



Record of Meeting (Revised)

SRF No. 11648

Location: SRF Consulting Group – Great Plains Conference Room

Client: Fargo-Moorhead Metro COG

Date: 11/1/2018

Subject: SRC Meeting #1

Attendees: Michael Maddox (Metro COG), Kristie Leshovsky (City of Moorhead), Jonathan Atkins (City of Moorhead), Justin Knopf (MnDOT), Lori VanBeek (MATBUS), Derrick LaPoint (Downtown Moorhead Incorporated), David Leonard (MSUM), Leif Garnass (SRF), Emily Gross (SRF), Chris Dahl (SRF)

Purpose of Meeting:

Introduce the project and start to identify the issues & priorities and vision & goals of the study.

Summary of Meeting:

1. Overview of Scope/Schedule
 - a. Leif Garnass provided an overview of the scope and schedule.
 - b. The March 2019 timeframe for the schedule is aggressive and may need to be revisited after the first roundabout of public engagement.
 - c. **Action Item:** Once the first public meeting date has been determined, SRF will send out a revised schedule.
2. Data Needs
 - a. Traffic count at US 75/12th Street – **Action Item:** SRF to request from Adam Altenburg with FM Metro COG (completed data received 11/8/2018). This study will “match” the recommendations from the 12th Street study where the studies overlap.
 - b. Crash data – **Action Item:** SRF to request from MnDOT (completed data received 11/8/2018).
 - c. Train preemption timing – **Action Item:** SRF to coordinate with Jon Atkins (City of Moorhead) to obtain current signal timing plans.
 - d. Transit data – **Action Item:** SRF to request access to ReMIX and ridership data from MATBUS.
 - e. Land use planning – **Action Item:** SRF to work with City/Metro COG to update TAZ areas and SE data. City to provide planned/approved developments to SRF.

- f. Traffic count data – SRF provided a map summarizing an overview of available intersection count data from 2015-2018. For the downtown Moorhead area, the SRC recommended relying on the year 2015 traffic count data due to all the construction projects/detour impacts to the downtown area in recent year, including current construction activities. Need to review current counts to understand effects of toll bridge being opened to all traffic.

3. Previous Studies & Construction

- a. SRF presented a project map of recent projects in the City of Moorhead – **Action Item:** SRF to update the map based on comments received and to follow-up with revised map.
- b. The CIMS project addressed many ADA needs along the study corridor, but it is anticipated this work will be reconstructed as part of the 2025 project. If MnDOT can preserve some of the new sidewalk and ramps constructed with the CIMS they will. MnDOT is prepared to remove what is necessary to construct this project.
- c. In addition to recently constructed projects, additional upcoming projects were noted:
 - i. Road diet along Center Avenue between the river and 8th Street.
 - ii. Fargo Main Avenue project (road diet along Main Avenue between Broadway and 4th Street; roundabout at Main Avenue/2nd Street intersection). SRF completed the traffic analysis and is working on the design for the Fargo Main Avenue project.
 - iii. Moorhead High Study – the School District is considering expanding the high school or constructed a new high school. This is not expected to be decided in time to be incorporated into this study.
 - iv. Downtown Moorhead Study - Derrick LaPoint is leading a downtown study to identify a vision, zoning, and existing/planned transportation needs. The study is expected to start this year.
 - 1. Goal to construct 500 dwelling units in the next 5-years in downtown.
 - 2. Working with the Moorhead Center Mall to identify redevelopment opportunities.
 - 3. New access standards to better accommodate new redevelopment; consolidate access when possible.

