



Project work is anticipated to include:

- Expanding to a 4-lane divided roadway
- Constructing turn lanes at major intersections
- Improving drainage
- Managing access
- Replacing traffic signals

PROJECT BENEFITS

- Added capacity to an established industrial area that continues to grow
- Reduced delays •
- Improved drainage and storm water management
- Pedestrian and bicycle accommodations

PROJECT GOALS

- Support regional mobility
- Provide a safe corridor for all users
- Accommodate needs for the next 20 years of growth

PROJECT SCHEDULE

- Project Design 2018-2019
- Right of Way Acquisition 2019-2020
- Construction 2020-2021

PROJECT PURPOSE & NEED

Expansion to a four-lane divided highway will address congestion on a critical roadway that provides connections to established industrial parks, significant commercial businesses with heavy freight uses, and future high growth areas.



Holyoke Avenue Intersection looking west



Dodd Boulevard Intersection looking west



Heath Avenue Intersection looking east



What is Access Management?

- Planning and control of the location, spacing, design, and operation of driveways, median openings, and street connections to a roadway
- Designates where and how vehicles access and exit a roadway
- Helps protect public investment in roadways by:
 - Preserving mobility
 - Reducing delay
 - Minimizing crashes
 - Reducing conflict points

Access Conflict Points and Connection Safety





Directional Access

Full Access Right In/Out Access

ACCESS MANAGEMENT















How does adding lanes improve gaps at intersections?





Intersection traffic control

All-way stops are used for

- Moderate traffic volumes.
- Balanced traffic.
- > Speed limits of 40 mph or less.



Drawbacks

- Inefficient and cause delay.
- > Multiple lanes can increase crash risk.
- > Increased crash risk when disregarded.
- Constant stopping/acceleration is noisy.

Traffic signals are used for

- Consistently high volume of traffic.
- > Collector or arterial corridor intersections.

Drawbacks

- > Introduces additional decision making.
- Increased crash risk when disregarded.
- Increased risk of fatal or serious injury crashes.
- Creates delay, particularly for higher volume movements.



Roundabouts are used for

- Moderate to high traffic volumes.
- > Improving traffic flow.

Drawbacks

- May have higher construction cost and right-of-way needs.
- > Potential for more property damage crashes.
- Not suitable for six-lane or principal arterial roadways.





Traffic signals

Traffic signals are effective because they

- Manage high volumes of traffic conflicts.
- Provide crossing opportunities.
- > Can improve intersection efficiency.



> Can reduce right-angle crashes.

New signals are added with caution because

- Crashes often increase, especially rear-end crashes.
- > Crashes at signals are typically more severe.
- > They typically result in higher delays throughout the day.

The decision to install signals is based on



- Traffic volumes.
- > Vehicle delays.
- Crash history.

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> Anticipated crash rate.

In Dakota County

- > Approximately 10% of intersections are signalized.
- > 47% of fatal and serious injury crashes occur at signalized intersections.

Crash rate - crashes per one million vehicles entering the intersection.

Severity rate – weighted rate with injury and fatal crashes given more weight.





Speed limits

Speed limits are important because they

- Make roads safer by reducing variability in vehicle speeds.
- > Help unfamiliar drivers know the appropriate speed.
- > Help law enforcement curb dangerous behavior.



Speed limits are established through Minnesota Statute 169.14. The statute

- > Defines speeds for certain roadway types.
- Establishes a process for the State to determine speeds.

Speed studies examine

- > Actual speeds of vehicles using the roadway.
- Roadway type, condition and length.
- Location of intersections and driveways.
- Traffic volume and crash history.
- Sight distance limitations caused by curves or hills.

After a speed study is conducted, a speed limit is set by the State. Posted limits reflect speeds for ideal road and weather conditions.



Speed limit facts

- Lowering the posted speed limit will not slow traffic.
- Most people drive what is comfortable and safe to them regardless of posted speeds.
- Lowering a posted speed limit does not reduce crashes.
- Improperly set speed limits decrease safety.

