TH 169/CH 3 Area Study

Study Years:
2008-2010

Study Area:
Intersection of CH 3 and TH 169

Partners:
- City of Belle Plaine
- Mn/DOT
- Scott County

Board Approval Date:
- City of Belle Plaine 9/7/2010
- Scott County 11/30/2010

Related Studies:
- TH 169 Corridor Management Plan (2002)
- TH 169 Belle Plaine Sub-Area Plan (2003)

Need/Purpose:
The Trunk Highway (TH) 169 at County Highway (CH) 3 Grade Separation Study evaluates the grade separation options and the long-term roadway vision for the southern Belle Plaine area. The study reevaluated the recommendation for an interchange at CH 3 or if an overpass is more appropriate, given current travel patterns, economic conditions, and interchange spacing guidelines. The intersection of CH 3 and TH 169 is only spaced one mile from the TH 25/TH 169 interchange, and the concern is that spacing interchanges this close may not serve the City's needs for long-term build out or the larger regional transportation system needs.

Key Policy Recommendations:
The study determined that Concept 2AA was the recommended alternative. Concept 2AA provides access to TH 169 at or near CH 3, includes a bridge over TH 169 at the existing CH 3 intersection and access to and from TH 169 would be provided with interim right-in/right-out access. The interim access would remain as long as acceptable operation and safety parameters are maintained. As part of the study a draft Level 2 Mn/DOT staff, approved layout was prepared with a cost estimate. The City desires to have pedestrian/bicycle facilities added to the proposed bridge to replace the existing underpass.

Benefits of the preferred concept include:
- Improving the condition of existing transportation facilities and systems by providing needed cross community connections to serve the residential, industrial, and commercial growth areas of the City.
- Preserves the investment by Mn/DOT on the TH 169 corridor, as well as the overall transportation network by investing in an improvement to preserve the mobility, safety, and access needs of the region.

Recommended Concept 2AA