

Transportation Committee

Business Item

Item: 2008-10

Meeting date: January 14, 2008

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	January 4, 2008
Subject:	2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment: Scope Change for Washington County SP#82-618-14, CSAH 18 Reconstruction (TAB Action 2007-62)
District(s), Member(s):	District 12, Broecker
Policy/Legal Reference:	TAB Action
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Carl Ohrn, Planning Analyst MTS (651-602-1719) Amy Vennewitz, Dep. Dir. Finance & Planning MTS 651-602-1058 Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS 651-602-1754
Division/Department:	Metropolitan Transportation Services

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) Actions to amend the 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to approve the following:
Request by Washington County to change the scope of SP #82-618-14 for Washington County CSAH 18 to install three roundabouts instead of three signalized intersections and a frontage road (TAB Action 2007-62).

Background

The original project was selected in the 2005 solicitation process. The proposed scope change would limit access for businesses to right-in/right-out, but would allow for safer U-turn movements with the addition of three roundabouts.

Rationale

The Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) must approve scope changes to regionally selected projects before they can be implemented. The project's description in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) must be consistent with the project to be developed through the MnDOT State Aid process.

Funding

The federal funds are capped for this project.

Known Support / Opposition

The county has negotiated the revised design with the Cities of Lakeland and Lakeland Shores.



Public Works Department

Donald J. Theisen, P.E.
Director/County Engineer

Wayne H. Sandberg, P.E.
Deputy Director/Assistant County Engineer

November 6, 2007

Mr. Tim Mayasich
TAC Funding and Programming Committee
Metropolitan Council
390 North Robert Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

Proposed Scope Change for County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 18 (St. Croix Trail South) Reconstruction

Dear Mr. Mayasich:

Washington County would like to formally request a change in scope to the CSAH 18 reconstruction project (SP 82-618-14) in the cities of Lakeland and Lakeland Shores. The original project was selected for federal funding during the 2005 solicitation process in the Surface Transportation Program "Connector" category. We would like to be added to the agenda of the upcoming November 15, 2007 TAC Funding and Programming Committee meeting to discuss the proposed changes.

Project Background

The existing roadway is a two-lane rural section with narrow shoulders. The originally proposed project in the funding application included:

- Reconstruction of the roadway
- Installation of center left turn lanes
- Construction of a raised median
- Installation of a frontage road
- Addition of pedestrian facilities, including sections of paved trail, crosswalks, and pedestrian activated flashers
- Shoulder addition to meet State Aid standards

The project layout was approved by the cities of Lakeland and Lakeland Shores in August 2005, prior to our federal funding application. Letters of support from each city were included with the application.

Since the proposed layout was approved, new businesses were opened in Lakeland Shores and the city asked the county to reevaluate the access changes in the proposed project. In particular, the city wanted the raised median removed in front of three driveways, which would change them from right-in/right-out to full access.

The county was not willing to make this compromise and instead proposed some other alternatives, including: an additional frontage road on the east side of CSAH 18 (which would eliminate sections of existing bicycle/pedestrian path); shared driveways that would access city

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streets, rather than CSAH 18; and installing roundabouts along the corridor and eliminating most of the frontage road on the west side of CSAH 18.

Proposed Alternative

The county-preferred alternative would install three single-lane roundabouts along the length of the project. Two open houses were held with the public to introduce this alternative, which is also preferred by the Lakeland and Lakeland Shores city councils. A feasibility analysis was performed by an outside consultant and determined that this is a viable option.

One of the overall project objectives is to improve safety along the corridor. The construction of roundabouts will provide safer u-turns for large vehicles and better pedestrian crossings, while maintaining reasonable access to the Lakeland Shores businesses.

Installing roundabouts would eliminate approximately 2,000-feet of the 3,300-foot frontage road. The existing right-of-way is approximately 160-feet wide, which is not large enough to accommodate roundabouts and a frontage road.

Eliminating the frontage road affects ten driveway accesses to CSAH 18. The driveways currently have full access to CSAH 18, and would become right-in/right-out access points with the installation of the raised median. In the original funding application, these driveways were shown to have no direct access to CSAH 18 as they were served by the frontage road. The elimination of the frontage road also reduces area impacted by the project.

