Construction Staging Options for the Pilot Knob Road Project

Dakota County and the City of Eagan are partnering on a construction project on Pilot Knob Road from I-35E to approximately Northwood/Central Parkway. The project involves a mill and overlay with minor improvements between I-35E and Yankee Doodle Road, and reconstruction from Yankee Doodle to Northwood Parkway.

The reconstruction portion, between Yankee Doodle and Northwood Parkway, will involve some construction staging and is the primary segment of concern. As such, the 2 attached options pertain to the reconstruction segment, as the segment from I-35E to Yankee Doodle is proposed to be done under traffic, perhaps with some lane restrictions.

Several options were discussed at a meeting on July 21st. Those options included a full closure of Pilot Knob, which was dismissed due to concerns for business access, an option that crosses traffic over and utilizes single-lane traffic on either NB or SB, which involves some safety concerns and signal operation, and the following two options.

Option 1 involves a closure of SB Pilot Knob Road. A local detour would be provided utilizing Northwood/Central Parkway, both of which connect to Yankee Doodle Road. One lane of traffic would be maintained on NB Pilot Knob throughout the duration of the project. Business signing could be included at or near the Pilot Knob/Central Parkway intersection. While this does remove the potential for left turns from SB Pilot Knob to any of the accesses, which may be difficult due to traffic volumes, it does potentially reduce the time for construction. Initial estimates indicate that this option could take approximately 4 months.

Option 2 involves maintaining single lane traffic on both NB and SB Pilot Knob, and would be similar to the option that crosses traffic over and provides for single lane traffic on either NB or SB Pilot Knob. Again, business signing could be included. This would allow for potential left turns along Pilot Knob. However, this may increase the time for construction. Initial estimates indicate that this option could take approximately 6 months.

I would like to know of any thoughts, questions, concerns, or preferences you may have with any of these options. Please feel free to Vicki Stute, vstute@dcrchamber.com, at your convenience. If at all possible, please provide feedback before October 1, 2015.



