



# Minnesota Department of Transportation

## Early Notification Memo

District 3  
7694 Industrial Park Road  
Baxter, MN 56425-8096

Telephone: 218/828-5700  
Fax: 218/828-5814

**Date:** July 30, 2010

**To:** (Distribution list as indicated by an "X")

	Person – area of concern	Requested Response
X	Peter Leete (MS 620) – DNR Questionnaire	See requested response section
X	Jason Alcott (MS 620) –Threatened and Endangered Species, Federal	
X	Joe Hudak (MS 620) – Cultural Resources Review	
X	Keri Aufdencamp (MS 620) – (MS 620) Contaminated Property	
	Mark Vogel (MS 620) – Regulated Waste	
X	Tim Mitchell (MS 315) – Bikeways and Pedestrians	
	Mel Roseen (MS 660) – Noise	Noise Evaluation
	Debra Sorenson (MS 410) – Aeronautics	Airport Influence Area Evaluation
	Jim Weatherhead (MS 470) – Railroads (cc: Susan Aylesworth)	See requested response section
X	Paul Voigt (MS 620) – Vegetation	
X	<a href="#">Chris Cromwell</a> – FHWA Area Engineer	FYI
X	<a href="#">Cheryl Martin</a> – FHWA Environmental Program Manager	
X	Jennie Ross – Mn/DOT Environmental Services	
	Anjani (Minnie) Milkert – (MS 696) - Value Engineering	See requested response section
X	Keith Molnau – (MS 610) Bridge Office	

**From:** Kathryn J. McFadden, Licensed Landscape Architect  
Office of Technical Support  
Site Development Unit

**Subject:** Request for information and early coordination  
TIGER II Proposal (TH 169)  
Garrison Main Street Rehabilitation Project

### Request for information and early coordination from DNR and Mn/DOT functional groups

The District 3 Project Development Unit is requesting your participation in the early development phase of the above-referenced highway project. Information available at this time in regard to the project may be limited, therefore Mn/DOT recognizes that the responses you provide are preliminary and may change after reviews of other documents or if the highway plan changes. However, your early input is necessary to assure that all environmental concerns and other interests relating to this project are considered in the development of this project.

This memorandum provides the following:

- Requested response
- general project information
- project description
- attachments

Please reply by: **08/20/2010**

If this date is not possible, please reply and provide an estimate of when this review can be completed.  
 For additional information, please contact the person listed below.

**Project Contact:**

Name: Kathryn McFadden, LLA  
 Title: Landscape Architect Senior  
 Address: Office of Technical Support  
           Site Development Unit  
 Phone: (651) 366-4641  
 Fax: (651) 366-4699  
 E-mail: kathryn.mcfadden@state.mn.us

**Requested Response (applicable only if marked with an X):**

<b>DNR Questionnaire (DNR Review and Determination)</b>	
X	Work outside the shoulder P.I. (point of intersection).
	Change in culvert invert or culvert size.
	Erosion control or water pollution control work.
	Work in a cut section that changes access or installs turn lanes.
X	Impacts to: Wetlands Protected waters Protected prairies
<b>Cultural Resources Review and Determination</b>	
X	Request for Archaeological/Historical Review to meet federal and state requirements.
	Request for Archaeological/Historical Review, state only (state funded project, with no likelihood of federal funds).
<b>Contaminated Property</b>	
	Project involves acquisition of right-of-way through easement, fee, condemnation, or excess.
	Project involves grading and/or excavation, including minor work (e.g., turn lanes, signal footings, sign posts, culvert replacement).
X	Project is in or near a commercial/industrial area.
	District has information that indicates potentially contaminated sites are located along the corridor (e.g., filling stations, dumps, manufacturing, scrap yards, dry cleaners, etc.).
	Project requires groundwater dewatering.
	Project likely will produce waste that cannot be turned over to the construction contractor as excess material (e.g., solid or hazardous waste, sandblasting sand, bridge demolition, treated lumber [including noise walls], asbestos-containing materials, lead paint, etc.).
	Other:

<b>Regulated Waste</b>			
	Project will include building demolition or relocation.		
	Project will include bridge demolition or deck replacement.		
	Project will include bridge painting or painting of any steel structure.		
	Project will include acquisition of property with above ground discarded regulated materials or waste.		
<b>Bikeways and Pedestrians Review</b>			
X	A Level 1 or 2 Geometric Layout will be prepared for this project. Please provide comments on the preliminary/draft layout.		
	Attached	Separate transmittal	Other (explain):Project involves removal of existing sidewalk, with replacement to 10' width to accommodate bicycles, golf carts, etc. Set back from road with street trees
<b>Railroad Coordination and Railroad Agreement</b>			
	There are potential railroad issues at or near the following locations:		
	<b>Location</b> (insert rows as needed)	<b>Reference Point</b>	<b>Potential issue</b>
	(Example) NB TH 65 at 122 <sup>nd</sup> St.	169+00.700 to 170+00.100	Construction within 50 feet of tracks
<b>Vegetation</b>			
X	This project may impact vegetation. Please provide recommendations for vegetation listed at the sites below:		
	<b>Location</b> (insert rows as needed)	<b>Reference Point</b>	<b>Potential impact</b>
	Garrison Concourse and Main Street	233.75	Restoration of lake edge native vegetation, impacts to existing turf grass, additional trees
	Whitefish Creek Bridge	227.7	Disturbance to existing ground cover
	Garrison Pedestrian Underpass	233.26	Disturbance to existing groundcover
<b>Water Resources Review</b>			
	Please provide a list of any drainage work (culvert repair or replacement, ditch cleaning, catch basin repair, etc.) planned as part of this project. Indicate why the work is needed and provide the location of the drainage work.		
<b>Traffic</b>			
	If purpose of project is safety (HSIP), please provide HSIP worksheet(s) for alternatives considered.		
	If purpose of project is capacity, please provide LOS analysis (write-up) for alternatives considered.		
	For resurfacing projects, please identify crash clusters and crash problems; where crash clusters and problems exist, provide potential solutions, and whether those solutions will be included in the project scope.		
<b>District Planning</b>			
	Please send a paper copy (or email a scanned copy) of the funding screen for this project and all tied projects.		
<b>Threatened &amp; Endangered Species, Federal</b>			
X	Project includes federal funds; please obtain a T & E letter from USFWS.		
<b>Value Engineering</b>			
	Total project cost has the potential of being greater than \$25M (or \$20M with a bridge). This includes Design, ROW, Agreements, Construction, etc. costs.		

**General Project Information:**

(double-click check box and select "default value"=checked)

<b>Trunk Highway:</b> 169/18		<b>S.P:</b> TIGER II proposal	<b>S.A.P:</b>	<b>Letting Date:</b>
<b>County(s):</b> Crow Wing/Mille Lacs			<b>City(s):</b> Garrison, St. Alban's Bay	
<b>District:</b> 3	<b>Twp:</b> 44N 43N	<b>Range:</b> 28W 27W	<b>Section(s):</b> 13 7	
<b>Location:</b>				
<b>Reference Points:</b> <b>From:</b> 227.7 <b>To:</b> 234.3				
<b>Funding Types</b>	<b>Federal Funds:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		<b>State Funds Only:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Project Stage:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Scoping <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pre-Design				
<b>Environmental Document:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CATEX <input type="checkbox"/> EAW <input type="checkbox"/> EA/EAW <input type="checkbox"/> EIS <input type="checkbox"/> None				
<b>Geometric Layout and Topographic Plan Availability:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Available <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not yet available				
<b>Tribal Lands:</b> Is any part of project within a reservation? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, name of reservation:				
<b>Bridges:</b>	Bridge No: 3355 Feature Crossed: Whitefish Creek	Bridge No: 5265 Feature Crossed: Historic Pedestrian Underpass		
<b>Are there Borrow Areas or Disposal Areas associated with this project?</b> No (If yes, attach portion of USGS 7.5 minute quad map indicating location, provide name of quad map) <b>Borrow Areas:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Twp____ Range____ Section(s)____ ) <b>Disposal Areas:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Twp____ Range____ Section(s)____ ) <input type="checkbox"/> New area <input type="checkbox"/> within limits of existing area <input type="checkbox"/> expanded portion of existing area				
<b>Current Land Use:</b> (agricultural, residential, commercial, park, etc.) Bridges, Commercial, Park				
<b>Does project require a federal permit?</b> (list agency and permit, e.g. Corps of Engineers 404 permit) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Agency/permit:				
<b>Public Involvement</b>	A public hearing or public meeting will be scheduled for this project: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

