Highway 53 Corridor Public Open House 2

AmericInn Hotel – International Falls, MN
April 5th, 2018
6:30–8:00 p.m.
Welcome & Project introduction

Facilitators & Advisory Committee

• Visual Quality Advisory Committee
  Bob Anderson – Mayor
  Ken Anderson – City Administrator
  Ted Brokaw – Street and Water Commissioner
  Gary Skallman – Director of Public Works
  Paul Nevanen – Koochiching Econ. Development Authority
  Tricia Heibel – International Falls Chamber of Commerce

• Design/Consultant Team
  MnDOT District 1 Project Manager – Brian Larson
  MnDOT Land Management Engineer – John Hinzmann
  LHB/Visual Quality Lead – Heidi Bringman, Rachel Johnson
  KLJ/Engineering Lead – Travis Wieber, Jake Chapek
Project introduction

Tonight’s meeting purpose

• Refresher on project & background

• Review of visual quality process to date

• Share preferred roadway layout
  – Geometric Plans
  – Landscape Plans

• Re-affirm conceptual vision of corridor with community

• Upcoming opportunities for input & next steps
• **Project area** – 2.1 miles
  - Memorial Drive to 3rd Street

• **Project Improvements**
  - Pavement resurfacing
  - Lane reconfiguration
  - Storm sewer repair
  - Signal upgrades
  - New ADA compliant walks
  - Streetscape enhancements

• **Purpose of Visual Quality**
  - Establish visual character or the corridor
  - Define key design elements for future streetscape construction

• **Schedule**
  - Design: 2018–2019
  - Construction: Summer 2020
**Project background**

**Corridor influences & previous studies**

**Key Influences:**
- Corridor seen as a Gateway
- Area Natural Resources & Local Industries
- Recreation/Tourism
- Historical Significance
- Physical Barriers
- Local requirements and guidance

**Design Themes:**
- Improve Signage
- Increase green space/pocket parks
- Enhance pedestrian experience (benches, lighting, planters)
- Define & highlight local character

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2007 Gateway Corridor Plan
*(identifies vision & priority needs for the community)*

2008 Design Plan
*(preliminary designs for recommended improvements)*
Visual Quality Process

Engagement Meeting Summaries

VQ Meeting 1 (Sept. 6, 2017)
• Established a Conceptual Vision by clarifying the identity, issues and ideas for the corridor

VQ Meeting 2 (Sept. 27, 2017)
• Identified priorities and must haves for corridor, developed 7 roadway options to present at Public Workshop
Confirmed the conceptual vision of the corridor with the community.

**We heard:**
- More greenspace and trees
- Keep the center turn lane
- Improve consistency throughout the corridor
- Keep the curb cuts to businesses
- Include Northwoods theme
- Desire for wayside rests and other site amenities
- Make it bike friendly
Engagement Meeting Summaries

VQ Meeting 3 (Nov. 21, 2017)

- Selected preferred roadway layout prioritizing:
  - Roadway consistency
  - Greenspace
  - Shared use Path
  - The future legacy of International Falls

VQ Meeting 4 (Jan. 25, 2018)

- Review of roadway layout fit & introduction of streetscape elements.
Preferred Roadway Layout Fit

Highway 53 Corridor
Preferred Roadway Layout Fit

Proposed Geometric Overview
Preferred Roadway Layout

Geometric Plan – Memorial to Crescent

MEMORIAL DR. TO CRESCENT DR., STA. 1118+81.61 TO STA. 1169+19.24

B424 C&G

11' THRU

0.028

10.5' SHLD

VARIES BOULEVARD

SHADED USE PATH

SEE ACCESS RD. TYPICAL SECTION

B424 C&G
Preferred Roadway Layout
Geometric Plan – Crescent to 19th St.

Crescent Dr. to 15th St.,
STA. 1169+19.24 TO STA. 1201+18.13
Preferred Roadway Layout
Geometric Plan – 19th St. to 15th St.

