

PARTICIPATED

Nancy Johnson, Northfield Lines Inc. Benjamin Bus Inc.
Alice Thomas, Planning Committee
Jared Welund, City of Northfield
T.J. Heianicy, City of Northfield
Deb Ritter, City of Northfield
Alice Sutter, Taxi (A & R)

FACILITATORS: Bolton & Menk, Inc. – Chris Chromy, Gina Mitchell, Bryan Nemeth

Workshop Purpose: Provide a forum for transportation providers to identify their needs and current challenges, as well as potential solutions. Each participant was asked to summarize their top 3 priorities they would like the City of Northfield to consider as the City updates its Transportation Plan.

Written comments regarding each participant's top 3 priorities are attached to this summary. Below is a summary of priorities identified by small group discussions.

Summary of Priorities

Roadway Connectivity Needs – Several developing areas were identified as lacking roadway connectivity and the need for new roadway corridors including:

- North-South between TH 19 and CSAH 23 (NW Corridor Study Area), including second access to hospital from CSAH 23
- East-West between developing areas east of the Cannon River and I-35 (Cannon River Bridge)
- East-West between CSAH 23 and TH 3 (Thye Parkway, 320th Street)
- Ring Road concept and establishing a grid of roadways to help alleviate travel demand on TH 3 and TH 19
- Need to integrate east-west & north-south corridor links with an emphasis on mobility that are both internal and external to the city

Accommodating All Roadway Users

- Connections need to be provided between different modes of transportation (i.e. sidewalks to access bus stops)
- Safety of pedestrian and bicyclists needs to be considered
- Need to consider locations for accessible helicopter landing areas for emergencies
- Bicycle facilities and public transit need to be better connected
- Connect transit facilities with south Twin Cities Metropolitan Area and Rice County
- Incorporate transit studies and plans into overall multimodal approach and include in transportation plan
- Options for pedestrian accessibility needs to be improved by better developing the system to provide for mobility and safe walking areas
- Consider relationship between stop signs and where park areas are accessed so children can safely cross streets

Growth and Development Concerns

- Access to the downtown area is difficult, especially from the west; needs to be a balance between vehicle and pedestrian access; do not reduce parking

Existing Roadway Deficiencies

- Roads need to be designed to an appropriate width to accommodate emergency vehicles and buses (e.g. leaving community center campus buses have to drive over curb because road is too narrow, fire trucks can't get into some cul-de-sacs)
- Roadways divided with a median do not allow school buses to stop traffic for children to cross to the other side of the street
- Develop and hold firm to accepted engineering design standards for collector and minor arterial roadways

- Private street standards can make areas difficult to access with emergency vehicles
- TH 3/Greenvale intersection – difficult to find gap to access TH 3 and make turning movement
- Greenvale, Jefferson Parkway (TH 3 to Division), North Avenue, and CSAH 1 are inadequate to serve their role as collector/arterial roadways; need to be improved to provide more mobility
- Signal needed at TH 3 and 3rd Street
- Greenvale has good access in an emergency to avoid conflicts with the railroad tracks, but street is narrow and hard to get through
- TH 19 has safety and congestion problems, need additional lanes

Implementation

- Need to push Mn/DOT to fund TH 19 improvements
- Don't use duplicative street names where the ending is the only difference (e.g. Cannon Road & Cannon Lane, etc.)
- Enforce traffic violations downtown after 10 PM
- Street signage placement and reflectivity need to be evaluated and improved
- Define emergency routes to access parts of the city



CITY OF NORTHFIELD

TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, November 15, 2007
6:00 – 8:00 PM
Northfield Community Resource Center, Rm. 103

SIGNED-IN

Dusty Budd

Paul Caine

Brian O'Connell

Charlie Stark

Shirley Falck

James Crow

Bruce Anderson

Bill & Penny Cupp

Adam Smith

Philip Spensley

Bill Ostrem

Kris Vohs

Tracy Davis

Lance Heisler

Ron Griffith

VMF Summ II

Dixon Bond

Betsey Buckheit

Greg Colby

Dorothea Hlossouc Holden

Kathee Hanscom

Erica Zweifel

Lois Stratmoen

Dan Hudson

FACILITATORS: Bolton & Menk, Inc. – Chris Chromy, Gina Mitchell, Bryan Nemeth

Open House Purpose:

- Present the City's process for updating the Transportation Plan,
- Share preliminary information regarding existing average daily traffic volumes and congestion levels, 10-year crash history, and proposed roadway extensions,
- Present and discuss known issues,
- Receive and understand the public's most important transportation issues or problems that they would like the City of Northfield to consider

A general overview of the comments received during the meeting follow. Written comments received are attached to this summary.

