

Hwy 60 Windom Corridor Study Open House Phase 1 Summary

Last revised 3/20/2020

Overview

The Hwy 60 Windom Corridor Study held an open house on March 9, 2020 at the Windom Community Center, 1750 Cottonwood Lake Dr. The purpose of the open house was to introduce the project to the public, gain initial feedback on the corridor needs and community values, and listen to key issues and concerns.

The open house was promoted through a variety of communications, including:

- **Postcard mailing** to 1,227 properties within a quarter mile of the corridor
- **Flyer in city's utility bill mailing** to approximately 5,000 businesses and residences
- **Boosted Facebook ad** targeted to Windom's zip code, 56101
- **GovDelivery email** sent to project email subscriber list
- **News release** published and sent to local newspapers, Cottonwood County Citizen and The Worthington Globe
- **Newspaper ad** in the local papers
- **Social media posts** on the South Central MnDOT Facebook group and Twitter

Seventy-five people signed in at the open house (see sign-in sheets on page 7). However, an estimated 95 people attended the open house.

Meeting Format

The meeting was conducted in an open house format. Staff utilized display boards, aerial maps of the corridor, and an interactive priorities exercise to communicate the project's purpose and goals, and collect feedback from the community. Project staff facilitated discussion to collect substantive comments from attendees and answer question. A comment sheet was also provided at the open house for people who preferred to write their comments (see page 4).



Figure 1: Open house attendees review display boards

Highlights

Highlights from the open house include:

1. Open house attendees identified **improvements to traffic flow and business and neighborhood access** as their top priorities for Hwy 60 reconstruction (see Table 1).
2. Open house attendees commonly reported the challenges in the corridor are **speeding truck traffic, difficulty and delays making left turns and insufficient pedestrian crossings**.

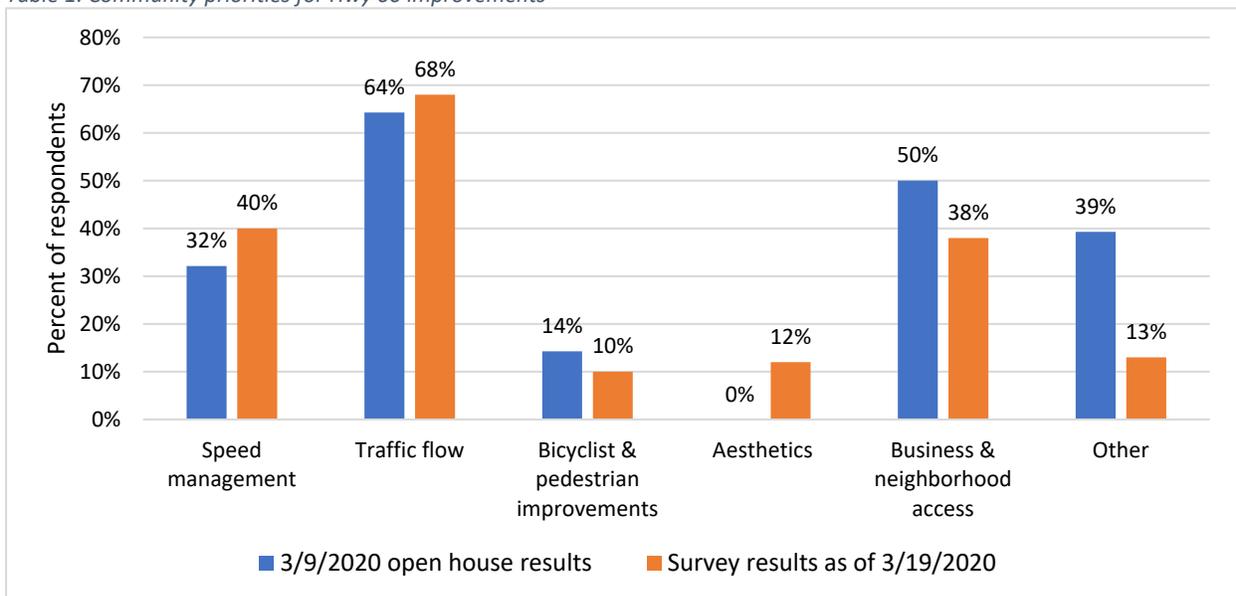
The following sections summarize the community feedback from the open house.

Community Priorities

Open house attendees were asked to identify their top priorities for improvements, and the responses were relatively consistent with the online survey results (see Table 1). However, open house attendees selected business and neighborhood access and 'other' more often than survey participants, and no open house attendees selected aesthetics as a priority. Several attendees selected 'other' as their priority for improvements. Those who selected 'other' wrote in:

- Closing side streets
- Reduce access
- We need a bypass
- Safe crossing at 16th St
- Left turn lanes
- Safer road conditions
- Truck noise
- Noise reduction
- Roundabout Hwy 60/71
- Bypass

Table 1: Community priorities for Hwy 60 improvements*



*Respondents could select up to two priorities. Total percent of respondents do not equal 100.

Issues and Opportunities

- Many people reported the high semi-truck volume in the corridor is an issue because of speeding and running red lights. People also said drivers taking left turns on Hwy 60 are unable to see oncoming traffic around the semi-trucks.
- Many people stated it is challenging to take left turns throughout the corridor and drivers can experience long delays waiting for a break in traffic to make a left turn. Left turns are particularly challenging at:
 - North and south Hwy 60/Hwy 71
 - Hwy 60/16th St

- Hwy 60/13th St
 - Hwy 60/12th St
 - Hwy 60/10th St
 - Hwy 60/9th St
 - Hwy 60/Hwy 62
 - Hwy 60/1st Ave
- Many people stated they feel unsafe walking or biking along the corridor because of the high truck volume, speeding traffic and lack of separation between sidewalks and traffic lanes.
 - Many people said crossing the corridor on foot and on bike is unsafe, even at marked crosswalks on 6th St and 10th St because trucks will run red lights and drivers won't yield to pedestrians. People stated they would like to cross Hwy 60 at 16th St to access the ballfields and recreation center.
 - Many people reported congestion is a problem at Hwy 60/16th St and N Hwy 60/71 particularly during weekdays between 3-4 p.m. when Toro and the hospital have a shift changes and the school lets out.
 - Several people reported that vehicles stacking in medians waiting to take a left turn is dangerous, particularly at north and south Hwy 60/71.
 - Some people said the high number of accesses or driveways inhibit traffic flow and create safety problems.
 - Some people said there is insufficient lighting in the corridor, particularly on N Hwy 60 near AmericInn, Phat Pheasant Pub and Jack Slades Steakhouse.
 - Some people said truck noise is an issue for the community.
 - Some people said there are sight line issues for turning onto Hwy 60 where businesses are located near the street, like Town N Country Appliance on 10th St.



Figure 2: Open house attendees identify issues and opportunities

Suggestions for Improvements

- Many residents expressed support for a bypass while many people who identified themselves as business owners said they opposed.
- Many people support adding center left turn lanes but some expressed concern for taking local businesses to expand ROW.
- Several people said they support roundabouts in the corridor, while others opposed the idea due to lack of driver education and concern for truck accidents.
- Several people recommended improvements to pedestrian facilities, including adding a boulevard or shoulder to separate sidewalks from traffic, adding sidewalks to both sides of the river bridge, improving Hwy 60/Hwy 62 crossing and adding crosswalk and pedestrian refuge at Hwy 60/16th St.
- Some people expressed the need to add a designated truck parking in town.
- Some people suggest adding four-lanes on Hwy 71 to reduce congestion.

COMMENTS



Your feedback is important for the success of this project. Please record your comments in the space below and leave them at the meeting or email rlieser@zanassoc.com.

I heard good comments from different people at this event - bus driver, truck, general drivers

If Roundabouts are part of the rebuild project, make sure they are big enough for both lanes of traffic and not like Worthington where a car + truck cannot go through at the same time.

Need a traffic light at the intersection with 16th Street. Aesthetics is the least of my priorities for a rebuilt road. This is a Major traffic Corridor + traffic flow is biggest concern

Safety + speeds are #1 Priority. Pedestrian access to both sides (crossing the road) also needs to be a high priority. Better signage or something at Hwy 62 intersection, 10th Street Intersection + 16th Street intersection. Education for pedestrians also - like not to cross at 9th Street, but instead go up to 10th Street to cross at stoplight.

COMMENTS



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ROUND A BANTS YES BUT NOT LIKE
WANTINGTON, THOSE ARE TOO TIGHT.
71/60 NORTH AND SOUTH
16TH-60
ALSO TURNING RIGHT AND GO OFF BOTH 12TH AND
13TH STREET IS TIGHT WITH A SCHOOL BUS
ALMOST INTO ONCOMING TRAFFIC

COMMENTS



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Traffic flow - Move by-pass far away so that the city not die

COMMENTS



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Hwy 21 Windom - Iowa 9 4 Lane
Hwy 71 4 Lane Toro - North Industrial Park - Airport Road
More/Better Lighting
Extend Lighting Further out of Windom in all directions.
Well Lit speed changes.
Improve Drainage
Modern Stoplights
No Roundabouts
Beautiful any way you can

COMMENTS



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Roundabouts - Working four roundabouts have cause a few issues w/ commercial traffic - ~~ex~~ if that is a recommendation, make sure they are engineered correctly
By-pass - don't even consider it!!! You would kill ~~Windom~~ commerce if you did. City CANNOT maintain current infrastructure!!! Making them responsible for a 4-~~5~~ lane through Windom will cost Taxpayers Millions to fix what's currently broken.
Quit with the Band-aids Repair with a plan to Maintain!

