APPENDIX K

AUGUST 8, 2006 PUBLIC MEETING ITEMS



Meeting Notes

Subject: Public Open House/Meeting	
Client: South Dakota Department of Transportation	
Project: Watertown South Connector	Project No: 39319
Meeting Date: 08/08/06; 5:30 p.m.	Meeting Location: Watertown Event Center – Ramkota Swan Room

Attendees:

HDR SDDOT

City of Watertown

General Public

49 people

Brian Goss Quinn Damgaard Rebecca Banks

Terry Keller Ron Sherman Curt Cady

David Petersen Herb Blomquist

Kristen Gundvaldson

James Unruh

Project open house was held from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Project presentation was given by HDR from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

A brief team meeting was held following the public meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to:

- discuss comments and concerns voiced by the public
- strategize next steps

Segment 1

- It was noted that over 180 trucks per day are traveling in and out of the Glacial Lakes Ethanol Plant. This number is to double in the near future.
- The infiltration ponds along 11th Street SE and 20th Avenue S should not be an issue.
- Watertown Municipal Utilities has recently installed a new transmission power line along the north side of 20th Avenue South from 17th to 29th Street SE. The roadway alignment shown tonight would impact the new poles. According to a representative of Municipal Utilities, relocating the new poles would be cost prohibitive. Shifting the alignment to the south would impact one farmstead. Followup: HDR to look at adjusting alignment to avoid poles.

Segment 2A

- Option 2 is going right through the old city dump.
- The rail line running to the ethanol plant was just put in four years ago. Follow-up: HDR to find information on that project.
- A free right turn lane from eastbound 212 south would be highly beneficial for trucks if designed with a large truck turning radius.
- Constructability is an issue for options 3, 4, and 5 with the sandy soil, wetlands, and floodplain.
- Required long bridge span lengths for options 3, 4, and 5 would raise costs significantly.
- What happens to existing Broadway? It would likely tie into the South Connector.

Segment 2B

Option 1 is appealing because it takes a straight shot to I-29, whereas Option 3 causes southbound truckers exiting or entering I-29 to back-track.

Attachments to meeting notes:

- Sign-in Sheets
- Comment forms returned 08/08/06 (No additional forms turned in by 8/25/06 deadline.)
- Graphic showing public meeting attendees.
- 2 photos of public meeting.
- Follow-up articles from 8/9/06 Watertown Public Opinion newspaper

Watertown South Connector IM 0297(01) PCN 00Y

Public Meeting/Open House Agenda

8/08/06 (Tuesday), 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

@ Watertown Ramkota

Meeting purpose: To introduce the overall project to the public and to receive initial feedback from the public.

- A. Open house from 5:30 to 6:00 (see below for displays and staffing)
- B. Presentation utilizing PowerPoint begins at 6:00 p.m. (James U. to lead presentation)
 - 1. Project overview
 - 2. Segment by segment discussion (Study Area Map and Alignment Options as main graphics)
 - a. Segment 1
 - Limits
 - Typical Section & Design Speed
 - Alignment options
 - Critical issues
 - b. Segment 2A
 - Limits
 - Typical Section & Design Speed
 - Alignment options
 - Critical issues
 - c. Segment 2B
 - Limits
 - Typical Section & Design Speed
 - Alignment options
 - Critical issues
 - 3. Public Involvement
 - a. Public meeting schedule
 - b. Environmental Assessment schedule
 - 4. Site Investigations
 - 5. Conclusion
 - a. Specific questions taken at displays
 - b. Comment forms available for written comments
 - c. Project Team Introductions
 - SDDOT
 - City of Watertown
 - FHWA
 - HDR
- C. **Open house** from 6:20 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- D. Displays/tables:
 - 1. Welcome table (staffed by Rebecca Banks of HDR and one SDDOT representative)
 - a. Sign in sheet (provided by HDR)
 - b. Comment forms (provided by HDR)
 - 2. Wall-mounted displays 3 of each (provided by HDR, each display staffed by one HDR representative and one SDDOT and/or Watertown representative)
 - a. Study Area map
 - b. Alignment Options map
- E. **Project Team de-brief** from 7:00 to 7:20 p.m.



along 20" Avenue South. The foldout the City of Watertown is considering Highway 20 to I-29. For most of its length, the South Connector will go section of this brochure illustrates By now, most of you are aware that construction of a major roadway on the city's south side. The proposed roadway (referred to as the "South Connector") will extend from the project study area.