Roadway Connectivity Needs – Several developing areas were identified as lacking roadway connectivity and the need for new roadway corridors including:

- North-South between TH 19 and CSAH 23 (NW Corridor Study Area), including second access to hospital from CSAH 23
- East-West between developing areas east of the Cannon River and I-35 (Cannon River Bridge)
- East-West between CSAH 23 and TH 3 (Thye Parkway, 320th Street)
- Ring Road concept and establishing a grid of roadways to help alleviate travel demand on TH 3 and TH 19

Accommodating All Roadway Users

- Collector streets need to be designed as collector streets, not residential streets
- Safety and mobility of motorized, non-motorized, commuter, and recreational users needs to be considered

Growth and Development Concerns

- Lack of connections between neighborhoods results in higher traffic volumes and congestion on collector and arterial roadways (i.e. Jefferson Parkway and TH 246)
- Carefully consider growth area; don't allow a significant amount of agricultural land to be converted to urban land uses, because area thrives based on its agricultural base
- Coordinate growth so roads and land use go hand in hand

Existing Roadway Deficiencies

- Lack of Connectivity between neighborhoods results in higher traffic volumes on collector and arterial roadways (e.g. North Avenue)
- TH 19 has safety and congestion problems, need additional lanes

Implementation

- Be proactive rather than reactive
- Regional vision (Northfield, Dundas, Rice County, Dakota County & adjacent townships) to support improvements on CSAH 1, TH 19, and Northwest Corridor are necessary
- Identify priorities in the transportation plan and establish community “buy-in” for correct engineering solution to transportation problem
- Evaluate goals and identify why they were outlined in the existing plan
- Integrate the transportation plan with the Comprehensive Plan
- Define the roles various roadways are to play in the overall roadway network



CITY OF NORTHFIELD TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, May 1, 2008
6:00 – 8:00 PM
Northfield City Hall

SIGNED-IN

See Attached Sign-In Sheets

FACILITATORS: Bolton & Menk, Inc. – Chris Chromy, Bryan Nemeth

Open House Purpose

- Present the Transportation Plan elements for review and comment,
- Share information regarding existing and 2030 average daily traffic volumes and congestion levels with each of the three (3) bridge alternatives, 10-year crash history, proposed roadway extensions, roadway cross-sections, plan elements,
- Present and discuss known issues,
- Ensure that the public's most important transportation issues or problems are considered

A general overview of the comments received during the meeting follow.

1. A few comments that residents could see how the different bridge options affect the Northfield area, could see how CSAH 1 bridge would serve the overall needs of the community to get to I-35
2. No other significant issues with the presented information

Three Written Comments

1. No transit system, it is too expensive and inefficient. Don't believe me? Take a look at the losses of the MSP system. NO NEW TAXES
2. What are the plans for a safe crossing of Hwy 3, north of 2nd Street. I see that trails cross it, but how will you make it safe? More safety for bikers and walkers.
3. First comment related to Northwest Corridor:
 - a. Prefer Option 1
 - b. 2nd Choice Option 2
 - c. 3rd Choice Option 3
 - d. Do not like Options 4 and 5
4. Question location of transportation hub west of Hwy 3 and south of Hwy 19
 - a. Poor accessibility



Northfield Open House Meeting: May 1, 2008

TP = Transportation Plan
NW = Northwest Corridor Study
19 = Highway 19 Access Management Study

Name (PLEASE PRINT)	Address (PLEASE PRINT)	Interest in Plan (landowner, motorist, developer, elected official, etc.)	Meeting Attending (✓)		
			TP	NW	19
Victor Summa	812 St. Olaf				
Kate Lahti	1304 Cannon Valley Dr.	Former NW Area Trans. Task Force & Home Owner		X	
Kathleen Doran-Norton	10825 Farrel Ct.				
John Dudley	2418 320 th Street West	Northfield			
Gregory Langer	7050 320 th Street				
David and Susie Lorence	28625 Foliage Avenue				
Bev Wirtzfeld	7505 320 th Street West	landowner		X	
Alice Thomas	418 College Street	Planning Commission			
Dixon Bond	16 Fareway Drive	Co. Bd.	X	X	
Jim Brown		Co. Bd.			
Peg Prowe	619 East 9 th	Bike Connections	X	X	
Gloria J. Kiester	8400 Falk Avenue	owner			
Marcia R. Widman	212 North Lincoln Street	landowner			
Brenda Huntington	7171 300 th Street West	owner			



