



## **PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING – August 14, 2013**

**BREMER COUNTY            NHSX-218-8(124)--3H-09**

To view information concerning this project please access the following website:

<http://www.iowadot.gov/pim>

Welcome to the Iowa Department of Transportation's Public Information Meeting for the improvement of U.S. 218 in Bremer County from the Cedar River bridges at Janesville north to the Iowa 116 interchange at Waverly. The purpose of this meeting is to present additional improvement alternatives for this segment of U.S. 218 and to listen to your thoughts and ideas as well as answer your questions regarding the project.

### **PROJECT HISTORY**

U.S. 218/Iowa 27 was opened as a four-lane facility from Black Hawk County Road C-57 to Waverly in 1993 and from Cedar Falls to Black Hawk County Road C-57 in 1995. Completion of these segments as part of the Avenue of the Saints resulted in substantial traffic growth between Cedar Falls and Waverly. As traffic volumes have increased, safety and operational issues have developed. Opportunities for local traffic to access the highway at existing intersections have been reduced due to the high traffic volumes. Continued traffic growth is expected throughout the corridor in the future.

Meetings were held with local jurisdictions and law enforcement agencies during 2003. The Iowa DOT initiated a Corridor Study in 2005 for the segment of U.S. 218/Iowa 27 from West Mount Vernon Road north to the Iowa 116 interchange at Waverly. The purpose of this study was to focus on safety improvements and options for access control for the corridor. Public Information Meetings were held in 2005, 2007, and 2011 to present alternatives for the improvement of U.S. 218/Iowa 27 through the corridor. A neighborhood meeting was held on September 25, 2012, to present an additional alternative and to solicit input concerning that alternative.

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project proposes to provide connections to local roads, neighborhoods, and properties via frontage roads while closing the at-grade intersections. An interchange is proposed at 260th Street and U.S. 218.

### **CRASH HISTORY**

On the segment of U.S. 218 between the Cedar River bridges and the Iowa 116 interchange at Waverly, a total of 179 crashes occurred between 2002 and 2011. The total number of crashes resulted in a crash rate that is approximately two and one-half times the statewide average for similar rural, divided roadways.

## **PROJECT COSTS AND SCHEDULE**

This project is not currently included in the 2014 - 2018 Transportation Improvement Program, and therefore, no construction schedule has been established. The corridor study is expected to be completed in the summer of 2014 after which time the project can be considered for future funding. Once funding is committed, the DOT can develop design plans so the project can then be constructed.

## **RIGHT OF WAY**

As part of the proposed improvements, additional right-of-way may be required. The following paragraphs provide information regarding the right-of-way process followed by the Iowa DOT. Please keep in mind specific right-of-way needs have not been identified at this time.

Iowa DOT policy provides for appraisal of property and/or property rights needed for each project. Professional techniques and methods are used to determine “just compensation” in accordance with federal and state constitutions, laws and regulations. Appraisals are prepared to assure fair treatment for both the property owner and the public.

After completing the appraisal, a right-of-way agent contacts each owner to explain the plans and appraisals and negotiate the contract for the required right-of-way. If an agreement cannot be reached through negotiations, the property may be acquired by the laws of eminent domain.

## **CONTACT US**

If you have any comments or concerns regarding the project presented today, please contact:

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E-mail: [krista.rostad@dot.iowa.gov](mailto:krista.rostad@dot.iowa.gov)

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Please share your ideas with us today, submit them using the attached comment form (self-addressed and pre-paid for your convenience), email your comments to the District Planner above or through the following website <http://www.iowadot.gov/pim>. All comments and information provided will be given consideration as the project development process continues. Other opportunities for input, throughout the process, will be provided through additional future public meetings.

Thank you for your participation in this meeting.

Federal and state laws prohibit employment and/or public accommodation discrimination on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, gender identity, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation or veteran's status. If you believe you have been discriminated against, please contact the Iowa Civil Rights Commission at 800-457-4416 or Iowa Department of Transportation's affirmative action officer. If you need accommodations because of a disability to access the Iowa Department of Transportation's services, contact the agency's affirmative action officer at 800-262-0003.



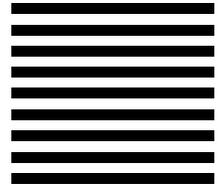
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