

Project Name

- I-94 Expansion Project
- Albertville to Monticello – 4 to 6 lanes capacity improvements
 - MN 6th Congressional District, MnDOT District 3

General description of the project and why it is needed.

The goal is to decrease travel time and improve safety with enhanced capacity by providing an additional travel lane to I-94 in each direction from Maple Grove to St. Cloud. To accomplish this, the Coalition provides a strong, united voice to advocate for and address transportation concerns along this corridor. Our efforts have produced real economic results! The completion of Phase 1, from Rogers to St. Michael, has resulted in a 55% reduction in travel delay time through this stretch of road, and close to 3 million square feet of new industrial development. We look forward to seeing the results and benefits that the current planned construction bring. The Project includes reconstructing I-94 westbound travel lanes to include the addition of a third 12-foot-wide westbound travel lane. The proposed typical section includes three 12-foot travel lanes, a 10-foot paved outside shoulder and a paved inside shoulder varying from 4 to 10 feet. The Project generally widens I-94 toward the center median, with exceptions at the east and west end transitions. High-tension cable median barrier will be installed as a temporary safety measure until the eastbound lanes are expanded and a concrete median barrier is installed.

What are the benefits of this project and why is it a priority?

- Crash and severity rates along the corridor are higher than the statewide average, and the segment averages 1.4 accidents per day. Capacity expansion and additional improvements will ensure that our residents, commuters, and transit are safe.
- The capacity expansion projects and additional transportation infrastructure upgrades along the corridor are crucial for attracting needed economic development, resulting in economic growth and local tax benefits.
- Our efforts are producing results! The completion of lane expansion from Rogers to St. Michael has resulted in a 55% reduction in total travel time. Strategic improvements are necessary to ensure that the enhancements to key regional connections are made possible for those living near or traveling through the I-94 West Corridor.

Amount requested for the community project.

\$25 Million

Can the project obligate all appropriated funds within 12 months after enactment?

MnDOT is committed to funding these remaining costs with program adjustments and has provided a letter accompanying this application documenting its commitment.

Estimated start and completion dates.

Construction was assumed to start June 30, 2022 with completion in 2024.

Has the request been submitted to another Subcommittee or Committee this fiscal year? If yes, which one(s)?

N/A

Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds committed to meet match or cost-share requirements for costs related to construction, operations, and maintenance? If so, what is the source and amount of those funds?

The Minnesota Department of Transportation has committed to the remaining cost of \$32 million, as a part of the FY2021 BULID Grant.

Does the project require an environmental review? If so, what is the status and/or outcome of the environmental review and NEPA category of action (if applicable)?

An EA/EAW was completed for the Project and signed by MnDOT and the Minnesota Division FHWA Project Development Engineer in January 2019. The Federal Findings of Fact and Conclusions (FOFC) document is complete and was submitted to FHWA April 12, 2019 by MnDOT with a recommendation that a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed action.

Type of project eligible under 23 USC 133(b):

Highway

Where is the project in the construction process?

The Project is part of a larger vision for the I-94 corridor between Maple Grove and Clearwater. Albertville to Monticello will be the only remaining four-lane segment of I-94 within the 38 miles between Maple Grove and Clearwater. This segment is referred to as "The Gap". Phase 1 of "The Gap" is the focus of this application and includes a westbound 3rd lane expansion and reconstruction of I-94 between Albertville and Monticello with construction scheduled to begin in 2022.

Was the project on a State, tribal or territorial Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or a metropolitan transportation improvement plan (MTIP) as of 12/31/2020? If yes, please provide a link to the plan.

No. A resurfacing project for the segment is part of 10-year CHIP for MnDOT District 3.

Please provide the STIP or TIP ID Number and specify which plan (ex. North Carolina STIP, New York Metropolitan Transportation Council TIP) the ID number comes from.

MnDOT does not use ID numbers in their CHIPS.