Here are some likely questions about the

South Connector project:

Here is the anticipated schedule:

- Public input on the project begins with an August 8
 - public open house/meeting.

 Site investigations will examine areas that may be
 - impacted by the project.

roadway will then be turned over to the City of Watertown and will become a city street.

The South Dakota Department of Transportation will

pay the initial design and construction costs. The

relieve congestion and reduce accidents

on Highway 212. It is also needed to

Transportation Plan". According to the plan, the South Connector is needed to

updated the "Watertown Area

O. Why build another east-west road when we already have Highway 212?
A. In 2005, the City and the South Dakota Department of Transportation

provide good access, especially for trucks, to the rapidly

developing industrial area on the City's south side.

Who is paying for the new roadway?

crossing of the Big Sioux River. The existing 20th Avenue

O. Will flooding on the Big Sioux River get worse because of the new roadway?

A. The South Connector roadway will include a new

South bridge will be removed. The new bridge will be

designed so there will be minimal or no rise in the flood level of the Big Sioux River upstream of the South

Potential roadway alignments will be developed. Social, environmental, and economic impacts of the project will be analyzed

Fall 2006

- Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for Segment agencies and, after their review, will be released to 1 will be submitted to federal and state regulatory
 - the public. Public hearing will be held regarding the EA for
- Federal agency will issue environmental document approval for Segment 1. Segment 1.

area by walking in locations that may be impacted by the

project. In areas of dense ground cover, small holes may be dug. These holes will be refilled and the vegetation

replaced. It is intended that no damage be done to

property or crops.

A. Project staff will conduct a visual survey of the study

Q. Will the site investigations damage my property or

Connector.

- Segments 2A and 2B will be submitted to federal and state regulatory agencies and, after their Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for review, will be released to the public. Winter 2006/2007
- Federal agency will issue environmental document Public hearing will be held regarding the EA for Segments 2A and 2B.

segments I and 2B, the roadway will be designed to allow

expansion to 4 or 5 lanes in the future.

Q. How many lanes will the South Connector have? A. Initially, a 2 or 3-lane roadway will be built. For

- approvals for Segments 2A and 2B.
- Preparation of design plans for Segment 1 will

Spring 2007

Right-of-way acquisition for Segment 1 will begin.

way will be purchased to preserve an area for the ultimate

4 or 5 lane roadway. Fair market value will be paid for

purchased property. In addition, the roadway will be designed to minimize impacts to existing farmsteads,

residences, wetlands, etc.

between 100' and 150'. For Segments 1 and 2B, right-of-

A. The right-of-way width for the new roadway will be

Q. Will additional property be needed for the South Connector?

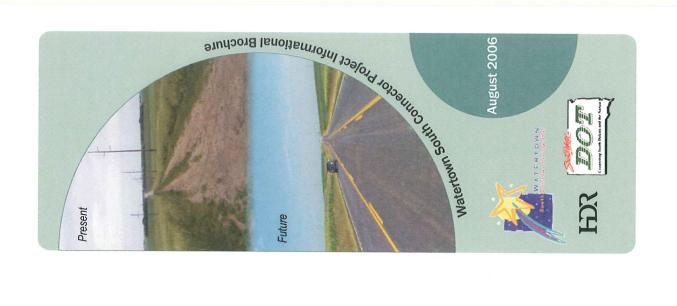
Construction on Segment 1 will begin.

Construction on Segment 2A will begin.

