

US Highway 10
West Fargo Main Avenue
I-94 to 45th Street East

Public Hearing



Speedway Event Center
September 20, 2007
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Formal Presentation at 5:30 p.m.

Project Website: www.westfargomain.com

Public Comments

Written comment on the August 2007 EA must be received or postmarked no later than October 5, 2007 to be included in the final environmental document. Please mail comments to Chad M. Orn, Program Manager, Design Division, ND Department of Transportation, 608 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58505-0700 or Email: corn@nd.gov with "West Fargo Public Hearing" in the e-mail subject heading.

Copies of the August 2007 EA are available for public viewing at the following locations:

West Fargo City Hall 800 4 th Avenue East West Fargo, ND 58078	NDDOT Fargo District Office 508 38 th Street South Fargo, ND 58603
West Fargo City Engineer c/o Moore Engineering, Inc. 1042 14 th Avenue East West Fargo, ND 58078	Federal Highway Administration 1471 Interstate Loop Bismarck, ND 58503
West Fargo Public Library 109 3 rd Street East West Fargo, ND 58078	Cass County Highway Department 1201 Main Avenue West West Fargo, ND 58078

This Public Hearing is being conducted by the ND Department of Transportation in conjunction with the city of West Fargo and Cass County. The Public Hearing is designed to allow for public comment, which is required for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970 and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.



Alternatives/Options Developed and Project Cost Estimates

The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT), the city of West Fargo and Cass County prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) completed in August 2007 that evaluated alternatives and options for Main Avenue (US 10), from I-94 to 45th Street East in West Fargo, North Dakota.

Due to the diversity in land use throughout the corridor, the corridor was divided into three segments: Segment 1 (I-94 to 6th Street West), Segment 2 (6th Street West to 5th Street East) and Segment 3 (5th Street East to 45th Street East). For each of the segments, build alternatives and options were developed, as well as the no action alternative. All alternatives and options would require temporary and/or permanent right-of-way.

<u>West Fargo Main Avenue Summary of Alternatives and Options</u>		
Alternative	Description	Range of Approximate Cost*
Segment 1 Alternatives - I-94 to 6th Street West		
S1-A	Flush median with north frontage road	\$10.7 to \$17.0 million
S1-B	Raised median with north frontage road	\$10.2 to \$16.6 million
S1-C	Raised median with direct access	\$9.8 to \$15.3 million
<i>All alternatives include an option to realign 8th Street West with County Road 19</i>		
Segment 2 Alternatives – 6th Street West to 5th Street East		
S2-A	Flush median with south frontage road	\$8.5 to \$12.6 million
S2-B	Flush median with diagonal parking turnout	\$8.4 to \$12.5 million
S2-C	Raised median with parallel parking turnout	\$8.6 to \$12.3 million
S2-D	Raised median with on-street parking	\$8.3 to \$11.9 million
<i>All alternatives include three options to realign 6th Street NW</i>		
Segment 3 Alternatives – 5th Street East to 45th Street East		
S3-A	Raised median with frontage road sections	\$11.8 to \$17.0 million
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative 3A includes an option at 17th Street East 		
S3-B	Raised median with six lane section	\$11.5 to \$14.4 million
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative 3B includes two options at 17th Street East 		
<i>All alternatives include an option to modify 9th Street East and an option to modify the north frontage road between 9th Street East and 17th Street East</i>		

* Includes right-of-way and roadway costs. Costs for the build options were included in all applicable alternatives, thus giving the range of costs. Annual maintenance and operational costs are not incorporated into the approximate cost.

Environmental Assessment Phase and Timeline

The purpose of the West Fargo Main Avenue project is to improve the roadway deficiencies to meet NDDOT guidelines/standards for the facility type and to improve the safety and operational characteristics of the roadway. A number of deficiencies along the project corridor drive the need for the proposed reconstruction of Main Avenue including:

- Deteriorated pavement
- Poor intersection geometrics
- Uncontrolled access
- Inadequate drainage
- Lack of pedestrian/bicycle facilities

Due to the potential impacts to the human and natural environment associated with this project, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the NDDOT, the city of West Fargo, and Cass County, determined that an Environmental Assessment (EA) be prepared to assist them in reaching decisions regarding this project.

An EA is a concise document that discloses the potential impacts of a proposed project and the Federal actions that may be taken in regard to that project. It contains information regarding the existing environmental conditions in the project area, as well as an evaluation of both the adverse and beneficial environmental impacts associated with the proposed project. The major components of the environmental process include:

- Define the purpose and need for the project
- Identify the reasonable alternatives to be evaluated
- Identify the existing conditions
- Evaluate the potential impacts of the alternatives
- Develop potential mitigation measures
- Prepare Environmental Assessment (EA)
- Provide public and agency review
- Conduct a public hearing
- Prepare the final environmental document, including responses to comments on EA
- Obtain environmental clearance from the FHWA

The project is tentatively scheduled as follows:

- Completion of final environmental document, winter 2007/2008
- Plans completion date, winter 2008/2009
- Begin construction, spring 2009

The project schedule may change pending the availability of funding and issues that may arise.