Northfield Open House Meeting: May 1, 2008

TP = Transportation Plan
 NW = Northwest Corridor Study
 19 = Highway 19 Access Management Study

Name (PLEASE PRINT)	Address (PLEASE PRINT)	Interest in Plan (landowner, motorist, developer, elected official, etc.)	Meeting Attending (✓)		
			TP	NW	19
Edith Wirth	188 Spruce Drive, Apple Valley	landowner			
William Neil	1217 Hawthorne Ct.	landowner			
Arlene Fossum	1217 Hawthorne Ct.	landowner			
Robert and Sarah Entenmann	8945 Decker Avenue	owner			
Kathleen Hanson	5052 E. Lonsdale Blvd.	landowner			
Bill and Nicole Mueller	28650 Foliage Avenue	landowner			
Eric Dee	14000 Cannon Valley	motorist			
Dorthea Hrossowyc	8620 Wall Street Road	Landowner, long-time citizen			
Peter and Pamela Millin	900 Abbey Road	landowner			
Jenni Munnings	1400 Woodley East	Citizen, commuter, homeowner			
Bruce Morlan	Bridgewater Township	Dundas PC, BWTR TWP			
Richard Balke	8385 Dixon Avenue	Hwy 19			
Lorie and Becky Kjergaard	1736 Quie Lane	Hwy 19			
John Price	1212 Greenvale	Landowner			



Northfield Open House Meeting: May 1, 2008

TP = Transportation Plan
 NW = Northwest Corridor Study
 19 = Highway 19 Access Management Study

Name (PLEASE PRINT)	Address (PLEASE PRINT)	Interest in Plan (landowner, motorist, developer, elected official, etc.)	Meeting Attending (✓)		
			TP	NW	19
Edith Nelson	29242 Isle	Greenvale Twp.			
Charlene Coulombe Fiore	1340 Heritage	EDA			
Brian O'Connell	City of Northfield	Comm. Dev.	X	X	X
Sarah Moore	290 th Street West	Landowner	X	X	X
Bob and Linda Gugerson	29075 Foliage Avenue	Landowner		X	
Alan Norton	10825 Farrel Ct.	Northfield			
John van der Linden	1500 St. Olaf Avenue	Student at St. Olaf		X	
Bruce Anderson	501 St. Olaf Avenue				
Edric Lysne	7559 330 th Street West	Northfield			
Shawn Lorence	28556 Foliage Avenue	Northfield			
Colleen M. Bucher	917 Cannon Valley Drive West			X	X
Philip Spensley	505 Lincoln Street North	Resident	X	X	X
Gretchen Baune	1511 Independence Drive	Resident	X	X	X
Dick Johnson	1304 Blue Phlox Ct.	Resident		X	X



Northfield Open House Meeting: May 1, 2008

TP = Transportation Plan
NW = Northwest Corridor Study
19 = Highway 19 Access Management Study

Name (PLEASE PRINT)	Address (PLEASE PRINT)	Interest in Plan (landowner, motorist, developer, elected official, etc.)	Meeting Attending (✓)		
			TP	NW	19
Chuck Frame	4466 320 th Street West	Resident			
Ron Griffith	1412 Blue Flag Ct.	Resident			
Daryl and Sally Robinson	6525 280 th Street West	Landowner			
Erica Zweifel	406 Highland Avenue	Resident, bicycler	X		
Jeff Otto	25580 Dodd Blvd, Lakeville	Eureka Town Board			
Elise Eslinger	803 Thye Pkwy	Homeowner			
Richard Nasby	610 Thye Ct.	Homeowner, landowner		X	
Alice Nasby	610 Thye Ct.	Homeowner, landowner		X	
Rick Esterman	10541 Ibson Avenue	Resident			
Ann Occhiato	28351 Foliage Avenue	landowner	X	X	