The roundabout alternative includes additional features that were not discussed in the original funding application: First Street South and 2nd Street South were originally full access points but will now be $\frac{3}{4}$ access points; the shoulders will be increased from four feet-wide to eight feet-wide in the urban section; and pedestrian facilities will be improved by construction of 2,000 feet of paved trail in the location of the former frontage road. It is estimated the costs for construction of the roundabout alternative would be the same or slightly reduced from the original application.

Washington County understands concerns about fairness to other agencies who applied for funding from the same category at the same time. The County maintains the belief that had the roundabout option been the original alternative contained in the 2005 STP application, the points earned would have been the same or possibly higher. The aforementioned information including the better, more efficient u-turn movements and increased safety for pedestrians provided by the roundabouts, the increased shoulder width, the decreased construction area, and increased paved trail.

Washington County has the cities of Lakeland and Lakeland Shores approval and support to pursue this alternative.

Next Steps

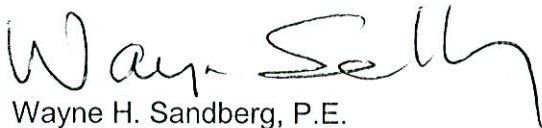
We look forward to discussing the project scope change request with the Funding and Programming Committee at the November 15, 2007 meeting. The goal of our presentation will

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be to obtain recommendation from the F & P Committee that the requested scope change is fair and balanced considering the other agencies and is a favorable option to pursue.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at 651-430-4339 or wayne.sandberg@co.washington.mn.us.

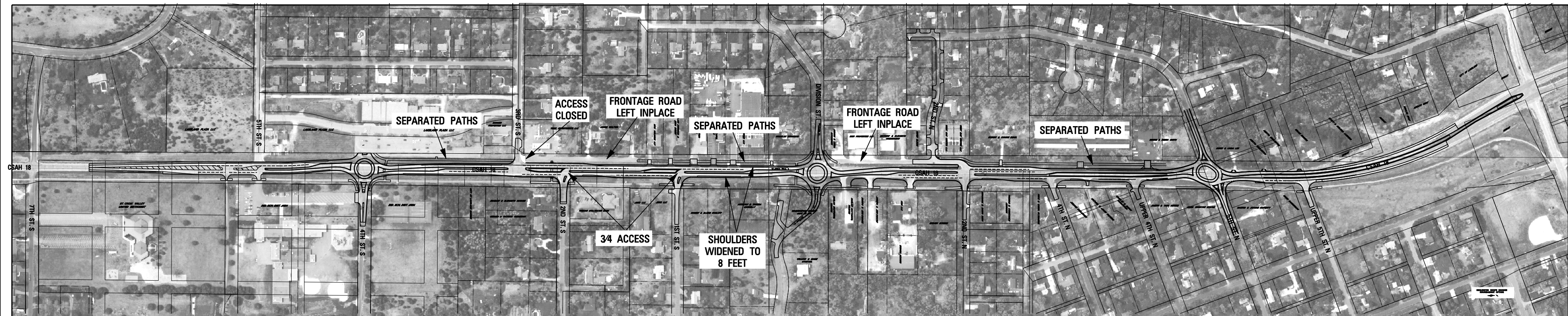
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne Sandberg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

