



Anoka City Hall
2015 First Avenue North, Anoka, MN 55303
Phone: 763-576-2700 www.ci.anoka.mn.us

Contact: Ben Nelson, Engineering Technician
Email: bnelson@ci.anoka.mn.us
Direct: 763-576-2785

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Friday, November 17, 2017

City of Anoka Awarded \$20M for Highway 10/169 Improvements

ANOKA, Minn. – The City of Anoka has received a \$20 million award of funds from the Minnesota Highway Freight Program to construct improvements along Highway 10/169.

The Minnesota Highway Freight Program is administered by the Minnesota Department of Transportation and provides federal funding to construction projects on public roads that provide measurable freight transportation benefits. Just under \$100 million was awarded to 19 projects throughout the state, of which the City's \$20 million was the largest given to any single project. The Highway 10/169 Project received the highest score in the program's Freight Congestion / Freight Efficiency Improvement category.

The Highway 10/169 project, which extends between the Anoka/Ramsey city limits and the Main Street interchange (1.23 miles), is expected to cost \$89.3M. The project will remove the Thurston Avenue and Fair oak Avenue traffic signals. The Thurston Avenue signal will be replaced with an interchange, and the Fair oak Avenue signal will be replaced with an underpass. The project will also eliminate all other access points on the highway within the project area. Improvements to local frontage roads will encourage drivers making local trips to use streets, rather than the highway. The project will reduce traffic crashes, improve efficiency, relieve congestion, improve local circulation and connectivity, and provide pedestrian accommodations.

- more -

City of Anoka Awarded \$20M for Highway 10/169 Improvements – Page 2

Project construction will occur in 2021-2022. It will include all key components included in the Anoka Solution Plan, which was adopted by the Anoka City Council in 2015. The City had previously planned to construct individual elements of the Anoka Solution Plan as funding became available. However, in July of this year, the City, MnDOT, and Anoka County agreed that moving forward with one project that includes both Fairoak Avenue and Thurston Avenue would provide schedule and budget benefits. The traveling public will also benefit by having to endure just one, rather than two, separate projects at Thurston Avenue and Fairoak Avenue.

The City has received \$33.4M in funding through various sources to date and will continue to pursue other opportunities in close partnership with MnDOT and Anoka County to complete the funding package.

For more information about the Anoka Solution Plan for Highway 10/169, visit www.ci.anoka.mn.us or contact Ben Nelson, Engineering Technician, at 763-576-2785 or bnelson@ci.anoka.mn.us.

###



Cutline: Looking east from Fairoak Avenue in Anoka during afternoon peak period.