1. Chairpersons Communication Board Regular Meeting Agenda
   Documents:
   
   CCB AGENDA_MARCH2020.PDF

2. Chairpersons Communication Board Meeting Notes
   Documents:
   
   030420_CCB MEETING NOTES.PDF
MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, March 4, 2020
7:30 a.m.
Anoka City Hall
Worksession Room
(2nd Floor)

1. Introductions
2. Hot Topic: Anoka Hwy. 10 Corridor Projects; Ben Nelson
3. Chairpersons Updates
4. June Hot Topic Suggestions
5. Adjourn

2020 MEETINGS
March 4
June 3
September 2
December 2

If Chairperson is unable to attend, it is requested he/she appoint another board member to attend.

CHAIRPERSONS
Charter Commission:
Tom Hammer
Economic Development Commission:
Matt Finn
Heritage Preservation Commission:
Bart Ward
Housing & Redevelopment Authority:
Carl Youngquist
Human Rights Commission:
Currently does not meet
Parking Advisory Board:
Pete Turok
Parks & Recreation Board:
Steve Nelson
Planning Commission:
Don Kjonaas
Utility Advisory Board:
Gary Semmel
Waste Reduction & Recycling Board:
Marijo Hain

CCB Meeting Coordinator
Pam Bowman
Communications Manager
763-576-2725
pbowman@ci.anoka.mn.us
Highway 10 Corridor Projects - Anoka

Over the next several years, multiple roadway improvement projects will occur in the area.

PROJECT LOCATIONS

MAP KEY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Lead</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Highway 47 &amp; County Rd 116/Bunker Lake Blvd Intersection Improvements</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Anoka County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highway 47/169 Resurfacing</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>MnDOT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Ave Reconstruction</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Anoka County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highway 10 Rum River Bridge Replacement &amp; Corridor Improvements</td>
<td>2022-23</td>
<td>MnDOT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hwy 10/169 Improvement Project</td>
<td>2022-23</td>
<td>City of Anoka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hwy 47 BNSF Railroad Grade Separation</td>
<td>Pending</td>
<td>MnDOT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS (continued on back)

Highway 47 and Bunker Lake Boulevard Intersection Improvements, Ramsey

- Year: 2021
- Lead: Anoka County

- Construct new dual left turn lanes on Highway 47 at the Bunker Lake Boulevard intersection
- Modify the Bunker Lake Boulevard bridge over the Rum River to add a longer right turn lane from westbound Bunker Lake Boulevard to northbound Highway 47
- Upgrade intersections to meet Americans with Disabilities ADA standards for improved pedestrian and bicycle use

anokacounty.us/3750/CSAH-116-at-TH-47

Highway 47/169 Resurfacing, Anoka and Ramsey

- Year: 2021
- Lead: MnDOT

- Resurface Highway 47 from the south end of the Mississippi River to Clay Street, Anoka
- Resurface Highway 169 from Pleasant Street, Anoka to just north of Industry Avenue/Bunker Lake Boulevard, Ramsey
- Install new curb and gutter
- Upgrade drainage/storm sewers
- Improve sidewalks and approaches to meet Americans with Disabilities standards

mndot.gov/metro/projects/hwy47-169-anoka
7th Avenue Reconstruction, Anoka and Ramsey
Year: 2021          Lead: Anoka County
- Add a raised center median between Buchanan Street and Garfield Street to improve vehicular mobility through the corridor
- Construct left turn lanes at Grant Street, Garfield Street and 38th Avenue
- Build center two-way left turn lane between Garfield Street and 38th Avenue
- Upgrade sidewalk and trail along the corridor
- New pavement surface

Highway 10 Rum River Bridge Replacement and Corridor Improvements, Anoka
Year: 2022-23          Lead: MnDOT
- Replace the Highway 10 bridge over the Rum River
- Repair additional bridges along Highway 10 in Anoka
- Upgrade drainage/storm sewer
- Improve sidewalks to meet Americans with Disabilities standards
- Build auxiliary lanes between Highway 47 (Ferry Street) and 7th Avenue (under consideration)
- Rebuild Highway 47 (Ferry Street)/169 interchange (under consideration)

Highway 10/169 Improvement Project, Anoka
Year: 2022-23          Lead: City of Anoka
- Reconstruct the Highway 10/169 corridor from Thurston Avenue to Main Street
- Remove traffic signals and provide grade separation
- Build a roundabout interchange with highway overpass at Highway 10 and Thurston Ave./Cutter’s Grove Ave. intersection
- Build a highway overpass at Fairoak Avenue intersection
- Construct roundabout intersections at West Main Street and Highway 10/169 interchange
- Add multiple sidewalks and trails for improved pedestrian safety and connectivity
- Improve frontage roads on both sides of the highway to provide local trip options

Highway 47 BNSF Railroad Grade Separation, Anoka
Year: Pending          Lead: MnDOT
A feasibility study completed in late 2016 recommended separating Highway 47 (Ferry Street) and the BNSF Railroad crossing. The study identified a technical solution as a multi-span, two-lane bridge with a multi-use trail on Highway 47 over the BNSF Railroad tracks.

All partners support the need to build a bridge over the railroad, but the vision for how to achieve this crossing is not yet determined. Future study will evaluate if the bridge will carry 2 or 4 lanes of traffic as well as consideration of various alignments of Highway 47 in the crossing area. Construction is not funded.