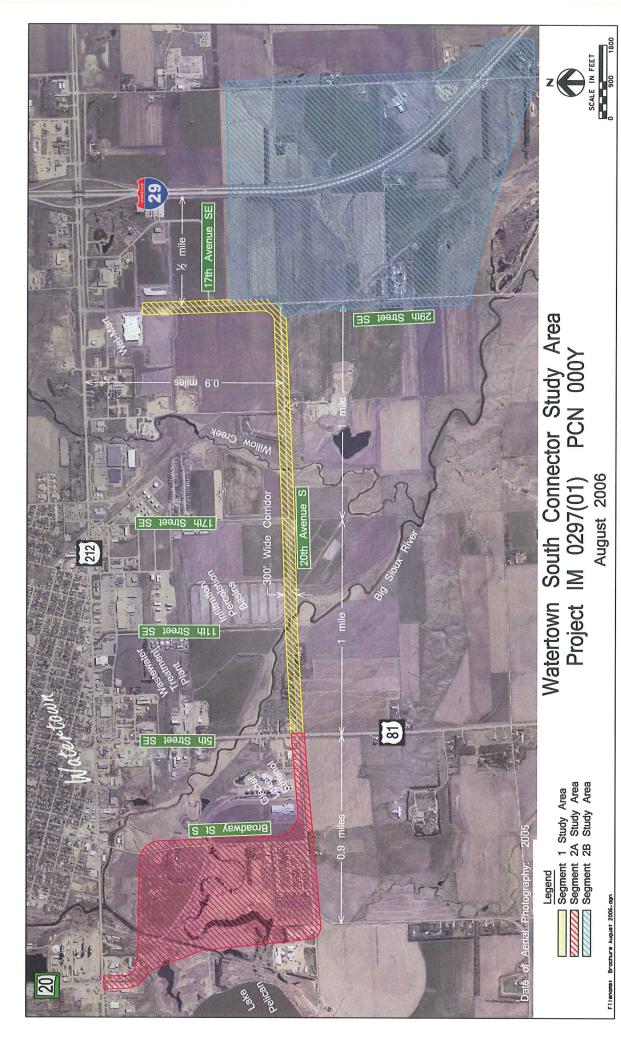
Construction schedule may change depending Notes: Construction of Segment 2B is not yet on funding availability. scheduled.

If you have any other questions, please contact:

Terry Keller, South Balotan Espartment of Transportation, 700 East
Broadway Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501, (605) 773-3721, or
Herb Blomquist, City of Waterrown, 23 Second St. NE, Waterrown,
SD 57201, (605) 82-6204 or
James Urnul, HDB, 6300 S. Old Village Place, Sioux Falls, SD
57108, (605) 977-7740



700 East Broadway Ave Pierre, SD 57501 ATTM: Terry Keller South Dakota Department of Transportation













August 8, 2006 5:30 pm Watertown Ramkota

			Phone #	Do you want to be on the
Name	Representing	Address	Zip Code	mailing list for project mailings?
Terry Keller	SDDOT	700 EBroadway Pierre SD	5750/	YES
Herb Blangvist	City of Watertow	P. O. Box 910 n Watertown, SD 57201	(605) 882-6704 x14 57701	Yes
	1	Pierre	1609) 773-2402 57501	YES
Steven West	Jan Cowner	3530 STAST SE	605-882-2476	y Es
ROBER BA144		922 20th AUESE	605-886-6322 57201-9185	4E5
Marvin Schwen		45250 Air HavenRd	605-886-10622	yes
Mary + Carol Run	- Land awn	3801 20 there. LE	605-846-7507 57201-9125	Mes
Mite Porath	Land owner	17)45458th Ave	605 - 882-7021 57201	ves
Dona Elor Bjerko	Lendowna	2917 7th AW.	605-886-0061	yes
	Codington Co	611 1st St. S.W.	605-881-6271	NO
GEOFF HZIG	MUN UTILITIES	901 4th AVE 500	605 - 882 - 6233	485
David Peterson	With Engr. Dept.	PO Box 910 Whn.	605-802-6202 K28 57201	Yes
Mrs Herk Hanter	5015	13335. Brday	605-8863035	Yes
Lin Donva Lause	ez self	70-70 Ano &W	605-886-4351	yes

Watertown South Connector Roadway Project









August 8, 2006 5:30 pm Watertown Ramkota

			Phone #	Do you want to be on the
Name	Representing	Address	Zip Code	mailing list for project mailings?
Don Perall		1228 Story Conifer	57101	
Todd Gottsleben	UBC	920 9th Aug. S.W	1886-2103 57201	
SOHN REOLINGEN	AMEN CHAMBEN OF COMMENCE	P.O.BOX 1113 WATERTOWN, SD	886-5814 57201	
Lavern Margner	a Cod. Co Commiss	n Florence	57235 758-2354	
Keny Nevender	300000000000000000000000000000000000000	706 9+2 AU SW	57201	_
Arast MunuM	Lond owner	706 9th Ave. SW	605-886-6036 57201	
Jack Thomas	Countly Commissi	ion 418 No Park	605-886-6606	
Al Koistinen		1228 3, 2 ST NE	886-7937	-
Mile Daus	Me	137 ITESSW	57201 882-1740	
Michael Rice	Col	802 54 lon pa.	882-0760	-
Kelly Lohe	hī	2701 77457	8866239	
Jaque Mahl	1	((
Sho Wiles	3 Derl	440 S. Lahe Dr.	986-4850 5721	
Prosent Podgett	Landburer	1335 16th St. NE	884-1360	









Watertown South Connector **Roadway Project**

August 8, 2006 5:30 pm Watertown Ramkota

			Phone #	Do you want to be on the
Name	Representing	Address	Zip Code	mailing list for project mailings?
MARLE ROBI			57201 886-6901	
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Bell Ostwer	Renter	2135 20th AVE	881-5236	
S. Joyce Peats	Mether of Std Mindestern	110 28th ane SE	883-6600	ger
1 Janice Iverson	motter of bod Monastery	110.28thane SE	520-5818	yes
Stronei Schuma	char "	11	882-6631	yes.
Pamona Fallon	11	11	882-6633	//
Jannifer Nielsen	Public Opinion	2 PO BOX 10	520-4610	
SHERMAN PICKTH	NYN BOOKE	44775 NWYD12	586 632-8	
Casal Varrel	Relieur & C.	510-9575E	51201	ger
Sangustof	MOG. Momade	1823 9 45 NE	8868815 57201	yes
Bill Schnitt		1905 5Th ST.SE	\$56-881-7741	Yes
Maturology	Landowner	213720th Auc.	881-9454	Yes iges"
Terry Aler				



Watertown South Connector Roadway Project

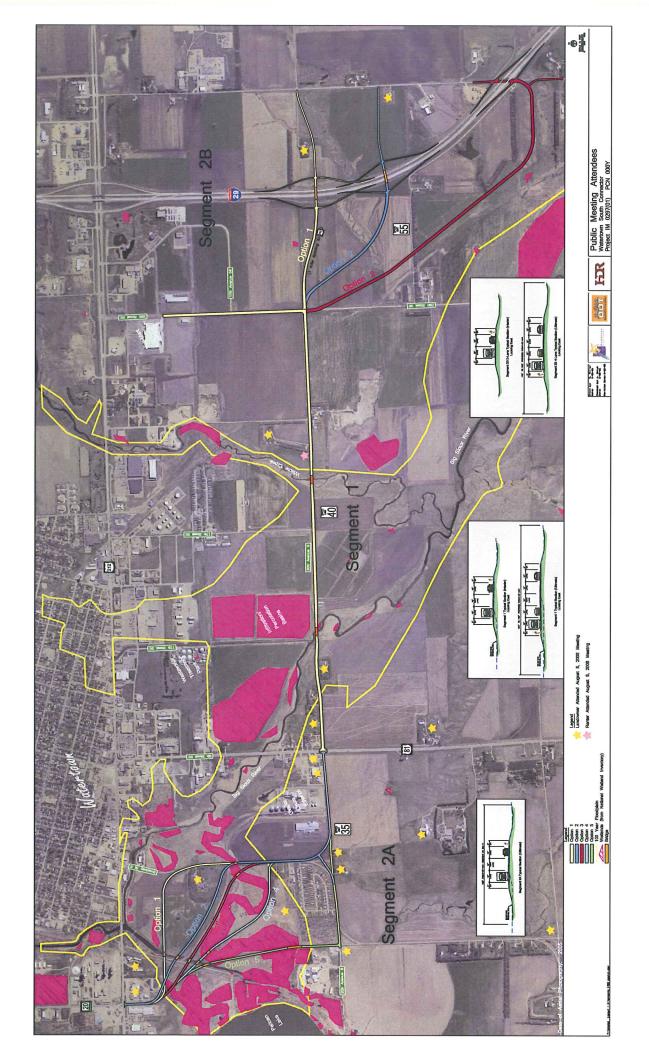






August 8, 2006 5:30 pm Watertown Ramkota

	216	311-111 2116	CI	
A	D	A 11	Phone # Zip Code	Do you want to be on the mailing list for project
Name	Representing	Address		mailings?
Mull: 3x	City	wh.	57201	
Johannu Schumucker	. 0	Whn	5720/	
Carac John H		Wt.	57201	
mry mis Rog	r Tous	hertelow	5720	
	ľ	Wtn	57201	
James Unuh		HDR		
Kriter Gudhalden	MR		605-977-7740	



