
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