CRESCEINT DR. TO 15TH ST.
STA. 1169+19.24 TO STA. 1201+18.13

B624 C&G
Preferred Roadway Layout

Geometric Plan – 15th St. to 10th St.

14TH ST.  13TH ST.  12TH ST.  11TH ST.  

© T.H. 53 (TH53INPALS)

6' SIDEWALK  9' BOULEVARD  6' SHLD  11' THRU  13' TWO WAY LEFT TURN LANE  11' THRU  6' SHLD

B624 C&G

15TH ST TO 10TH ST
STA. 1201+18.13 TO STA. 1218+36.10

B624 C&G

VARIATION VARIANCE

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Preferred Roadway Layout

Geometric Plan – 11th St. Intersection
Preferred Roadway Layout

Geometric Plan – 11th St. Intersection
Preferred Roadway Layout

Geometric Plan – 10th St. to 7th St.
Preferred Roadway Layout

Geometric Plan – 10th St. to 7th St.
Preferred Roadway Layout

Geometric Plan – 10th St. to 7th St.

8TH ST. TO 7TH ST.
STA. 1218+36.10 TO STA. 1229+25.94

B624 C&G
Preferred Roadway Layout

Geometric Plan – 7th St. to 3rd St.
Preferred Roadway Layout

Geometric Plan – 4th St. (MN 11)
**Preferred Roadway Layout**

**Geometric Plan – 2\textsuperscript{nd} Ave.**

- Preferred roadway layout and geometric plan for 2\textsuperscript{nd} Ave.
- Details include sidewalk width, shoulder width, and future trail.
- Mill bituminous surface.
- STA. 0+00.00 to STA. 8+44.69
Preferred Roadway Layout

Surrounding Context, & Trail Connections
Preferred Roadway Layout

Proposed Landscape Overview
POI Option A
- Stamped Concrete
- 2-sided Kiosk/Welcome to International Falls Sign
- Seat Boulders
- Plantings

Evergreen Backdrop at Gateway
Shared Use Path
Access Rd
Memorial Dr
HWY 53
End of Block Rest
- Stamped Concrete
- Plantings
- Benches
- Info Post (opt A)
- Litter Container

Info Post (opt B)

Shared Use Path

McDonald's

ROW Limits

HWY 53

17th St

Tim Hortons

Freedom
Preferred Roadway Layout

Landscape Section A – A’: 80’ ROW at Crescent Drive
Preferred Roadway Layout

Landscape Section B–B’: 80’ ROW at 19th Street
Preferred Roadway Layout

Landscape Section C–C’: 100’ ROW at 14th Street
Preferred Roadway Layout

Landscape Section D–D’:
60’ ROW at 14th Street
Meeting summary

Next Steps

MnDOT prepares for construction:

➢ Early Notification Letters
➢ Easements
➢ Encroachments
➢ Driveways
➢ Environmental Drilling
So, tell us what do you think?
Please provide feedback on questionnaires

1. Do you agree that the geometric layout & streetscape design prioritizes the overall guiding principles of:
   - Yes
   - No
   - Provides roadway consistency?
   - Increases greenspace?
   - Incorporates a shared-use path?
   - Is considering the future legacy of International Falls?

2. What still needs to change?

3. Do you like the preliminary site amenities and landscape placement?
   - Yes
   - No
   Why or why not?

4. Are any locations missing?
   Comment here or mark on the map.

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HIGHWAY 53 VISUAL QUALITY Public Open House 2
International Falls, Minnesota
April 8th, 2019
Meeting Summary

Upcoming Opportunities for Input

• Check out the website at: http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d1/projects/hwy-53-international-falls/ada.html

• Contact a Visual Quality Advisory Committee Member

Brian Larson
D1 Project Manager
brian.larson@state.mn.us
Additional information
Planning references

- International Falls Gateway Corridor Task Force & ARDC Planning Documents
  - 2007 International Falls Area Gateway Corridor Plan
  - 2008 International Falls Gateway Corridor Design Plan

Thank you!

http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d1/projects/hwy-53-international-falls/ada.html