Visit project webpages for more information!
Hot Topic: Hwy. 10/169 Project Update

Ben Nelson presented an update on the Hwy. 10/169 project. Below are questions/comments during the presentation. The following pages include the update information Ben provided about the September Open House. An additional Open House was held on December 10th (after this meeting occurred).

1. Barb Thurston asked if the plan is for a single point urban interchange. Ben provided a visual map and noted there will be a right in/right out on Maple Lane, and a cul de sac is considered for Gray St. based on feedback from the neighborhood. Plus one house in the NW quadrant of the interchange is a full acquisition. The property located in the SW quadrant of Gray St. now has limited impacts and is not a full acquisition. The stop light would be removed at Maple Lane and there will be a single traffic signal for the interchange like Hanson Blvd.

2. Matt Finn suggested staff talk with MnDOT to discuss possible ticket discounts for the Northstar train to help with traffic to the west. Staff has begun conversations with the Northstar train to see if additional routes could be provided during construction.

3. Steve Nelson asked about the businesses along Hwy. 10 and what will happen with them. Ben said that Wright Tire is a full property acquisition and staff is working with the Rum River Bridge Project about coordinating staging which will determine access. West Main will be extended and will connect this area of town to downtown. Staff will not allow trunk highway traffic to be diverted into local neighborhoods.

4. Don Kjonaas commented that traffic off Hwy. 10 coming eastbound onto Main St. into the roundabout will be coming at high speeds. Ben noted that it was determined with multiple layouts that this is the best layout. Drivers will have to look left prior to entering the roundabout under the Main St. bridge which will have tall walls. This, along with the curve into the roundabout, will aid in traffic claiming to slow the speed down onto Main St.

5. Ben said the main purpose of Tuesday’s (Dec. 10) Open House is for the selection of Ferry St./single point urban interchange. The city will display the same materials from the Sept. 18th open house. In spring of 2020, there will be another open house for project staging.

6. Barb said the jersey barriers on Hwy. 10 need to be taller; she has seen people climb over them. Ben said they will be taller during construction. After construction there will be 15 ft.+ walls along this section forcing pedestrians to use the underpass at Fairoak Avenue.

7. Steve inquired about how this will affect snowplowing for the city. Ben said this has been addressed and is built into the plan.

Chairperson updates follow after the Hwy. 10/169 information on the following pages.
Business Open House Summary

On September 19th, a business open house was held for our Highway 10/169 Improvements Project at Green Haven Golf Course and Event Center from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. There were approximately 20 people in attendance. To help the audience understand the project, staff displayed a variety meeting board exhibits, video, and the preliminary layout of the project. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the proposed project and solicit input from the business owners. A feedback form was provided to the business owners at the meeting to ensure their concerns were heard.

Overall the meeting went well, and the Highway 10 project was well received by the business owners. The following are general information points from the open house:

- Concerns with the speed of traffic exiting off east bound Highway 10 to West Main Street and traffic circulation within the proposed roundabouts.
- Most of the business owners recognized that these are much needed improvements to the corridor, and it will be nice when all the construction is over. Comments heard that everyone (surrounding communities) should be thanking us for the project.
- Discussion regarding construction staging and access during construction. Staff is currently starting to define the project staging and how it will tie into MnDOT’s Highway 10 Rum River Bridge and Corridor project.
- Concerns with business signs including the height of the signs and the cost to raise the signs. More information about signage will be provided to the business at the next open house.
- Concerns about large trucks through the Thurston roundabouts, one business requires 110’ low clearance trucks to use this route on a regular basis moving cranes and this route must be accommodated.
- Concerns about parking loss at Creative Kids. This property is being impacted by the project with the new Green Haven Parkway Phase III road connection. The team will work with this property owner.
- J & J Auto Service raised concerns about the proposed sidewalk connection along the south side of Jacob Lane between Greenhaven Road and Fairoak Avenue taking up space in the ROW which is currently being utilized by the property owner as parking in the driveway. Staff informed them that the proposed improvements fit within the existing right-of-way and proposed on the south side due to pedestrians walking to and from the commercial properties.
- Vista Outdoor (Federal) noted they will work with the city during construction and likely need to use Green Haven Parkway as access during parts of construction. Staff will construction Green Haven Phase II to accommodate their truck movements.
- Anoka Driver and Vehicle Services Exam Station will likely be suspending road testing during the construction. They are very supportive of the project and are excited for it to be completed seeing it as a nice improvement for business, with trips to and from their site being much more reliable and safer.
- Discussion regarding property impacts, including the timeline and process of this. We had our right-of-way specialists from Henning Professional Services present at the meeting to address all property impacts. Staff heard from the public that it was impressed there want more full acquisitions.
Discussion regarding other city lead projects in Anoka, including Highland Park and Green Haven Parkway Phase II.

Discussion regarding other state and county projects in Anoka, including Highway 47 improvements, Highway 10 Rum River Bridge and Corridor project, and 7th Avenue Reconstruction project.

Public Open House Summary

On September 19th, the Highway 10 Corridor Projects open house was held at Green Haven Golf Course and Event Center from 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. At the open house the city had information about our Highway 10/169 Improvements Project. There were over 325 people that attended. Staff displayed a variety meeting board exhibits, the preliminary layout of the project, and had an animated video which is getting a lot positive feedback and likes on social media! The purpose of the meeting was to solicit input from the public and a feedback form was provided at the open house to ensure their concerns were heard. The following are general information points from the open house:

General Comments

- Most of the people recognized that these are much needed improvements to the corridor, and it will be nice when all the construction is over.
- Almost all people supported the need for the effort and were glad it was happening finally.
- In general, people were supportive of the project and interested in its history and design.
- The oversized maps and video were very helpful which allowed people to visualize the improvements.
- One comment questioning the need for Vista Way, since the West Highway 10 Service Road provided access to the same areas (this comment was related to cost). Vista Way provides access to the bank, daycare, and hotel.
- One resident questioned whether the City had studied extending the West Main Frontage road further west to the project limits along the south side of Highway 10 into Ramsey. The long-range vision does not include this connection due to the oxbow proximity to Highway 10, but it was considered.

Traffic Operation Comments

- There was much discussion about how the roundabouts would work. Many people liked the roundabouts while some others feel they will not support the traffic demands.
- Multiple people were curious what would happen to the traffic control on Thurston Ave, specifically the all-way stop at Vista Outdoor and the all-way stop at Green Haven Parkway. Once they understood the all-way stops were being replaced with a single roundabout, they liked the new improvements.
- Much discussion on the speeds of cars going east from Highway 10 to Main St. Many felt the roundabout will slow drivers down and indicate to drivers they are no longer on the highway. Most folks felt this would be a significant improvement. A few folks feel the roundabout will not serve the traffic demands and be a significant backup.
Noise Comments

- Heard a few concerns with the Cutter’s Grove Townhome residents about the use of old Maple Lodge Motel site (5800 Highway 10) adjacent to Highway 10. It was explained that this property was purchased by the city (February 18, 2010) with Met Council RALF funds to preserve the vacant land for future highway right-of-way use. Their perception is the existing forest provides a noise barrier to the townhomes, although studies have shown that trees do not stop noise. It was further explained that part of the environmental assessment noise walls were studied which do not meet the cost effectiveness threshold to install them.

- Had one resident voice concern over the potential for noise impact from the elevated Highway 10 section; especially at Fairoak (near where they live). The project team demonstrated that noise will not increase for them.

Bike/Ped Comments

- Discussion on adding additional bike trails with the project since everything is going to be replaced. Staff informed those folks that Anoka’s Park Board provided feedback on the trail connections and that the trails were updated with the 2040 comp plan. Staff encourage them to speak to Lisa and or attend park board meetings. Positive comments were received about how much safer it will be to cross Highway 10 when biking or walking.

- Multiple general comments pleased with the many new options that will be available for walking through the community

Construction / Staging Comments

- Concerns with the Weston Wood’s Townhome residents about access during construction with only Cutters Grove Avenue as their access. Staff informed the residents that the connection between the Rivers Bluff Lane and Park Street would introduce trunk highway traffic into Anoka’s neighborhoods and would not be an acceptable solution for this issue. And reminded the residents that the emergency access road was condition of approve when Weston Woods went through the planning of the development.

- Much discussion regarding construction staging and access during construction. Staff is currently starting to define the project staging and how it will tie into MnDOT’s Highway 10 Rum River Bridge and Corridor project.

- Multiple comments about the need to have Green Haven Parkway open prior 2022.

- Many comments eluded to the area being nearly impassable for two years during construction wondering where people would get through the area, and how bad it might be for traffic.

Project Aesthetics

- Some discussion on aesthetics around the boards that shared the many options under consideration. People generally liked the combination red brick/limestone option with the red brick option being a second choice. Felt the limestone only concepts were too sterile.

- Aesthetically people would like to see a more local theme (rivers; especially since the Mississippi and Rum Rivers join here)

- Interest in a motif or theme being carried along the entire wall section – something of local significance; cited wall treatments along transportation systems in Phoenix and SW US or Florida
• A question about how the bridge treatments will be selected and if voting/public comment will occur

Property Impact Comments

• Discussion regarding property impacts, including the timeline and process of this. We had our right-of-way specialists from Henning Professional Services present at the meeting to address all property impacts.
• The Regency Inn expressed concerns for snow storage as the project impacts the north side of their property.

Comments Outside of Anoka Solution Project Area

• Concerns about the poor condition of Church Street, Cutters Grove Avenue and Park Street. Staff informed them that these roads are part of the 2020 Street Surface Improvement Project and it will appear odd when there is a section of the existing roadway left in place, as it will be part of the Highway 10 Improvement Project.
• There was also discussion about the Highway 47 grade separation project. Staff informed people that grade separation project is a top priority for MnDOT, and the thru Alter alignment would be part of the project. That the city is working with MnDOT on safety and mobility improvements between the county fair ground and Bunker Lake Boulevard and that the City will be hosting an open house on February 20th to talk about this section of the corridor.
• Multiple people expressed interest in when the next phase may occur; west to Sunfish Lake Blvd.
• Multiple questions about the property acquisitions in Highland Park neighborhood, what are the plans for that neighborhood. One question if the park would be relocated and where.
• Question from a resident in Slab Town if their property could be acquired by the City. They are not directly affected by any of the projects but are concerned about the permanent impacts on the character of their property when all are done.
• Question from a property owner on TH 47 at McKinley Street who operates a business out of his home. He said he was at a TH 47 open house “30 years ago”, with TH 47 shown going right through his property. He was concerned about future plans for TH 47. Team informed him there would be a TH 47 open house in February and City is not looking to take any properties.
Open House Overview

The Highway 10 Rum River Bridge Replacement project hosted a Public Open House on Wednesday, September 18th at Green Haven Golf Course from 4:00 – 7:00 pm. The Open House was jointly organized by MnDOT, Anoka County and the City of Anoka to share updates for a variety of Highway 10 corridor improvements. The event was an opportunity to engage with approximately 275 residents about the Rum River Bridge Replacement project and gather input from attendees about each of the alternatives presented.

Engagement Approach

The Rum River Bridge Replacement project asked the public to share input on five alternatives for the Ferry Street interchange as well as alternatives for the Highway 10 Rum River Bridge with and without auxiliary lanes. Attendees were asked to rank how each alternative meets the needs of the project and add post-it note comments directly onto the boards. Please see the attached photos to review the alternatives presented and the public feedback that was received.

In addition to gathering public feedback for project alternatives, the Open House was an opportunity to provide residents with an overview of the project, promote the project website and wikimap as well as share ways for attendees to stay informed and engaged during the next steps of the project. The Open House was well attended. Many attendees expressed excitement for upcoming Highway 10 improvements and shared appreciation for bringing this information to the public.

What we heard

- **7th Avenue Interchange**: The eastbound on ramp to Highway 10 at 7th is too short and causes crashes. This interchange has poor sight distance and is often icy in the winter.
- **Noise Walls**: Attendees expressed concerns with noise and interest in the noise wall process. Residents in attendance would be in favor of noise walls along Highway 10 if proposed.
- **Construction Staging**: Many attendees came to the Open House with questions about construction staging for Highway 10 improvements. Most people prefer to limit the overall duration of these projects.
- **4th Street and Pedestrian Bridge**: We received very positive responses from residents about replacing the existing 4th Avenue and Trail RR bridge with a new combined bridge at 4th Street.
- **Highway 10 Rum River Bridge Alternatives**: Attendees were strongly in favor of adding full auxiliary lanes between Ferry and 7th street. Attendees also shared a desire for additional river clearance under TH 10 bridge for recreational access.
- **Railroad Crossing**: Many attendees expressed concerns about the train crossing and asked when that might be scheduled to be built. Most people accepted this is outside the scope of the Rum River Bridge Replacement project.

Ferry Street Alternatives

1. **No Access**: Closure of the ramps was moderately received depending on the user’s point of view. Residents seemed to intuitively understand this alternative would fix some issues and perhaps help with the railroad crossing issues due to reduced traffic demands on Ferry Street, but would shift traffic to other busy areas.
2. **Single Point**: Most people liked the SPUI because they were familiar with Hanson. The footprint is clearly within the limits of the existing interchange which helps to limit property impacts.
3. **Green Tee**: Attendees felt the Green Tee alternative was not a safe option for pedestrians. People rated the Green Tee alternative poorly for meeting the needs of the project.
4. **Diverging Diamond**: People were uncertain on the Diverging Diamond and unfamiliar with how to navigate it. Attendees also shared pedestrian concerns about the Diverging Diamond Interchange alternative.
5. **Roundabout**: This option was poorly received, attendees did not believe this alternative addressed project needs appropriately.

What we heard from Property Owners:

- Maple lane residents are very concerned about property takes, not so concerned about access or right-out-only movement.
- Gray Street residents prefer their access be shifted to Clay Street and close the Grey Street entrance.
- Pleasant Street residents living west of Ferry Street wanted the green arrow signal “turned on” for North Bound traffic, what they really want is a dedicated left tun lane for North Bound traffic.
- Property owners on Ferry Street were concerned about the proximity of build out to their “front doors” and any potential loss of property or houses.
Economic Development Commission (EDC) - Matthew Finn reported:
- Seeking to fill three vacant seats on the nine-member commission.
- Working to secure the Duffy Boat operation for 2020.
- Preparing survey to business owners; asking for feedback and if interested in a Business Call visit.

Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) - Barb Thurston reported:
The HPC had a good year. They recently looked at their accomplishments:
- Expanding Christian Hills District; not as far as wanted but successful in trying to keep all involved happy. No issues were experienced. We are discussing more expansion potentially down to Ticknor Hill.
- Successful in WPA (Works Progress Administration) sidewalk removal part of Madison & 3rd Ave. Signage is planned for the part.
- Hoping to partner with the Park & Recreation Board to provide content for signs at the city parks which are named after people.
- Seeking nominations for Heritage Preservation Awards for residential and commercial properties. The awards will be presented in the spring. The following were suggestions made at this meeting:
  - 2516-4th Ave.; apartment building exterior improvements, including new garage and landscaping
  - Franklin & Rice (keep on radar) home renovation at 1627 Ferry St.
  - 111 Harrison (change of use to Event Center; building preservation and renovation).

Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) - Carl Youngquist reported:
- 7th & Main St. - Demos are underway and we are seeking a buyer for the property; CBRE is preparing marketing materials and the property should be going on the market soon. We did not find a buyer for the home at 640 E Main Street. We advertised it on social media and reached out directly to some house movers and local contractors; nine people showed interest, but no offer was made. An alternate bid went out to include the demolition of the house in case a buyer came forward, but one did not. The HRA plans to meet with City Council, EDC and PC to try to determine a shared vision of how the site will be redeveloped and what the end use will be.
- Extended the Fire Suppression district beyond the Central Business District to include 111 Harrison. We provided $18,000 for fire suppression to that property.

Park & Recreation Advisory Board (PB) - Steve Nelson reported:
- Staff completed the Anoka Aquatic Center report and presented it to the City Council. Annual Revenue was $326,595 with Expenses at $366,910 ($40,000 shortfall, this is typical). Aquatic Center brings 35,000+ people into the city This was the 3rd year for the city operating concessions which produced $54,000 in revenue to help support the operation.
- Reviewing park fees for 2020 and will be adjusting them slightly.
- Sunny Acres Tennis Court — rehab/crack filling of court surface to extend life/usefulness of courts. There will be three tennis courts and 4 pickle ball courts (instead of 4 tennis courts) when the project is completed in the spring. Due to weather it was not finished this fall.
- Repairs were completed to George Green tennis courts. A new basketball hoop was installed. The courts were completely reconstructed.
- George Enloe Park—$35,000 donation received from ARAA to transform the existing softball field into a grass baseball field. City crews did all of the work. Nice job/talented staff. Utilized sod and reused ag line material.
Park & Recreation Advisory Board (PB) continued

- Station Park—Staff is still working through permitting with the DNR. This is the snow storage area. It is within a conservation easement. City wants to construct a paved parking lot & entrance road. DNR will not permit it. Plans to dredge the small inlet body of water and install a canoe/kayak launch and dock.

- Renamed/re-envisioned the Performing Art subcommittee as the Arts & Culture Subcommittee to help with programming such as Concerts and Movies in the Park.

- We need help from civic organizations for Anoka Winterfest and other events. Winterfest has moved from Green Haven to George Enloe Park and is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 8 from Noon–4 p.m.

- Tree Lighting was a success on December 7th.

- Restrooms at city parks seems to be a common topic at our meetings.

- Applying for Phase II of the DNR No Child Left Inside grant.

- Purchased new playground equipment for Akin Riverside Park; to be installed in the spring. Along with other aesthetic improvements.

- Staff anticipates skating rinks will be up and running around December 21st.

- Lincoln school principal expressed concerned again this year about the skating rink on school property and maintenance occurring during school hours. City Staff has worked with Dist. 11 Facilities staff to modify the rink layout and have installed snow fence to separate the rink from the playground.

Planning Commission (PC) - Don Kjonaas reported:

Working on four major projects:

- Anoka Golf Maintenance Building on the north side of Green Haven. This will also serve as an animal containment center and will have gas pumps available for the city fleet.

- Washington School—approved a new gymnasium, cafeteria, office space and classrooms allowing for removal of the portable classrooms.

- The American Club—approved a 4-story, 87 unit senior co-op next to HealthPartners. Twenty have sold, need to sell 57 total.

- Recommending approval of Talberg Homes senior living facility at 500 W. Main Street. There will be 32-units; 18 assisted living and 14 memory care. This is the open lot behind the Anoka Shopping Center. There will be 25 parking stalls and only 8 employees, so parking should be sufficient.

Waste Reduction & Recycling Board (WRRB) - Diane Grinde reported:

- WRRB had a very busy fall with events:
  - Fall Recycling Event was on September 28th; lighter activity and tonnage than spring, which is typical.
  - Fix-It Clinic was on November 2nd was a success, with approximately 25 customers; a very fun event.
  - Pumpkin Smash (composting); first event, very successful and we will host it again next year.
  - Held Paper Shredding events in October and November; cohosted with the city of Ramsey.

- Hosting a Holiday Wrap Up Recycling Event at Green Lights Recycling in Blaine on Saturday, January 25th from 9 a.m.—Noon. A coupon to recycle two items for free will be in the winter edition of the City View newsletter.

- The WRRB expanded its membership from 5 to 7 members; currently have 7 active members.

- We are beginning discussions on organics and of educating the public on it before implementing any programs.

- We have a Worksession on December 11th to discuss our goals and accomplishments.

- Cutting back on paper shredding events, which have not been well attended outside of our spring and fall events.

- Increasing RAW newsletter from two issues a year to three.

March Hot Topic Suggestions

2020 Street Renewal Program (SRP)/Street Surface Improvement Program (SSIP) or Hwy. 10/169 Update
Hot Topic: Anoka Hwy. 10 Corridor Projects

Ben Nelson presented updates on the following projects (see full details on the attached documents).

- Hwy. 47 & County Road 116/Bunker Lake Boulevard
  Year: 2021  Lead: Anoka County

- Hwy. 47/169 Resurfacing
  Year: 2021  Lead: MnDOT

- 7th Ave. Reconstruction
  Year: 2021  Lead: Anoka County

- Hwy. 10 Rum River Bridge Replacement & Corridor Improvements
  Year: 2022-23  Lead: MnDOT

- Hwy. 10/169 Improvement Project
  Year: 2022-23  Lead: City of Anoka

- Hwy. 47 BNSF Railroad Grade Separation
  Year: Pending  Lead: MnDOT

Summary of Comments and Q&A from the Chairpersons:

- Hwy. 47 & 116: The sidewalk on the north side of the bridge will be removed to accommodate the extension of the WB right turn lane to NB TH-47.

