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MEMORANDUM

TO: Joey Lundquist (Ramsey County)

FROM: Kristin Petersen (SEH)

RE: Summary of **Open House 2 – July 12, 2023**

This memo documents the details and comments received during the in-person open house for the CR J & I-35E Interchange Project that took place on Wednesday, July 12, 2023.

Meeting Information

- Audience: Adjacent property owners, commuters, and residents surrounding the project area
- Date of event: Wednesday, July 12, 2023
- Time of event: 4:30 to 6:30 pm
- Format: The open house style meeting included:
 - Where do you live feedback activity
 - Project background information and anticipated schedule
 - Summary of Purpose & Need and Preliminary Evaluation Criteria
 - (8) Concepts considered with summary evaluation highlights
 - (2) large plots of the recommended concept alternative
 - Project staff were available to discuss the project and answer questions.
 - Attendees were encouraged to leave comments on the layout or on comment cards
 - Links to the presentation boards are available at www.ramseycounty.us/CRJand35

Meeting Notifications

- Postcard invitations were mailed on 6/26 to 1,219 properties within an approximately 1/2 mile radius
- Commissioner Frethem Newsletter
- Anoka County Commissioner
- Social Media
- .GOV mailing
- Press Release
- County website

Attendance

- Approximately 153 attendees signed in during the open house. Additional attendees were also present. The following staff members were available to facilitate the event and address questions and comments:
 - 1) Joey Lundquist – Ramsey County
 - 2) John Mazzitello – Ramsey County
 - 3) Jerry Auge – Anoka County
 - 4) Michael Grochala – Lino Lakes
 - 5) Dale Reed – White Bear Township
 - 6) Jim Studenski – White Bear Township
 - 7) Jim Hall – SEH
 - 8) Chris Hiniker – SEH
 - 9) Graham Johnson – SEH
 - 10) Kristin Petersen – SEH
 - 11) Scott Hotchkin – SEH

Engineers | Architects | Planners | Scientists

Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc., 3535 Vadnais Center Drive, St. Paul, MN 55110-5196
SEH is 100% employee-owned | sehinc.com | 651.490.2000 | 800.325.2055 | 888.908.8166 fax

Website Traffic

- County Project **website analytics** between 06/28/2023 and 07/31/2023
 - www.ramseycounty.us/CRJand35
 - 736 new users
 - 865 users
 - 987 sessions
- **Top sources** of website visits were:
 - 288 direct
 - 108 Facebook
 - 591 other

| Landing page | | ↓ Sessions | Users | New users |
|--------------|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | 987 | 865 | 736 |
| | | 0.25% of total | 0.36% of total | 0.36% of total |
| 1 | /residents/roads-transportation/future-road-projects/future-road-construction-projects/county-road-j-i-35e-interchange | 987 | 865 | 736 |

Where do you live exercise (~150) Participants

Attendees were asked to place colored pins on the map to show where they live (red).



Comments

The comment cards received during the open house are listed below. The public was also able to send additional comments and questions to County staff after the event.

Open House Comment Cards (27)

| Comment |
|--|
| Fully support roundabouts at all intersections. Fully support 35E NB and 35E SB (to Ash St.) access. |
| Extend noise wall north to curb noise level at end of merge ramp and where 3 lanes go to 2. |
| I live on Otter Lake Road and am concerned about the amount of traffic along there. It makes it dangerous to walk our dog or go for a bike ride. It seems this plan will increase traffic. Otter Lake is part of a designated Ramsey County parkway. I would prefer to see it addressed more a park. I oppose the roundabout on Otter Lake Rd. I'm on with the one near the theater. |
| Concerned about increased traffic on Otter View Trail during construction. Would like to see traffic stops added. |
| 1) Concerned about the added traffic may hit Otter View Trail during construction period. 2) Speed limits not obeyed now - how can we be assured that speed limit will be enforced? |
| Great project. Love the roundabouts. Looks like project has been well studied and vetted |
| It appears that there was no consideration for the people that live close to the new roundabout intersections. I live 2 houses from Centerville Rd on J. I currently can wait 10 minutes to get out of my driveway - I was told that won't change. I believe it will be worse once there is a constant flow of traffic with no stop sign. Put in a 3 way. |
| Please help us slow down traffic coming off the hwy going southbound on Otter Lake Rd. People want to walk and bike along the lake and we fear vehicles won't slow down exiting the roundabout. There are also children we live and play in these yards, along with a dog park people try to walk to. |
| I think it is very unsafe to include crosswalks in a roundabout situation. Most people during rush hour are more interested in merging into a roundabout and not always aware of walkers or bikers. This would make the whole roundabout more prone to congestion. It would make more sense to have a walking /biking trail on one side of the roundabout where people would have to STOP. |
| The "wall" that was put up on east side of 35E between H2 and County Rd J. For us being on the west side of 35E, the noise is bouncing off that wall is much louder now. Would like to see a sound barrier wall on the west side also. Thanks. |
| Long overdue - great project |
| Add meter light on northbound exit to Co J during afternoon rush hour (like on south entrance in morning) |

| |
|--|
| No north and southbound 35E lanes No roundabouts Keep traffic lights |
| Please contact me regarding Waverly Gardens. Concerns with the project. We would possibly be invested in hosting a presentation. |
| Bike/walk path from Cty J to Clearwater Creek neighborhood along Otter Lake - Anoka County |
| I like option #1 |
| Option #1 is the best design! |
| It's a creative solution for difficult traffic flow. Thx! |
| If a new interchange is to be build, roundabout seem to be the best option. I much prefer roundabout to stop lights. Much nicer for traffic and no electricity need. Go roundabouts! |
| I much prefer concept 1. It seems that it will do a good job of keeping moving; we won't have to waste gas waiting for a light to turn especially when there is no traffic on the green light also, does not require energy. |
| I've said it before - Anoka County needs access where the housing has been built. A bridge and access at that Lake Rd across to Birch Rd. Put the access where it is needed. |
| 1) Speed going south on Otter Lake Rd coming off the roundabout 2) Will my front yard be affected (land taken) on the west side of road or the lake side? 3) Invasive lighting around the roundabout? |
| We didn't get our open house card till yesterday. This event was reported in the White Bear Press, but no other publications. Anoka County, North Oaks, etc. |
| Nice job. Really like the preferred alternative/concept |
| If MnDOT does not like angled bridges then move both east and west roundabouts north so that the bridge can be straighten out |
| Extend noise wall north on 35E. Noise is deafening. |
| Noise wall north on 35E beyond acceptable noise levels |

Event Photos