Sign-in Sheets



Open House Sign-in Sheet

March 9, 2020

Name	Business/Organization	Email and/or Phone Number	Want to sign-up for email updates? <input type="checkbox"/>
Steve Nashy	City of Windom	Steve.Nashy@windommn.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rod Byam	CITY WINDOM	rodbyam@windomnet.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Alan Conner	Runnings	My07@runnings.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tony Nichols	Tony's Backhoe		<input type="checkbox"/>
Robert & Marles Lange	825-19 th St Windom 56101	marleslange@msn.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
John Berge	688 Miller Windom		<input type="checkbox"/>
James Eigenberg	P.O. Box 256 Heron Lake MN 56157	(507) 368-5331	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ted Winter	27750 1100th St Fulda MN	tedwinter@windomnet.com	By Pass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
JOHN SWENSON	508 River Street Dr	gfcs_guru@hotmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Brandon Roskamp			<input type="checkbox"/>



Open House Sign-in Sheet

March 9, 2020

Name	Business/Organization	Email and/or Phone Number	Want to sign-up for email updates? <input type="checkbox"/>
Nestor & Patti Palm		507-831-4949	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dave Field		507-822-0870	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jack Braun	Runners	507-220-0957	<input type="checkbox"/>
Larry Marshall - Jeanne	DQ	507-925-8086	<input type="checkbox"/>
Diane Kruger	Myself	507-831-3447	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ron Libadon	myself	507-822-0876	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dick Betty Wipf		507-822-0287	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paul Thom / Pastor Thom	Longport Lumber	507-822-2100	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lyle Symons / Buddell Symons	Farmer	507-822-0987 507-822-2366	<input type="checkbox"/>
Edwin M. Iversberg	Pastor	507-822-0183	<input type="checkbox"/>



Open House Sign-in Sheet

March 9, 2020

Name	Business/Organization	Email and/or Phone Number	Want to sign-up for email updates? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bob Messer	Messer Machine Mfg	507-831-1904	<input type="checkbox"/>
KERMIT TWAIT		507 831 3530	<input type="checkbox"/>
Donna Grayley	C. County Commissioner	507-822-0403	<input type="checkbox"/>
PETE ^{Fox} KOEP	Koep Implement	507-831-3866	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael Wojahn	Farm Bureau	507-831 3161	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sharon Espstad		509 822 0913	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rad + Deb Byan		507-822-3882	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rosemary Bruce-White	Southwest Regional Development Commission	rosemary@surdc.org	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GEOF JOHNSON	BOSS MAN	507 830 0170 <small>geoff57 AT GMAIL COM</small>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ray + Deb Safwadel		831-5546	<input type="checkbox"/>



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Name	Business/Organization	Email and/or Phone Number	Want to sign-up for email updates? <input type="checkbox"/>
Doug Vande Hoef	City of Windom		<input type="checkbox"/>
Mary Olson	Area Med. Clinic	mary.olson@area.org	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bruce Carolyn Slacum	City of Windom		<input type="checkbox"/>
Rahn Larson	City of Windom (newspaper)		<input type="checkbox"/>
Jameson Palm	Windom Resident		<input type="checkbox"/>
Marilyn Vane	Windom Resident		<input type="checkbox"/>
Robert Lange	Agriculture		<input type="checkbox"/>
Jenny Quade	Windom City Council		<input type="checkbox"/>
Jim Rosenkranz	Windom Floor & Sleep		<input type="checkbox"/>
Kevin Stevens	Cottonwood County Comm.		<input type="checkbox"/>



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Name	Business/Organization	Email and/or Phone Number	Want to sign-up for email updates? <input type="checkbox"/>
Ed Hocke		831-5642	<input type="checkbox"/>
MICHAEL Blyam	TAX PAYER	822-9346	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mike Adrion		507-427-3000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Denise Nichols		507-831-1844	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duane Pingleton	Retired	831-3882	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dominic Jones	Windom Mayor	dominicredrock@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Joel & Julie Higley	Higley Ford	Joel.higley@higleyford.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bob Brown			<input type="checkbox"/>
Ted Brewster			<input type="checkbox"/>
Donna Luda	Retired	dluda@windom-nd.com	<input type="checkbox"/>



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March 9, 2020

Name	Business/Organization	Email and/or Phone Number	Want to sign-up for email updates? <input type="checkbox"/>
Tom White	Window Laundromat	tewhite@windownet.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tom & Brenda Besch			<input type="checkbox"/>
Steve Johnson			<input type="checkbox"/>
Keith & Cindy Bloomgren			<input type="checkbox"/>
Wendell Klassen			<input type="checkbox"/>
Dirk Abraham	KDOM Radio	news@windowradio.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BRUCE HORKEY	WOOD'S PARTS	woodandparts@yahoo.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>



Open House Sign-in Sheet

March 9, 2020

Name	Business/Organization	Email and/or Phone Number	Want to sign-up for email updates? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tom Myrvold	Country Place	507-822-1165	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jan Bartsch	Printe		<input type="checkbox"/>
+1 Reia Chantharak	Mtn. Lake		<input type="checkbox"/>
Dave J Kren	Bergen		<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>