

# HIGHWAY 52

## 55TH & 65TH STREET IMPROVEMENTS

NOVEMBER 2011 | NEWSLETTER | ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

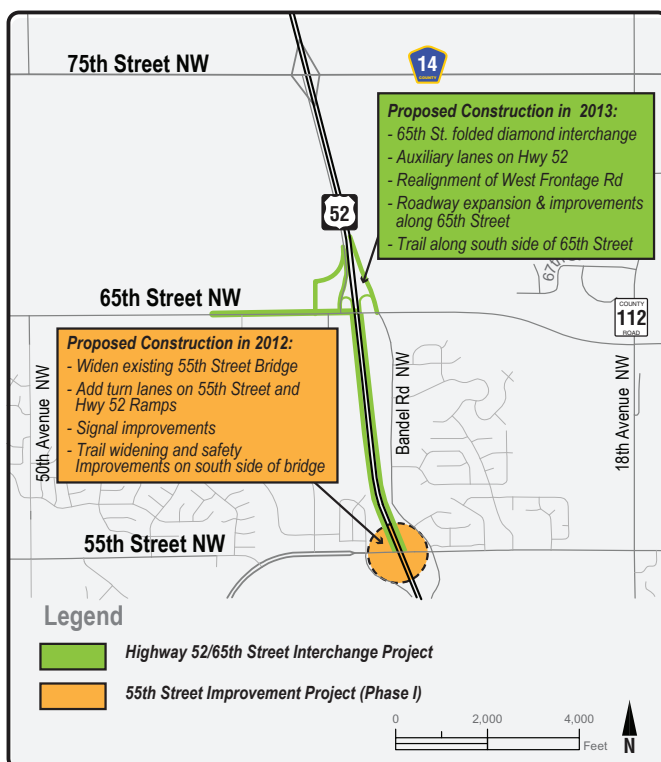
The City of Rochester is proposing two new construction projects along the Highway 52 corridor in northwest Rochester. This newsletter has been prepared to recap the Northern Rochester Transportation Study (NRTS), describe the proposed projects, announce upcoming public involvement opportunities, and identify the next steps for the projects.

### RECAP OF NRTS

The proposed projects are recommended based on the findings of the NRTS, completed in Spring 2011. The NRTS was developed by representatives from the City of Rochester, Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), and Olmsted County based on identified transportation issues, technical analysis, and input from regulatory agencies and the public. The ultimate goal of this effort was to develop a unified transportation plan for northwest Rochester that can be implemented over time to address long-range traffic demands. Improvements recommended in the NRTS will be phased over the next 25 years based on demonstrated need and available funding. More information about NRTS can be found at the project website:

[www.northernrochesterstudy.com/](http://www.northernrochesterstudy.com/)

### PROPOSED PROJECTS



### DESCRIPTION OF PROJECTS

#### 55TH STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (PHASE I)

The City of Rochester is proposing the 55th Street Interchange Reconstruction Project (Phase I). A Project Memorandum analyzing the social, economic, and environmental impacts of the project is currently underway. Reconstruction of the 55th Street interchange over Highway 52 includes:

- Bridge widening to accommodate dual left-turns from 55th Street to the north and southbound on-ramps
- Adding a second northbound right-turn lane on the northbound Highway 52 off-ramp
- Adding a second southbound left-turn lane to the southbound Highway 52 off-ramp
- Signal improvements
- Trail widening and safety improvements on the south side of the bridge

#### HIGHWAY 52/65TH STREET INTERCHANGE PROJECT

The City of Rochester, in partnership with the MnDOT, has prepared an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for the proposed construction of the Highway 52/65th Street Interchange Project in northwest Rochester. The new folded diamond interchange will be constructed using the existing 65th Street bridge and constructing on and off ramps from the north side of 65th Street to Highway 52. Project construction also includes:

- Roadway expansion and improvements along 65th Street between Highway 52 and approximately 0.1 miles west of Freedom Drive
- Realignment of the west frontage road in the interchange's northwest quadrant
- Northbound and southbound Highway 52 auxiliary lanes between 55th Street and 65th Street
- A pedestrian trail along the south side of 65th Street



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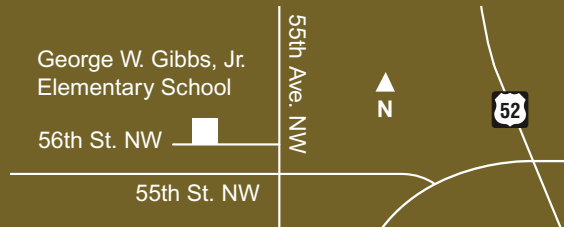
SRF Consulting Group, Inc.  
One Carlson Parkway North, Suite 150  
Minneapolis, MN 55447-4443

### INFORMATIONAL OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

George W. Gibbs, Jr. Elementary School – 5525 56th Street NW

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.



## PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

A public meeting for both proposed projects will be held:

- **Date:** Tuesday, December 6, 2011
- **Time:** 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- **Location:** George W. Gibbs Elementary School  
5525 56th Street NW, Rochester, MN

City of Rochester, MnDOT, and design consultant staff will be available to listen to concerns and answer questions. A brief presentation will begin at **7:00 p.m.** This meeting is also an opportunity to provide formal comments on the Highway 52/65th Street Interchange EAW. The EAW will be available for viewing on November 28 at the following website:

[www.NorthernRochesterStudy.com/documents/](http://www.NorthernRochesterStudy.com/documents/). Written comments can also be submitted by mail following the meeting. All comments must be received by Wednesday, December 28, 2011. Comments received on the EAW will be used by the City and MnDOT to help determine if further environmental study is needed.

## QUESTIONS?

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## NEXT STEPS

### 55TH STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (PHASE I)

- Project Memorandum and Final Design – **Spring 2012**
- Construction Begins – **May 2012**
- Open to Traffic – **November 2012**

### HIGHWAY 52/65TH STREET INTERCHANGE PROJECT

- Environmental Determination and Final Design – **Summer 2012**
- Construction Begins – **April 2013**
- Open to Traffic – **November 2013**

### SUBSEQUENT PROJECT RECOMMENDED BY NRTS

The following improvement projects will be phased over the next 25 years based on future needs and funding availability:

- 55th Street Improvement Project (Phase II): Including the easterly relocation of the East Frontage Road/Bandel Road intersection.
- 55th Street Improvement Project (Phase III): Reconfiguration of the Highway 52/55th Street interchange.
- 55th Street Improvement Project (Phase IV): Upgrade 55th Street to a six-lane divided roadway between the relocated East Frontage Road/Bandel Road intersection and Member's Parkway.
- 65th Street west of Highway 52: Reconstruct 65th Street between 50th Avenue and approximately Freedom Drive.