- COMMENTS-

Watertown South Connector Project from SD20 to Interstate & August 8, 2006 Public Meeting/Open House

What are your thoughts about the project? What problems do you foresee? Which options do you like or dislike? Should any other options be considered? Please submit your comments before August 25, 2006 to:

HDR Engineering, Inc. Attn: James Unruh 6300 S. Old Village Place, Suite 100 Sioux Falls, SD 57108-2102

Sioux Falls, SD 3/108-2102	
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	1 options
Name: Skew Thouses Schumac Address: 110 28th Uno SE to	our
Phone: 882-663/ "Zip Code: 582 5720/	
IIDN Engineering, the	
Attn: James Unruh	
6300 S. Old Village Place, Suite 100	
Sioux Falls, SD 57108-2102	
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Sioux Falls, SD 57108-2102	
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Name: MAKK ROBY Address: PO Box 10	
Phone: 886-6901 x /34 Zip Code: 57201	(- 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 -
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- COMMENTS-

Watertown South Connector Project from SD20 to Interstate 29 August 8, 2006 Public Meeting/Open House

What are your thoughts about the project? What problems do you foresee? Which options do you like or dislike? Should any other options be considered? Please submit your comments before August 25, 2006 to:

HDR Engineering, Inc. Attn: James Unruh

6300 S. Old Village Place, Suite 100 Sioux Falls, SD 57108-2102 Phone: _ What are your thoughts about the project? What problems do you foresee? Which options do you like or dislike? Should any other options be considered? Please submit your comments before August 25, 2006 to: HDR Engineering, Inc. Attn: James Unruh 6300 S. Old Village Place, Suite 100 - COM Sioux Falls, SD 57108-2102 Watertown from SD20 August 8, 2 What are y do you like comments Address: 2/35 HD Phone: Zip Code: ___ Atti 6300 S. Old Village Place, Suite 100 Sioux Falls, SD 57108-2102 Address: 20-20 Aresw Name: Wa hausen Zip Code: 57201 Phone: 886-4351

- COMMENTS-

Watertown South Connector Project from SD20 to Interstate 29
August 8, 2006 Public Meeting/Open House

What are your thoughts about the project? What problems do you foresee? Which options do you like or dislike? Should any other options be considered? Please submit your comments before August 25, 2006 to:

HDR Engineering, Inc. Attn: James Unruh 6300 S. Old Village Place, Suite 100 Sioux Falls, SD 57108-2102

Name: Lavern Marquard Address: 16269-448 the Slovere Phone: 605-758-2354

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- COMMENTS-

Watertown South Connector Project from SD20 to Interstate ≈9 August 8, 2006 Public Meeting/Open House

What are the state of the state

What are your thoughts about the project? What problems do you foresee? Which options do you like or dislike? Should any other options be considered? Please submit your comments before August 25, 2006 to:

HDR Engineering, Inc. Attn: James Unruh 6300 S. Old Village Place, Suite 100 Sioux Falls, SD 57108-2102

Sec 2A - Options 3 or	5 only lagical
County Commissioner -	ifelong Resident
Name: <u>John Thonas</u> Phone: <u>886-668</u>	Address: 4/18 No Park Zip Code: 57201





Photos from Watertown South Connector
Public Open House/Meeting @ Ramkota
August 8, 2006

Wednesday

August 9, 2006





Inside

Youth

Codington County Achievement Days judging teams. Page 9A

Let's make a deal...

The Codington County County Commissioners plans to meet with two potential candidates for the position of negotiator to represent the county in union contract negotiations. See complete story...4A

新新新的

Baseball - Page 1B Twins down Tigers. Watertown Vol. 120 No. 188 Serving the Glacial Lakes Region of South Dakota and Minnesota since 1887

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8/9/66

Price: 50 cen

ss previewed

By Jennifer Nielsen Public Opinion Staff Writer

Transportation officials presented an overview of the pro-posed southern bypass project Tuesday night during a public open house, calling for input and suggestions from Watertown and area residents.

Representatives with HDR Engineering Inc., the S.D. Department of Transportation and the City of Watertown hosted the public meeting to share preliminary plans and to talk about different alignment options being considered for the project.