- County Road 7: Starts at Garfield Street. This has to be done in 2021; cannot go into 2022. Councilmember Skogquist said we need to push for a trail and sidewalk. Ben said the city is looking into this.

- Rum River Bridge Replacement/interchange: Based on neighborhood feedback, Gray Street will be a cul-de-sac at TH-47; the proposed TH-47/169 bridge over TH-10 will be wider and only one full acquisition is required for this.

- Steve Nelson inquired if Fairoak is a part of the SSIP this year. Ben said yes, although it will stop at the tie-in point of the Hwy 10 project and Cutters Grove and Yellowstone will be included. Steve was also concerned about parking at John Ward Park and if improvements are planned. Ben said this work is part of the Highway 10 project and the parking lot will be expanded.

- Steve Nelson said the bathrooms at many of the parks are in need of improvements and there are security issues.

- Barb Thurston asked about Maple Lane. Ben said the residents agreed to the right-in, right-out intersection over the realignment of Maple Lane through multiple properties.

- North Street - Council will discuss at their April 20th worksession.

- Don Kjanaas asked about the overpass on Ferry at the BNSF railroad crossing. Ben said no work on TH-47 will occur until Hwy. 10 is complete. The section of TH-47 between the Anoka County fair grounds and Bunker Lak Blvd. was city initiated and the earliest this will be done is 2024. The city hosted an open house in February; next step is for the city to apply for grants to fund it.

- Councilmember Skogquist said Anoka County is hosting an Open House at Anoka High School regarding the 7th Avenue project; April 2 at 5 p.m.

- Ben Nelson said the next joint Open House for the Anoka Area projects is May 28th at Green Haven from 4-7 p.m.

Updates from each Chairperson follows and the Hot Topic attachments are included at the end.
Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) - Barb Thurston reported:
The HPC had a good year. They recently looked at their accomplishments:

- One goal is to promote more of the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the stone house; seeing how restoring it may fit into funding.
- Supporting efforts to have the historic state hospital grounds on the National Register of Historic Places.
- Discussing interpretive signs with the Park Board; understand Lisa LaCasse has already been working on these.
- Working on the history vignettes at City Hall; 2nd floor.
- Meeting with School Board on March 30th at Sandburg for plaques at all schools; showing the phases of the schools (Franklin/Lincoln—next Washington). HPC needs to stress that if they buy them, the schools will be responsible to take care of them.

Park & Recreation Advisory Board (PB) - Steve Nelson reported:

- The last few meetings have been spent discussing the restructuring of rates for the Aquatic Center.
- Worked on their goals and accomplishments. There are concerns with how the process of setting goals is conducted. They would like to base their goals on the goals of the City Council, but don’t receive the Council goals until after theirs are set. Need to work toward direction of the Council goals, but Boards & Commissions need to know those in advance. Would like to see more collective goals from Council, not individual goals.
- Working on projects in the parks such as play areas, recycling, Castle Field—spring early this year.
- Reviewing all activities; continue to see city employees working on more and more projects/events, with little outside help. We need more community involvement to free up manpower.
- Concerned that Anoka is becoming branded as low-income housing.
- Steve asked Pam Bowman to provide an update about the photo contest. Pam said that the Park Board members judged the entries by category at their February meeting and selected an overall winner and one winner from each category, except for the architecture and business category (no entries). She reported that winners will be notified directly and those photos would be posted on social media and in city publications, etc. She said another contest will be conducted this spring/summer.

Parking Advisory Board (PAB) - Councilmember Skogquist reported:

- At their last meeting they discussed parking on Monroe Street and the “dead zone” by Wells Fargo, a.k.a. Lot F. They are reevaluating this.
- While the County has added some of the blue “P” circle signs, our parking signs need improvement. They need to be updated and more uniform. There is also concern for need of temporary parking signage as it will relate to the reconstruction on Monroe Street.

Planning Commission (PC) - Don Kjonaas reported:

- The owner of the duplex at 2302-04 State & Clay is currently renting it, but would like split the building into two-owner occupied homes.
- Reviewed plans for townhome development near VOA and Northstar Station. The design is tall and narrow, which seem to be best sellers now. This was just proposed, site plans have not yet been submitted.
- Fred Moore School for the Arts—we have a joint meeting with the City Council. The school is adding more space, programs, and employees. This is all good; however, it requires more parking stalls, but the additional space would decrease the number of parking stalls.
Waste Reduction & Recycling Board (WRRB) - Diane Grinde reported:

- The Holiday Wrap Up Recycling Event at Green Lights Recycling in Blaine on Saturday, January 25th collected 11.6 tons of materials.
- We reversed our decision to remove multi-family properties from our current residential recycling contract; we decided it was best to wait until the contract expires next year—March 31, 2021.
- Over 400 lbs. of holiday lights were collected at city hall from November 2019-January 2020.
- The WRRB is starting to educate residents on organics recycling with the intent to possibly implement a collection in 2021.
- WRRB funded ArtStart at Anoka Winterfest.
- The Spring Recycling Event is set for Saturday, April 25 from 8-noon at 501 Pierce St. This year we will be collecting books for a book exchange we are cohosting with the Parks Department in June.
- We are having a joint meeting with the Park Board in April to discuss recycling in city parks, joint events, etc.
- Our Fix-It Clinic is scheduled for Saturday, May 2 from 10 a.m.—1 p.m. at City Hall.

See additional pages with the Hwy. 10 Corridor Projects Detailed Information

June Hot Topic Suggestion
Anoka Festivals—Upcoming Events

NEXT MEETING DATE: JUNE 4, 2020 ● 7:30 A.M. ● ANOKA CITY HALL
Highway 10 Corridor Projects - Anoka

Over the next several years, multiple roadway improvement projects will occur in the area.

PROJECT LOCATIONS

MAP KEY

- **Highway 47 & County Rd 116/Bunker Lake Blvd Intersection Improvements**
  - Year: 2021
  - Lead: Anoka County
  - [anokacounty.us/3750/CSAH-116-at-TH-47](anokacounty.us/3750/CSAH-116-at-TH-47)

- **Highway 47/169 Resurfacing**
  - Year: 2021
  - Lead: MnDOT

- **7th Ave Reconstruction**
  - Year: 2021
  - Lead: Anoka County

- **Highway 10 Rum River Bridge Replacement & Corridor Improvements**
  - Year: 2022-23
  - Lead: MnDOT
  - [mndot.gov/metro/projects/hwy10-anoka](mndot.gov/metro/projects/hwy10-anoka)

- **Hwy 10/169 Improvement Project**
  - Year: 2022-23
  - Lead: City of Anoka
  - [anhwy10.com](anhwy10.com)

- **Hwy 47 BNSF Railroad Grade Separation**
  - Year: Pending
  - Lead: MnDOT
  - [mndot.gov/metro/projects/hwy47rr-anoka](mndot.gov/metro/projects/hwy47rr-anoka)

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS (continued on back)

**Highway 47 and Bunker Lake Boulevard Intersection Improvements, Ramsey**

- Year: 2021
- Lead: Anoka County

- Construct new dual left turn lanes on Highway 47 at the Bunker Lake Boulevard intersection
- Modify the Bunker Lake Boulevard bridge over the Rum River to add a longer right turn lane from westbound Bunker Lake Boulevard to northbound Highway 47
- Upgrade intersections to meet Americans with Disabilities ADA standards for improved pedestrian and bicycle use

- [anokacounty.us/3750/CSAH-116-at-TH-47](anokacounty.us/3750/CSAH-116-at-TH-47)

**Highway 47/169 Resurfacing, Anoka and Ramsey**

- Year: 2021
- Lead: MnDOT

- Resurface Highway 47 from the south end of the Mississippi River to Clay Street, Anoka
- Resurface Highway 169 from Pleasant Street, Anoka to just north of Industry Avenue/Bunker Lake Boulevard, Ramsey
- Install new curb and gutter
- Upgrade drainage/storm sewers
- Improve sidewalks and approaches to meet Americans with Disabilities standards

7th Avenue Reconstruction, Anoka and Ramsey
Year: 2021  Lead: Anoka County
• Add a raised center median between Buchanan Street and Garfield Street to improve vehicular mobility through the corridor
• Construct left turn lanes at Grant Street, Garfield Street and 38th Avenue
• Build center two-way left turn lane between Garfield Street and 38th Avenue
• Upgrade sidewalk and trail along the corridor
• New pavement surface

Highway 10 Rum River Bridge Replacement and Corridor Improvements, Anoka
Year: 2022-23  Lead: MnDOT
• Replace the Highway 10 bridge over the Rum River
• Repair additional bridges along Highway 10 in Anoka
• Upgrade drainage/storm sewer
• Improve sidewalks to meet Americans with Disabilities standards
• Build auxiliary lanes between Highway 47 (Ferry Street) and 7th Avenue (under consideration)
• Rebuild Highway 47 (Ferry Street)/169 interchange (under consideration)

Highway 10/169 Improvement Project, Anoka
Year: 2022-23  Lead: City of Anoka
• Reconstruct the Highway 10/169 corridor from Thurston Avenue to Main Street
• Remove traffic signals and provide grade separation
• Build a roundabout interchange with highway overpass at Highway 10 and Thurston Ave./Cutter’s Grove Ave. intersection
• Build a highway overpass at Fairoak Avenue intersection
• Construct roundabout intersections at West Main Street and Highway 10/169 interchange
• Add multiple sidewalks and trails for improved pedestrian safety and connectivity
• Improve frontage roads on both sides of the highway to provide local trip options

Highway 47 BNSF Railroad Grade Separation, Anoka
Year: Pending  Lead: MnDOT
A feasibility study completed in late 2016 recommended separating Highway 47 (Ferry Street) and the BNSF Railroad crossing. The study identified a technical solution as a multi-span, two-lane bridge with a multi-use trail on Highway 47 over the BNSF Railroad tracks.

All partners support the need to build a bridge over the railroad, but the vision for how to achieve this crossing is not yet determined. Future study will evaluate if the bridge will carry 2 or 4 lanes of traffic as well as consideration of various alignments of Highway 47 in the crossing area. Construction is not funded.

Visit project webpages for more information!
What We’ve Heard

The December 10th Open House had great turnout, with more than 160 attendees. Overall, residents shared a positive reception to project information and the recommended alternatives at Ferry Street, 4th Avenue and the Rum River Bridge (alternatives are shown on page 2).

The following information summarizes comments received from the public during the second project Open House on December 10th.

ISSUES AND PROBLEMS

- The signal timing at the intersection of Thurston and Highway 10 is bad. There are big queues and no green time for the southbound lane.
- The County Fair occurs the 3rd week of July. The project should account for the County Fair as it works to determine construction staging.
- An area school bus driver noted that 4th Avenue is an important route; the City becomes locked up when there is a closure on Highway 10.

CONCERNS

- Attendees shared general concern with construction impacts. The project received multiple questions about construction staging.
- A resident expressed concern about the trail along 4th Avenue, noting there is a missing piece between Highway 10 and the BNSF crossing.
- Concerns over the intersection of Pleasant Street and Ferry Street. The northbound lane is an issue, with a shared NBL/NBT lane. Concerns about rear end crashes.

IDEAS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Gray Street residents shared appreciation for the inclusion of a cul-de-sac to the project layout. One resident questioned the location and design of the cul-de-sac, and would rather see the cul-de-sac moved closer to Ferry St or designed similar to the Rice Street cul-de-sac.
- Residents shared specific comments and asked general questions supporting noise walls on Highway 10.
- A resident expressed concerned about the type of grasses being planted and noted the opportunity to include pollinators in future plantings.
Highway 10 Rum River Bridge Replacement and Alternative Analysis Recommended
Alternative - Single Point Interchange

Recommended Alternative - Auxiliary Lanes, 4th Avenue Bridge and Rum River Regional Trail
Generalized Feedback from the Business Open House

**General Comments**
- These improvements are greatly needed and will benefit Anoka and surrounding communities
- Concern about costs associated with changing business signage to maintain visibility, including raising sign heights
- Impressed that property impacts are relatively minimal compared to project size
- Concern with traffic circulation at roundabouts

**Popular Topics**
- Construction staging
- Business access during construction
- MnDot Business Logo Sign Program
- Other city road projects, including Green Haven Parkway Phase II
- Other state and county projects in Anoka including Highway 47 improvements, Highway 47/169 resurfacing, Highway 10 Rum River Bridge and Corridor project, and 7th Avenue Reconstruction project

**Site-Specific Comments**
- Concern about impacts to parking area
- Concern about ability of extra long semi trucks to use roundabouts
- Consider accommodation of truck traffic on Green Haven Parkway during construction
- Concern about addition of sidewalk within right-of-way
- Driver’s License Exam Station may suspend road testing during construction
- Concern about speed of eastbound highway traffic exiting onto Main Street
**Generalized Feedback from the Public Open House**

**General Comments**
- Appreciation to the City for undertaking large project that will provide greatly needed improvements
- The oversized maps and video at open house were very helpful for visualizing improvements
- Many people liked addition of roundabouts, while some felt that roundabouts will not support traffic demands

**Impacts & Construction**
- Desire for more information about construction staging and access during construction
- Desire for more information about property impacts process and timeline
- Concern about difficulty getting around during construction
- Impressed that property impacts are relatively minimal compared to project size

**Project Aesthetics**
- Preference for red brick or red brick/limestone options for highway bridge walls
- Desire for river or similar theme for all highway bridge walls
- Question about if the public can vote for themes for highway bridge walls

**Bicyclists & Pedestrians**
- The changes will greatly improve safety for people walking or biking from one side of Highway 10/169 to the other
- The new options for walking will be very helpful

**Site-Specific Comments**
- Support for replacement of existing all-way stops with a roundabout
- Desire to have Green Haven Parkway completed before 2022
- Adding an acceleration lane onto westbound Highway 10/169 will improve safety
- Concern about noise impacts
- Concerns about access during construction
- Roudabout will help slow eastbound highway traffic exiting onto Main Street
- Concern that roundabout will cause traffic backups

**Public Open House**
- September 18, 2019
- 4–7 p.m.
- Green Haven Golf Course

**325+ Attendees**

**For more info, visit**
AnokaHwy10.com
Attendees were asked how they thought the project would impact their quality of life in three categories. The majority of respondents thought the project would have a positive impact.

**Comments**
- Appreciate the safety-first mindset.
- Really like the temporary traffic signal at McKinley Street.
- Consider keeping a temporary signal at McKinley throughout construction of improvements.
- Trim brush/trees along Rum River Drive to improve sight lines between Wilson Street and McKinley Street.
- A temporary signal is not needed for county fairgoers if traffic signal is added at McKinley Street.
- Extend proposed sidewalk along Highway 47 south of McKinley Street.

**Concerns**
- Project would lower property value.
- Removal of trees to accommodate trail.
- Improvements would increase traffic on McKinley Street.

**Survey Results**

Responses by Percent (and Quantity)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mostly/somewhat negative</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Mostly/somewhat positive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Safety</strong></td>
<td>20% (5)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>80% (20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vehicle Access to Neighborhoods</strong></td>
<td>14% (3)</td>
<td>14% (3)</td>
<td>73% (16)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Pedestrian &amp; Bicycle Access</strong></td>
<td>17% (4)</td>
<td>13% (3)</td>
<td>71% (17)</td>
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