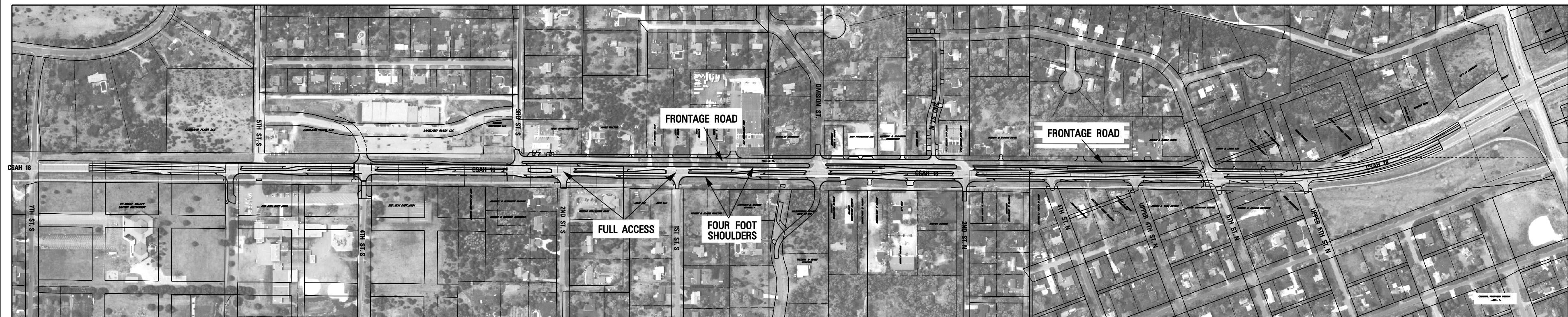
Wayne H. Sandberg, P.E.
Deputy Director/Assistant County Engineer

Enclosures

PROPOSED ROUNDABOUT OPTION



ORIGINAL PROPOSED LAYOUT



Transportation Advisory Board

of the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities

Donn R. Wiski
Chair

January 4, 2008

County Commissioners

Dennis Berg
Anoka County

Tom Workman
Carver County

Paul Krause
Dakota County

Linda Koblick
Hennepin County

Janice Rettman
Ramsey County

Jon Ulrich
Scott County

Myra Peterson
Washington County

Municipal Officials

Dan Bostrom
St. Paul City Council

Liz Workman
Burnsville City Council

William Hargis
Mayor of Woodbury

Sandy Hewitt
Plymouth City Council

James Hovland
Mayor of Edina

Robert Lillgren
Minneapolis City Council

Craig Peterson
Chanhassen City Council

Dick Swanson
Blaine City Council

Julia Whalen
Champlin City Council

Wendy Wulff
Lakeville City Council

Citizen Members - Precinct

Steven Schulte - A
Joseph McCarthy - B
James Meyers - C
Chuck Haik - D
Bart Ward - E
Donn Wiski - F
Jill Smith - G
Ken Johnson - H

Agency Representatives

Peggy Leppik
Metropolitan Council

Khani Sahebjam
Minnesota DOT

Vacant
M.A.C.

David Thornton
M.P.C.A.

Modal Representatives

Richard Musseil
Transit

Glenn Olson
Transit

Ron Lifson
Freight

David Gepner
Non-motorized

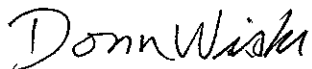
Peter Bell, Chair
Metropolitan Council
390 Robert Street No.
St. Paul, MN 55101

Mr. Bell:

On December 19, 2007, the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) voted to approve a request from Washington County to change the scope of SP# 82-618-14, reconstruction of CSAH 18 in Lakeland Shores.

The TAB forwards this action to the Metropolitan Council for concurrence along with additional information described in TAB action transmittal 2007-62.

Sincerely,



Donn Wiski, Chair
Transportation Advisory Board

kjr/kjr

Transportation Advisory Board
of the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities

ACTION TRANSMITTAL

No. 2007-62

DATE: January 4, 2008
TO: Metropolitan Council
FROM: Transportation Advisory Board
SUBJECT: Scope Change for Washington County SP #82-618-14 CSAH 18 Reconstruction.

MOTION: The Transportation Advisory Board approved a request by Washington County to change the scope of SP #82-618-14 for Washington County CSAH 18 to install three roundabouts instead of three signalized intersections and a frontage road.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: Since applying for funding in 2005, numerous businesses have opened along this stretch of CSAH 18 in Lakeland Shores requiring a reevaluation of access control along the corridor. The proposed scope change would limit access for businesses to right-in right-out but would allow for safer u-turn movements with the roundabouts.

Additional background material is attached.

ROUTING

TO	ACTION REQUESTED	DATE COMPLETED
Funding & Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	November 15, 2007
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	December 5, 2007
TAB Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	December 19, 2007
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Approve	December 19, 2007
Metropolitan Council	Concurrence	