**The project will likely include:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resurfacing / rehabilitation	<input type="checkbox"/> Realignment	<input type="checkbox"/> Widening of roadway or shoulder
<input type="checkbox"/> Grading for curve correction	<input type="checkbox"/> Ditch grading	<input type="checkbox"/> Major grading
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bridge demolition, rehabilitation or replacement	<input type="checkbox"/> Bypass lane or turn lane construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Wetland fill or excavation
<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent stream diversion	<input type="checkbox"/> Temporary stream diversion	<input type="checkbox"/> DNR stream/water crossings
<input type="checkbox"/> Work outside existing R/W	<input type="checkbox"/> Work outside existing shoulder	<input type="checkbox"/> Elimination of bicycle access
<input type="checkbox"/> Culvert replacement	<input type="checkbox"/> Culvert extension or lining	<input type="checkbox"/> Stormwater pond construction
<input type="checkbox"/> Right of way acquisition	<input type="checkbox"/> Relocations	<input type="checkbox"/> Temporary easement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guardrail replacement	<input type="checkbox"/> Guardrail improvement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signals / lighting
<input type="checkbox"/> Building demolition/relocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Erosion repair	<input type="checkbox"/> Snowdrift elimination
<input type="checkbox"/> MS4 permit requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWPPP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Structure Rehabilitation

**Project Description**

The tiny town of Garrison, located on the western shore of Lake Mille Lacs, is a key tourist stop along the heavily travelled Hwy 169 corridor to the Central Minnesota Lakes Region. This project includes restoration of the community's significant historic structures, shoreline water quality improvements designed to sustain and improve the quality of the public waters of the state, conversion of existing roadway lighting to LED fixtures reducing energy consumption by over 30% per fixture, solar energy installation at Garrison Truck Station, and design and deployment of a "Cell Phone Tour" web-based interactive interpretive tool, a multi-modal trail along TH 169 to encourage non-vehicular transportation and health.

**Project Need**

The massive historic stone Garrison Concourse is the only tourist attraction in this town of 229 people. Located on Garrison's main thoroughfare, the Concourse has been a landmark stop for travelers since the 1930s and is the focal point that links the town's business district to Lake Mille Lacs, the second-largest inland lake in the state. The community members call it a "centerpiece and an important part of the community". Preserving and restoring the concourse and two associated historic stone bridges is identified by area residents and business leaders as: "vital" to the community. In addition, the residents and business owners state the properties "attracts thousands of people each year"; and "promotes tourism which is sorely needed now more than ever in this challenging economy". The Garrison - Lake Mille Lacs area tourist information center is located on the Concourse. The Concourse is in extremely poor condition and badly in need of repair/restoration to improve the overall visual image of the town.

Removal of a 4' sidewalk on the north side of TH 169 north of the 169/18 intersection, and replacement with a 10' width concrete trail to accommodate bicycles, golf carts and pedestrians and extending this trail as far as the Marina will encourage multi-modal transportation and reduce vehicle emission as residents and visitors will have more comfortable access along 169. This walk will be set back from the curb enough to provide for street trees for cooling shade along the trail. It is hoped that through the increased use of alternative forms of transportation, there will be some relief to the severe traffic congestion in the area.

Shoreline stabilization and native plantings along with restoration of the 1930s historic landscapes will be incorporated at all three sites to improve water quality and reduce the carbon footprint at all three sites. In addition, LED fixtures will reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions by reducing per fixture consumption. Solar energy installation at the Garrison Truck Station will also contribute to the decreased use of carbon based fuels and provide

These improvements are designed to stabilize and improve the environmental quality and economic stability of this small town. The purpose for this project is to restore these key tourist- and transportation-related properties

**Additional Comments or Information**

**List of Attachments:** (check all that are included with this Early Notification Memorandum)

- Project Location Map
- USGS 7.5 minute Quad Map(s) – showing project termini (and borrow/disposal areas, if applicable)
- Aerial photograph of project area:       Attached       Under separate cover       N/A
- Preliminary layout or draft layout:       Attached       Under separate cover       N/A
- Geometric Design Table       Draft       Final       Not Available
- Other maps or attachments: