BLAINE PUBLIC WORKS

Providing High Caliber Municipal Services to Develop a Quality Community

Safety – Accountability – Communication
Trust - Respect

Project Overview

The Future of Highway 65

Planning and Environmental Study

The Minnesota Department of Transportation and partners are planning the future of Highway 65 from between Bunker Lake Boulevard in Ham Lake and County Road 10 / Mounds View Boulevard in Spring Lake Park.

Problems and Considerations

In Spring 2019, the Highway 65 community identified the primary transportation problems and considerations for the corridor. This shared understanding will guide the development and selection of design options for the future.

The primary transportation problems are:

- VEHICLE SAFETY
- VEHICLE CONGESTION

The secondary transportation problem is:

- WALKING / BIKING ACCESS

Other considerations include:

- MAINTAINING TRANSIT SERVICE
- IMPLEMENTATION COST

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

2018 Study

In August, 2018 MnDOT and partners started a **Planning & Environmental Linkages (PEL)** study of the Highway 65 corridor.

PEL studies identify:

Transportation issues & priorities

Environmental concerns

Stakeholder & public concerns

Problem Statement

Primary Problems

Vehicle Safety

Does it reduce the number and severity of crashes?

Vehicle Congestion

Does it improve travel time & decrease delay compared to doing nothing (today and 2040 conditions)?

Secondary Problem

Walking/Biking

Does it improve access and safety?

Project Schedule

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Develop reason for PEL
Summer 2018

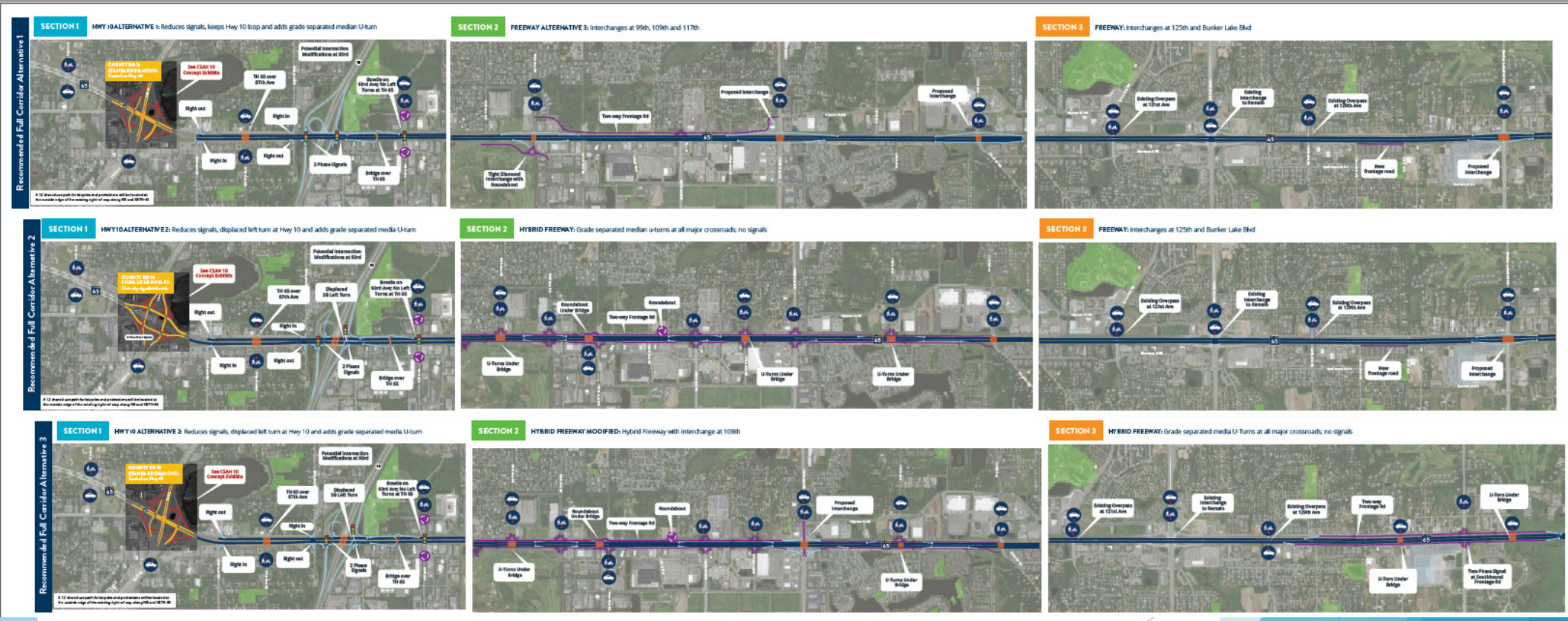
Problem Statement
Winter 2018 - Spring 2019

Identify Alternatives
Summer 2019

Evaluate Alternatives
Summer 2019 - Spring 2020

PEL Findings
Summer 2020

PEL Identified Alternatives



What happens after the study?

The PEL study helps to streamline this work.

Identify funding

Environmental review & design

Construct projects

2021 — 2022 — 2024

This is an aggressive schedule!!

Blaine Focus is on Segment 2

Funding Secured:

City of Blaine – Capital Improvement Program	$ 2,000,000
Met Council TAB Regional Solicitation	$10,000,000
• Spot Mobility 2024	
MnDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)	$ 1,530,000
• East side Frontage Road Improvements 2022	
MnDOT Local Partnership Program (LPP)	$ 624,000
• West side Frontage Road - 99th to the north	

Requests to MnDOT:

1. **Support Legislation for TH65 Governor's Transportation Bonding Bill**
   - TH65 Design, NEPA, and R/W $ 2,000,000
   - TH65 Construction Cost Gap Funding $18,000,000

2. **Accelerated Environmental Review by MnDOT staff**

3. **MnDOT TH65 Pavement Preservation Funds**
   - Portion of the $16M allocated in 2024

Additional Funding:

- Request Trunk Highway Bonds every Year til Secured.
- Reapply for MN Freight Program Grant Program
- Corridors of Commerce Grant Program
- Federal Requests
  - Direct Legislation Request
  - USDOT TIGER and/or BUILD Grant programs
  - USDOT INFRA Grant due March 5, 2021 - $100M min.

Next Steps:

- **JPA with Anoka County Highway Department**

  The County and City agree it is in the public interest for both agencies to partner in a collaborative joint project to determine a preliminary layout and prepare the environmental documentation for improvements along Highway 65 between approximately 97th Avenue through 117th Ave./Cloud Drive.

  The state bond funds shall be used to the maximum extent practical toward the eligible expenses of the Project before the other funding sources are utilized.

Next Steps:

➢ RFP – Environmental Documentation, Preliminary Layouts, Final Design

- The City of Blaine, Anoka County Highway Department (ACHD) and Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT)
- Complete preliminary and final design services for the construction improved access to TH 65 – 99th Ave through 117th Ave
- Consistent with the alternatives developed through the recently completed TH65 Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study.
- The proposed improvement will require environmental documentation process to be completed under Federal NEPA rules.

BLAINE PUBLIC WORKS

Providing High Caliber Municipal Services to Develop a Quality Community

Safety – Accountability – Communication
Trust - Respect

Environment & Community

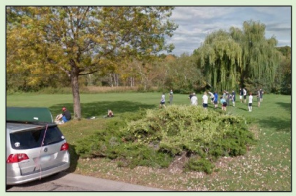
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ENVIRONMENTAL & COMMUNITY RESOURCES: WHY THEY MATTER

The Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study identifies transportation issues AND environmental concerns along a road. Since PEL studies are used to make planning decisions and identify/prioritize future projects, it is important to understand the developed and natural environments within which these changes may be made. Based on previously completed studies of the road and an existing conditions analysis recently completed for Highway 65, the PEL Study will specifically address the following environmental and community resources:

Commercial/Retail

High Concentration of Low Income and Minority Populations



Publicly-owned Recreation Area

Wetlands

Floodplains

Contaminated Properties

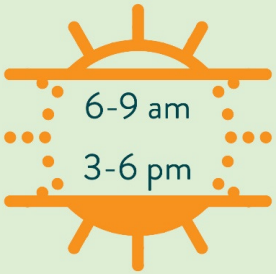
Highway 65 Crash Statistics

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CRASH STATS (Crash data from 2013 to 2017)

68%

of crashes along the road are rear-end crashes.



Approximately 43% of all crashes occur during peak traffic periods. Of the peak-period crashes, 32% occur from 3-6pm.

10%

of crashes are angle crashes.

69% of crashes occur during daylight hours and 76% of crashes occur on dry road surfaces.

2005 Study

2005 Study

MnDOT completed a multi-year study along the Highway 65 corridor in 2005.

Four new bridges were built.
Other recommendations needed further development.

The results of the study are now outdated due to:

Increased population and business development along the corridor.

&

the high cost required to develop those results with the current available funds.

2017 Study

Principal Arterial Conversion Study:

- Identified Highway 65 as a High Priority Corridor
- Identified a need for implementable, cost-effective solutions that fit the community