

US Highway 52 / County State Aid Highway 42 Interchange Reconstruction

INTRODUCTION

The existing interchange for Highways 52 and 42 suffers from safety issues that have led to crash rates above the metro and state averages. As the first phase of improvements for the corridor that includes State Highway 55, a reconstruction project at 52 and 42 has been proposed at a cost of \$19 million. Payment of the City's share would deplete funds needed for the repair of other local roadways that are in poor condition.

REQUEST

The City of Rosemount requests \$2.5 million of assistance from the State.

PROBLEM

- The current interchange has poor sight lines and visibility for the narrowing of County Road 42 from four lanes west of Highway 52 to two lanes east of 52. Ramps are too short for smooth merging and exiting for Highway 52, whose speed limit is 65 mph.
- Those deficiencies contribute to crash and severity rates that are up to 4.7 times greater than the metro average (depending on direction of travel) and 2.9 times greater than the state average.
- Highway 52 has been designated a High Priority Inter-Regional Corridor between the Twin Cities and Rochester. County Road 42 is the only continuous east-west roadway in central Dakota and northern Scott counties.
- The area has a concentration of industrial and construction land uses, generating significant amounts of truck traffic. Proposed development along County Road 42 is likely to increase those levels.
- While the proposed project clearly benefits the federal, state and county highway systems, the benefit to the City is more limited. Only one local road and five properties access the segment planned for improvement. Even so, current funding places over one-eighth of the cost on the City.
- Rosemount's contribution would require dedication of more than two years' worth of Municipal State Aid Funds, severely limiting Rosemount's ability to fund new collector roads to serve new development, to mitigate existing local route safety and environmental issues, and to improve over 11 miles of local roadways rated in very poor condition, with an estimated improvement cost of more than \$8 million.

PROJECT

The primary purpose of the project is to address safety concerns of the 52/42 interchange, which include sight distance and geometric issues. The project will extend the length of the Highway 52 bridges to enable Highway 42 to be widened to four lanes through the intersection area. Total project cost is estimated at \$19 million.

PROJECT COST

AND FINANCIAL BURDEN

Project Cost:
\$19,077,012

