2013 Project of the Year

College Drive Reconstruction
Brainerd, MN

Presented by:
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Layout
College Drive Reconstruction
Baxter / Brainerd / Crow Wing County, Minnesota
Pre-Existing Conditions

- One of three east-west Mississippi River crossings
- Corridor connects Brainerd High School with Central Lakes College
- Three-lane continuous flow managed for mobility, not access
- Significant delays at approaches and excessive crash rates
- 1986 20-year projected ADT 1,300; actual 2006 ADT 13,000
- No pedestrian or bicycle accommodation
Public Involvement

- Established Project Management Team (PMT)
- Involved stakeholders and property owners
- Held several open houses
- Press releases for design and construction
- Public information and project contacts website
- Weekly construction meetings involved stakeholders
- Worked with Cuyuna Lakes Regional Trail Group
- Education on roundabouts (first in City of Brainerd)
Project Objectives (Identified by PMT)

- Preserve travel times through corridor
- Increase capacity while being sensitive to the environment
- Improve access and safety at critical locations
- Accommodate pedestrian and multimodal facilities
- Create an aesthetically pleasing corridor (traffic calming)
- Improve bridge approach panels and channel erosion
Design Elements

• Four-lane divided
• Three roundabouts and two signal systems
• Backage road to eliminate apartment entrances
• Retaining walls
Design Elements

• Pedestrian and bicycle facilities – bridge deck modifications
• Bridge improvements also solved erosion problems in the abutment area
Design Elements

- Pedestrian deterrents and mid-block crossings
- Storm sewer improvements
- Extensive utility relocations
Funding

- Project is on the Municipal and County State Aid system
- Included 429 assessment process for property owners
- Project funding included the use of ARRA, STIP, and Enhancement Funds from FHWA
- Use and advancement of Local State Aid moneys
- Full project oversight by FHWA; spot inspections
Construction

• Constructed under traffic
• Proactive public relations and notifications
• Proactive approach to erosion control and NPDES requirements
• Proactive responses to adverse weather conditions
Lessons Learned – Project Results

- The state can petition as an “owner” under 429
- Eminent Domain – “cost to cure” on acquisitions
- Crash rates and crash severity significantly reduced
- Project objectives were realized
- Broad community acceptance of roundabouts
Acknowledgements

Public Partners

• Central Lakes College
• Brainerd School District
• MnDOT – Office of State Aid
• Crow Wing County
• City of Baxter
• FHWA
• MPCA
Acknowledgements

• **WSB & Associates**
  – Project scoping and facilitations
  – Preliminary and final designs
  – Construction observation
  – Material sampling and testing oversight
  – Contract administration
  – Project finals

• **Westwood**
  – Surveys
  – Storm sewer/stormwater management design
  – Landscape architecture/irrigation

• **Braun Intertec**
  – Plant inspection
  – Material sampling and testing

• **Anderson Brothers Construction**
  – General contractor
Acknowledgements

*City of Brainerd*

- Mayor and City Council
- Mark Ostgarden, City Planner
- Jesse Freihammer, Assistant City Engineer
- Street and Sewer Department
- Brainerd Public Utilities
Thank you!

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