

## Frequently Asked Questions:

### 1. Why are trail and crossing improvements being considered along County Highway 63 (Delaware Avenue) between TH 62 and Marie Avenue?

Dakota County completed a pedestrian and bicycle study in 2018 and School Travel Safety Assessment in 2021. The studies identified a need for filling a trail gap in the County's regional trail system along the east side of Delaware Avenue and the need for safer pedestrian access to Two River's High School. This project provides an opportunity to address both needs and provide safe, multi-modal transportation options to all area destinations.

### 2. How will removal of the center left turn lane affect traffic along Delaware Avenue?

The project team recently collected traffic count data to understand traffic volumes and turning counts at the intersections and school driveways in the project area. Additional traffic analysis is underway, utilizing this traffic volume data to further study the removal of the shared left turn lane and traffic operations at the school driveways. Dakota County's 2040 transportation plan does not generally identify consideration for a three-lane roadway until average daily traffic (ADT) volumes exceed 10,000. Current traffic volumes on Delaware Avenue are approximately 6,500. Additional information on the traffic analysis will be provided at the second open house in the fall of 2023.

### 3. How will this project address concerns regarding high vehicle speeds along Delaware Avenue?

Speed data will be collected along Delaware Avenue in Spring to better understand typical vehicle operating speeds. We anticipate the proposed roadway narrowing and pedestrian crossing/median improvements may contribute to lower vehicle speeds on Delaware. Dakota County is also planning to complete a school speed zone study in this area after implementation of the crossing and trail improvements. Outcomes of this speed zone study may include a reduced speed limit near the school or other improvements. More information on the speed data collection and next steps toward addressing concerns about high vehicle speeds will be provided at the second open house.

### 4. Do the proposed improvements (Option 4) still require modifications to driveways and tree removals?

The project team is currently working on preliminary design of the recommended improvements. We anticipate that most of the tree impacts will be eliminated with Option 4. In addition, modifications to residential driveways that access Delaware Avenue will be limited. Affected residents will be individually contacted in 2023 and anyone with questions or concerns should reach out to the County's project manager (contact information available on the project website).

### 5. When will more information regarding construction be available?

Information regarding construction schedule and impacts to traffic operations will be communicated at the second open house in Fall of 2023. We anticipate the majority of construction activities will occur after school is closed for summer break in the Spring/Summer of 2024.

### 6. How is this project being coordinated with the future project on Delaware Avenue to the north?

A reconstruction of Delaware Avenue from Marie Avenue to TH 149 (Dodd Road) is programmed for 2025, with the design process scheduled to begin in late 2023. This corridor is also planned to have trail and/or sidewalk on both sides of the roadway to improve safety and accessibility for all users. The corridor handles similar vehicular traffic volumes and has similar residential land use, therefore the reconstructed roadway is proposed to have a similar design as the segment South of Marie. More details and public engagement opportunities will be identified as the design process begins later this year.