"Don't think that anything here tonight is set in stone," HDR Project Manager James Unruh

said during a brief presentation. "It's our best ideas to this point, but we need the input from all of

The purpose of the bypass is to relieve congestion and reduce accidents on U.S. Highway 212 and to provide access to the developing industrial area. It will have a total length of about four and a half to five miles and is being planned in segments.

"Basically we have a corridor here that starts over at Highway 20 and goes over to the interstate," Unruh said.

The bypass is scheduled to be constructed in two phases. Phase one is scheduled to be done in 2008, and would construct the bypass from U.S. Highway 81. east along 20th Avenue South to 29th Street East and north on 29th Street to Highway 212.

The second phase, which is scheduled for 2009, would construct the bypass from Highway 81, west along 20th Avenue South to Broadway and northwest to Highway 20.

A third segment of the project, which would connect 20th Avenue to the Interstate and create a new Interstate exchange, has not been scheduled.

"As always, we all know this very well, the construction schedule depends on funding availability ... But we have to have some schedule in mind as we Please see BYPASS, Back Page



Kristen Gundvaldson, right, an engineer in training with HI Engineering Inc., helps explain preliminary plans for Watertown's p posed southern bypass Tuesday evening during a public open hou at the Event Center.

12A Watertown Public Opinion www.thepublicopinion.com Wednesday, August 9, 2006

BYPASS

Continued from Front Page

start this project, so this is the schedule that we're going to be going with," Unruh said.

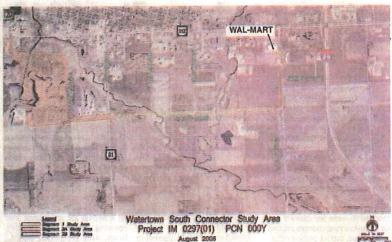
Each of the three segments will have its own environmental issues and constraints, from wet-lands, channels and floodplains to railroad tracks, power lines and farmland.

"Hopefully we can avoid most of these issues if we pick the right alternative (for the road alignment), but that's what we need to look at," Unruh said. Willow Creek and the Big

Sioux River also will provide some challenges for the construction, but officials say the bridges will be designed so there will be minimal or no rise in the flood level upstream of the

Initially, the bypass will be built as a two- or three-lane road-way. It will be designed, however, to allow for future expansion to four or fives lanes.

Officials with HDR, DOT and the City of Watertown welcome



questions and comments from the public related to the proposed

cuss the environmental assess-

project. A public hearing to disment of the project is planned for this fall.

Upinions 8/9/00 Waterboan Rubble Project delay OK



UBLIC OPINION

Mark S. Roby, Publisher Jerry Steinley, Editor Kenneth Way, Publisher Emeritus

The state Department of Transportation is facing a problem every one of us is facing — rising costs. Last Friday the Public Opinion reported that officials with the Department of Transportation (DOT) have asked Watertown city leaders to "realign" the city's transportation priorities and delay the northern bypass project.

The City of Watertown isn't alone. Several cities in South Dakota are seeing road projects taken off the shelf as the DOT copes with the realities of rising energy costs and projects which were estimated

before those costs increased as they have.

Editorial

Public Opinion

At issue: The state Department of Transportation is moving some road projects years down the road in response to increasing costs. Watertown has agreed to push back the northern bypass project which is, by far, the one that can be delayed.

This certainly isn't the best news we would like to hear from the DOT but it could be much worse.

Watertown will have to accept losing one scheduled project. And, looking at the projects which are still on schedule, delaying the northern bypass is the lesser of the evils.

Monday, members of the Watertown City Council agreed to the project delay during the regular council meeting. They also, however, asked city officials to continue to work with the DOT to accelerate at least one project schedule and consider adding another.

It is commendable how the state DOT worked with the city of Watertown on this matter rather than decide for us. Instead, the DOT took the approach of contacting Watertown officials to see which project was the top priority. Now, after the multiple meetings and conference calls, there's agreement again on the part of our city and the DOT.

The northern bypass won't be permanently put on the shelf nor should it be. As it stands now, the project could be slated for as early as 2012.

The main concern the state and the city are concentrating on is fixing Highway 212. And rightly so.

Highway 212 is the most pressing transportation problem facing this community. The road has become increasingly busy with traffic from ethanol plant development and the rapidly growing retail industry. What will future development bring? Who knows? But we do know that whatever development comes, it will bring traffic with it and further strain the overly-busy Highway 212.

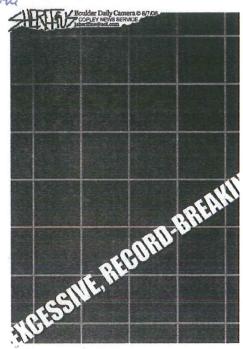
So keeping the southern bypass project intact was the better of the choices the state DOT and the City of Watertown were facing. The southern bypass will shuttle traffic and, primarily, trucks, off of 212 and safely around the perimeter of the city. That bypass will significantly ease congestion on 212 and allow for a safer stretch of high-

The main concern with the northern bypass delay was the impact it would have on the National Guard Armory. The armory is to be constructed on Highway 20 and the bypass would give the Guard easy access to Interstate 29. The DOT has assured city officials that while the northern bypass project would be years down the road, its absence wouldn't affect the armory project.

That's certainly the news the city needed to hear. The armory project is needed for the community and to jeopardize it at this stage of the game wouldn't be acceptable. And while the armory won't have immediate access to the bypass, the new location will still be much better than the old.

There are several projects slated for Watertown that aren't affected by the DOT delay request: First Avenue North extension, the southern bypass, the highway 212/81 intersection realignment and the Highway 81 reconstruction from Highway 212 to Third Avenue North.

We might have lost the northern bypass for the time being but the most important transportation needs before the city are being met.



However, this pipe

Tax cuts a for the 21

Twenty-five years ago, on Aug. 13, 1981, President Reagan signed what was called the largest tax cut in U.S. history. In actual point of fact, it was no larger then the Kennedy tax cuts of 1961-62. Both were designed to get America moving again, and both worked well as they lowered marginal tax rates about 25 percent across the board over three years.

In 1978, I had, along with my Senate colleague Bill Roth of Delaware, co-sponsored the Kemp-Roth Bill that advocated a 30 percent across-the-board tax rate cut. The top rate in the '70s was 70 percent, and the capital gains rate was 49 percent. I argued that lower tax rates on labor and capital would grow the economy and put an end to the Keynesian dilemma of simultaneous inflation coupled to recession.

What escaped the attention of both the conventional "left' and "right" was that tax rates at 70 percent on income and 49 percent on capital gains led to a slow growth or, even worse, a recession. Tax revenues were falling; thus a reduction in tax

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finally got a n Enterprise Zo (Empowerme hoped, though be bolder and gains taxes or who would pu capital at risk lined" areas o the Gulf Coas and Mississip facto" red-line urban Northe central Los A community w had a high lev ment, welfare

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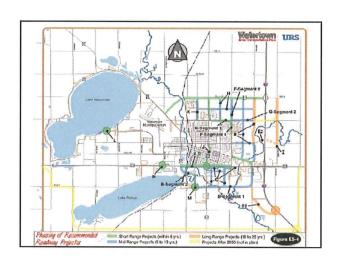
Presentation Outline 1. Project Overview 2. Segment by segment discussion 3. Public Involvement Schedule 4. Questions at individual exhibits Alignment options are very conceptual- We need your input!

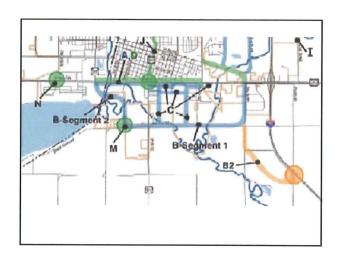
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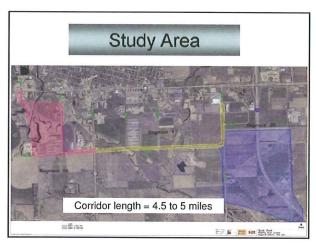
Project Overview

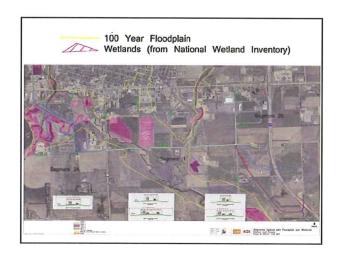
The South Connector is needed to relieve congestion and reduce accidents on Highway 212. It is also needed to provide good access, especially for trucks, to the rapidly developing industrial area on the City's south side.

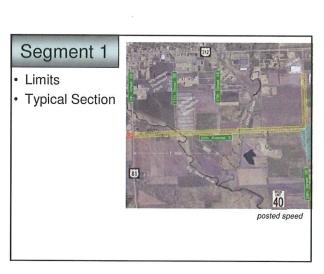
(Source: Watertown Area Transportation Plan 2005)

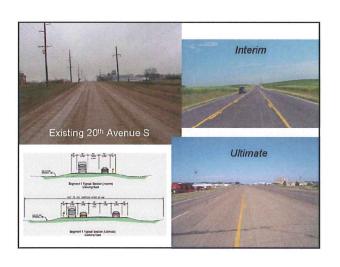


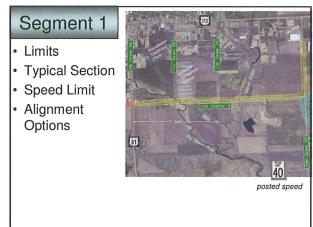


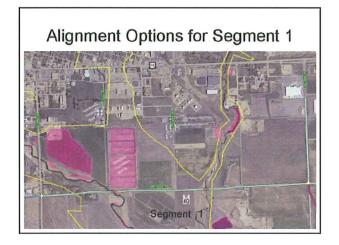


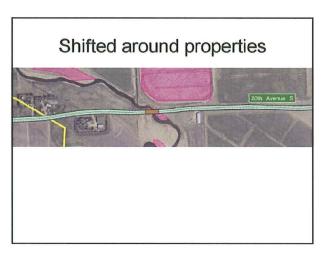








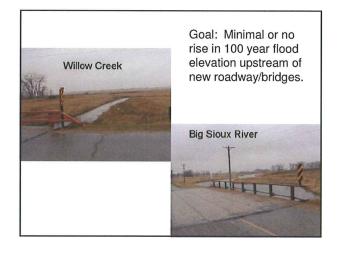






- Limits
- Typical Section
- Speed Limit
- Alignment Options
- Critical Issues/Impacts





Segment 2A

- Limits
- Typical Section





Segment 2A

- Limits
- Typical Section
- Speed Limit
- Alignment Options

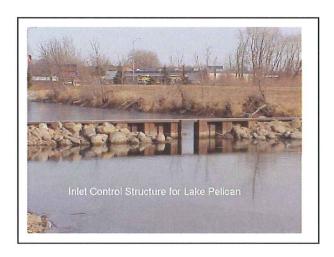




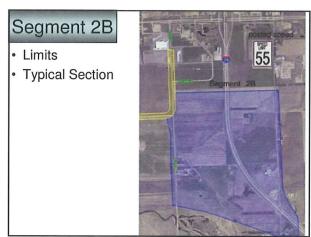
Segment 2A

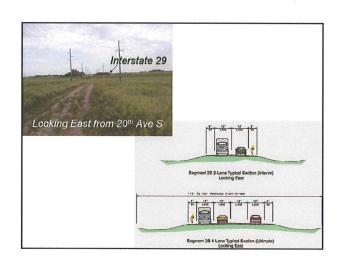
- Limits
- Typical Section
- Speed Limit
- Alignment Options
- Critical Issues/Impacts

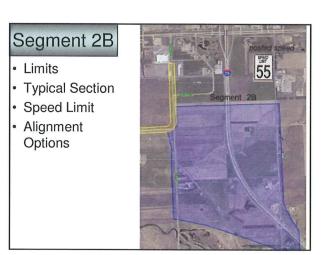












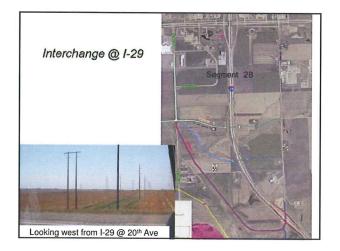
Alignment Options for Segment 2B



Segment 2B

- Limits
- Typical Section
- Speed Limit
- Alignment Options
- Critical Issues/Impacts





Public Involvement

August 8 - Open House

Fall 2006 – Public Hearing on Segment 1 Environmental Assessment

Winter 2006/2007 – Public Hearing on Segments 2A and 2B Environmental Assessment

What is an Environmental Assessment?

