



US-169/I-494 INTERCHANGE

HIGH PRIORITY PROJECT NEEDS FUNDING

The US-169/I-494 interchange is one of the most significant bottlenecks in the southwest metro. To avoid congestion, many motorists cut through local streets. The development of the US-169 and I-494 corridor is of great regional significance, yet, this project has been in and out of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) program numerous times. Currently, MnDOT is proposing to reduce the scope and cost of improvements with the hope that a lower cost project could be implemented.

Funding for the reconstruction was included in Governor Tim Pawlenty and Assistant Governor Carol Molnau's 2003 bond-accelerated project funding package for \$105.3 million. Since 2003, the Pioneer Trail interchange and the Bloomington Ferry Road/Anderson Lakes Parkway interchange have been constructed; however, remaining funds

were diverted to other projects leaving the US-169/I-494 interchange project unfunded. This is the last project needed to complete this regional freeway.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

- Removal of the last bottleneck along this heavily used regional arterial.
- Relieving the congestion would encourage commuters to stay on the major arterials, rather than using local Bloomington, Eden Prairie and Edina streets.

FUNDING

Estimated cost: \$150 million.

POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL SOURCES

- Next federal transportation bill.
- MnDOT.

QUESTIONS

For more information, contact Public Works Director Karl Keel at 952-563-8731, e-mail: kkeel@ci.bloomington.mn.us.

