

IOWA HIGHWAY 58 CORRIDOR STUDY PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING OCTOBER 15, 2013

INTRODUCTION

The City of Cedar Falls and the Iowa Department of Transportation are conducting a Public Informational Meeting to discuss the status of the IA 58 Corridor Study and to present the initial alternatives for improvements that are being considered. This project extends from U.S. 20 to Greenhill Road in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

This public meeting is intended to give the public an opportunity to express their opinions regarding the proposed project. This is your opportunity to express views, either as an individual or a group representative. A citizen comment form is provided and can either be turned in at this meeting or mailed to the City Engineer's office. It is requested that all written or e-mailed comments be submitted by October 31, 2013.

CURRENT STATUS OF PROJECT

The project is currently in the "Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Assessment" phase. During this phase of the project, the following activities are being completed:

- Traffic volumes and traffic crash records are being analyzed.
- Environmental studies are being conducted.
- Major businesses are being contacted for input.
- Access to individual properties is being evaluated.
- Accommodation of pedestrians and bicycles is being evaluated.
- A variety of concepts for improving the major intersections are being developed.
- Further evaluation of the alternatives will be conducted after the public informational meeting.

Details of the project will be discussed at tonight's meeting, or can be reviewed at any time by contacting the City Engineer's office. Additional information can be found at the City's website at www.cedarfalls.com.

PURPOSE AND NEED OF PROJECT

The purpose of the IA 58 – Viking Road project is to increase safety for vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists, to improve the flow of traffic, and to provide adequate traffic capacity to accommodate future growth in the area. Improvements on IA 58 are needed for several reasons:

- In a recent 5-year period (2008-2012), a total of 168 traffic crashes have occurred on IA 58 between U.S. 20 and Greenhill Road, including two fatalities at Viking Road. Many serious traffic-related injuries also occurred throughout the corridor.
- The intersection of IA 58 and Viking Road, with 77 crashes in this same 5-year time period, ranks 13th on the statewide list of Intersection Safety Improvement Candidates.
- Traffic volumes have increased substantially in some areas of the project. For example, traffic volumes on Viking Road to the east of IA 58 have increased more than 10 times between 2001 and 2013. Traffic on IA 58 between Viking and Greenhill Roads has increased over 40% in this same time period.
- The existing intersections on IA 58 were not designed to accommodate this volume of traffic. Turn lanes are often overloaded during peak hours, and traffic delays have increased.
- Development continues to occur in the corridor, with two major new retail facilities (Scheels and Menards) opening this year. Additional development is expected in the future, which will add to the traffic volumes and congestion along IA 58.

The proposed improvements on IA 58 are intended to improve the traffic capacity, traffic flow and traffic safety in the corridor, while providing adequate capacity to accommodate future traffic growth.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Following the public informational meeting, the project development will continue in order to determine the most desirable improvements for the IA 58 corridor. Some of the upcoming activities will include:

- Input from the public informational meeting will be reviewed to determine if additional alternatives should be considered or if previous alternatives should be modified.

- The alternatives will be evaluated to determine their impacts and their ability to accommodate future transportation needs.
- Both engineering and environmental factors will be evaluated.
- Estimated costs for constructing the improvements will be developed.
- The Environmental Assessment will be prepared to obtain environmental clearance for future construction.
- A public hearing will be conducted to present the findings of the study.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Following this public informational meeting, the City and Iowa DOT will continue with the development of the project. The following schedule is anticipated at this time:

- Completion of Environmental Field Studies: Late 2013
- Finalize Alternatives to be Considered: Late 2013
- Evaluation of Alternatives and Environmental Impacts: Late 2013 to Early 2014
- Determination of Final Alternatives: Mid-2014
- Public Hearing - Mid-2014
- Environmental Assessment: Late 2014
- Final Design, Right-of-Way Acquisition and Construction: Schedule to be determined. Construction could begin in 2017 or 2018.

Please note that all schedules are subject to change and that construction schedules will depend on funding availability.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

If you have any comments on the proposed project or questions about its development, please make your comments known at this meeting or forward them on the attached Citizen Comment Form. Please return your comments by October 31, 2013.

Thank you for your participation in this meeting.



IA. HWY. 58 PROJECT CORRIDOR U.S. Hwy. 20 to Greenhill Road

CITY OF CEDAR FALLS, IOWA
 Iowa Highway 58 /Viking Road
 Corridor Study

September 2013

Proj. # 60287018

CITIZEN COMMENT FORM

TO: Mr. Randy Lorenzen, P.E.
City Engineer
City of Cedar Falls
220 Clay Street
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613
randy.lorenzen@cedarfalls.com

RE: IA 58 Corridor Study
Public Informational Meeting
October 15, 2013

Comments:

Please Return by October 31, 2013

I (do ☐ do not ☐) desire a response.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

e-mail: _____