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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Thursday, January 4, 2018

City of Anoka Awarded \$5M for Highway 10/169 Improvements

ANOKA, Minn. – The City of Anoka has received a \$5 million award from the Transportation Economic Development Program to construct improvements along Highway 10/169.

The Transportation Economic Development Program is administered by the Minnesota Department of Transportation, in partnership with the Department of Employment and Economic Development. Just over \$18 million was awarded to 7 projects. The Program provides funding for state highway projects that will support growing industry and businesses, leverage private funding, and improve the transportation system for all users.

The Highway 10/169 Project will improve roadway reliability by: improving efficiency through reduced travel times, relieving congestion that results from long back-ups, and reducing traffic crashes. These project benefits will support economic development within the City of Anoka and throughout the state.

The Project, which extends between the Anoka/Ramsey city limits and the Main Street interchange (1.23 miles), is expected to cost \$89.3M. It includes removing the traffic signals at Thurston Avenue and Fairoak Avenue. The Thurston Avenue signal will be replaced with an interchange, and the Fairoak Avenue signal will be replaced with an underpass. Project construction will occur in 2021-2022. It will include all key components included in the Anoka Solution Plan, which was adopted by the City in 2015.

The city has \$38.4M in committed funding through various sources to date. In 2017, the city has been awarded \$7M from Met Council's Regional Solicitation, \$20M from MnDOT Minnesota Highway Freight Program, and this \$5M from MnDOT's Transportation Economic Development Program for the delivery of this important project. The City will continue to pursue other opportunities in close partnership with MnDOT and Anoka County to complete the funding package.

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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.

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Looking east from Fair oak Avenue in afternoon peak period