4. Issues & Priorities

- a. US 10/34th Street
 - i. The northbound left-turn movement has had six (6) crashes since the Main/20th/21st construction detour went into place. Conflicts are occurring for vehicles making a northbound left-turn onto the frontage road.
- b. US 10 at 1st Avenue/21st Avenue and US 75
 - i. The 1st Avenue/21st Avenue intersection currently has split phasing for the north/south approaches, which is not efficient.
 - ii. Look into opportunities to reclaim the weigh station area and use a complete street design approach to evaluate this segment of the corridor

- iii. Currently there is a pedestrian facility gap along US 10 between 11th Street and 28th Street. The City would prefer a shared-use path along this segment to fill the gap; however, this will be challenging to fit within the right-of-way and under the railroad bridge. As an alternative, consider at a minimum connecting to the pedestrian facilities along 1st Avenue.
 - c. Look into opportunities to make the US 10/US 75 (East Junction) intersection a gateway to enter downtown.
 - d. Assume the overpass and jurisdictional transfer for 11th Street. The jurisdictional transfer will take place but the 11th Street underpass is highly dependent on funding and when construction will take place is unknown.
 - e. Currently, traffic patterns can change greatly because drivers pick the “fastest path” to avoid the trains.
 - f. In MnDOT’s 10-year CHIP the project is budgeted for \$21M. MnDOT is currently updating the budget for inclusion in the STIP. The project would for a full replacement (2-year construction period). Construction is expected in 2025.
 - g. MnDOT can provide pavement condition to assist with planning efforts, the 2018 report is under development – **Action Item:** MnDOT to provide SRF with pavement condition report.
 - h. Need to be mindful of need for utility replacements, as well as construction staging. MnDOT has preliminary notes on the plan and these can be reviewed once we have alternatives. If staging is discussed MnDOT would like to discuss with Moorhead staff and MPS to get a better idea of how their utilities would potentially be involved.
5. Vision & Goals
- a. **Action Item:** Update project vision to incorporate the masterplan efforts for the corridor. Draft a purpose and need statement to be reviewed by SRC.
 - b. SRF led the group in an exercise to identify the goals of the project – what are we trying to accomplish (listed below). Next steps will be to confirm vision with the public and to identify objectives (how we will achieve the goal).
 - i. Roadway needs to fit land use (i.e., appropriate access and design)
 - ii. Accommodates appropriate users (i.e., complete streets)
 - iii. Create an environment to stimulate growth
 - iv. Flexibility for future transportation needs
 - v. Gateway
 - vi. Finish the project
6. Public and Stakeholder Engagement Plan
- a. City noted that the community has construction fatigue – this project should have clear messaging that this is early planning for a year 2025 project. MnDOT and the city of Moorhead are currently beginning to develop 30% plans and the environmental document for construction for the 11th Street underpass.

- b. Prior to the first focus group meeting there should be an open house to solicit feedback on the early steps in the project. It was recommended to not go into the first meeting with any preconceived notions. Ask the public to provide input on:
 - i. Their vision for the corridor (vision likely differs for different segments/subareas).
 - ii. What is their safety, mobility, and business access concerns?
- c. May need to consider reducing the number of focus group meetings and planning for a third open house meeting (1st meeting would be to get input on vision, mode priorities, and key issues; 2nd meeting would be to get input on concept development; 3rd meeting would be to provide input on recommended improvements).
- d. City noted that SRF does not need to attend City Planning Commission/EDA meetings early in the process; a 1-page update can be provided to keep elected officials informed. With the upcoming election there may be a new Council in January.
- e. Metro COG noted they have ADA requirements for public meetings.
- f. **Action Item:** SRF to update PEP.
- g. **Action Item:** Work with Savannah (Metro COG) to provide website material for the project webpage (will be hosted on Metro COG’s website).
- h. **Action Item:** SRF to review Metro COG’s ADA requirements.

Actions Needed:

Actions Needed	Responsibility
Send Mary copy of the presentation	SRF
Send updated schedule to SRC	SRF
Send out data requests to SRC	SRF/SRC
Update project map	SRF
Update Vision Statement and develop a Purpose and Need Statement	SRF
Provide pavement condition report	MnDOT
Update PEP	SRF
Identify date/purpose for the 1st public meeting	SRF
Contact Savannah (Metro COG) to provide website information	SRF/Metro COG
Review ADA requirements for public meetings	SRF