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Memo

To:	SDDOT Project Manager, Steve Gramm
From:	Study Team Press Conference Speakers
Project:	I229 MIS Corridor Study
CC:	Craig S (SDDOT), Chad Huwe (City), Captain Joffer (SDHP), Jason Kjenstad (HDR), Kristi Sandal (Public Information Office SDDOT)
Date:	October 22nd, 2013

RE: Talking Points for I229 Major Investment Study Press Conference

Speakers:

Craig Smith (Mitchell Region Engineer):

I229 was originally constructed in 1962-1964 along eastern and southern edges of Sioux Falls. I229 has provided an efficient and convenient 10.5 mile corridor for many years.

Original construction provided 5 interchange locations. There are now eight interchange locations with 26th Street, Benson Road, and Louise Ave. being added.

Current traffic volumes vary along the corridor from 15,000-43,000 ADT (average daily traffic)

Historical traffic volumes

- 1970 2,700-4,000
- 1981 4,300-8,400
- 1990 8,200-18,000
- 2000 9,000-33,000
- 2010 13,000-43,000

Continued growth of the City of Sioux Falls and future traffic needs are driving the I229 corridor study.

Study initiated by SDDOT in partnership with the City of Sioux Falls, Sioux Falls Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), SD Highway Patrol, and Federal Highway Administration.

Purpose of the study – Ensure acceptable level of service on mainline I229, at the ramp merge / diverge areas, and at the intersections of ramps and local roads. Also to identify non-compliant design features based on current standards.

Objectives of the study – Perform traffic analysis, safety analysis, review design standards, effects of incidents on traffic flow, develop long range plan, conduct interchange feasibility options, and provide a tool to be used in making future decisions related to the corridor.

The study is to develop a long term planning tool. Improvements will need to be prioritized and future projects programmed based on need and funding availability.

Captain Kevin Joffer (South Dakota Highway Patrol):

Safety concerns along the corridor have steadily increased, not surprisingly as traffic has increased.

Accident Numbers from 2009 - 2012:

- Interstate / Interstate Ramp Crashes – Sub - total of 671 crashes
- Intersection within study area, including cross roads – Sub - total of 1135 crashes
- Total crashes with in the study area - 1,806 crashes

Types of safety concerns being observed
Ramp merging, Speed, other, and weather conditions

Incident management – Concern for secondary accidents, safety of drivers, safety of emergency responders after the initial accident has occurred. This has been and continues to be the Highway Patrol's priority to implement strategies to help prevent or reduce secondary crashes.

Pleased to be partnering with DOT and the City to identify and implement improvements

Chad Huwe (City Engineer Sioux Falls):

I229 has been a vital part of the City's growth.

The City and the SDDOT have worked together to minimize delay for the daily commuters along the corridor.

The I229 Study will also be taking a closer look at three interchanges and city cross streets. A variety of interchange options will be analyzed at each location.

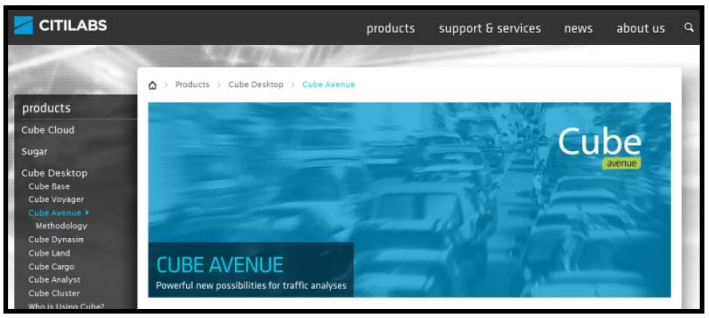
1. Minnesota Avenue and I229
    - Minnesota Avenue carries 26,000 vehicles per day through this area.
    - Minnesota Avenue/49th Street Extension/I229: The 49th Street extension was identified in the 41st Corridor Study in 2002 as one of the top priorities identified by the public to relieve congestion on 41st Street.
    - City has been purchasing right of way along the corridor in preparation for the full construction of 49th Street from Western Avenue to Duluth Avenue in 2017. Details of the intersection of Minnesota Avenue and 49th Street and in relation to the I229 on/off ramps are being analyzed in this I229 Study.
2. 10th Street and I229
    - 31,000 vehicles per day travel on 10th Street through this area.
    - This interchange is one of the busiest interchanges in the city and sees significant traffic congestion at various times of the day.
    - The I229 study will consider a variety of interchange and corridor options for this area to increase capacity.
3. Benson Road and I229
    - Benson Road carries 14,000 vehicles per day west of I229 and only 1,000 vehicles per day east.
    - The area bounded by 60th Street North, Sycamore Avenue, Benson Road and I229 is planned for significant economic development in the upcoming years.
    - The City has received a $1.2 million Economic Development Administration grant to construct Bahnson Avenue from Benson Road to 60th Street North in 2014-2015. The total cost of the street

is approximately $2.5 million. The construction of this new street will promote new businesses, employees, and infrastructure expansion.

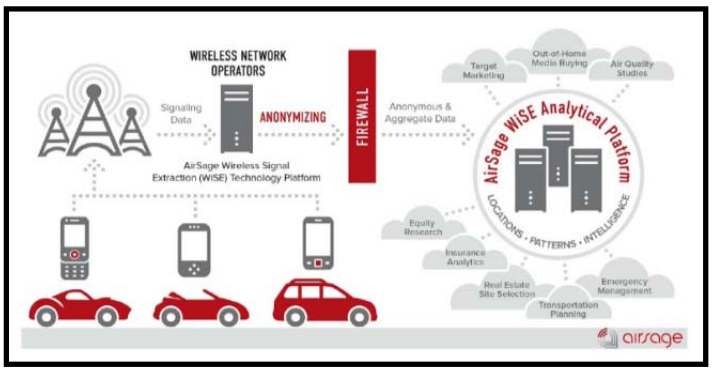
- The I229 will investigate alternatives to improve capacity, efficiency and safety in preparation for this planned growth.

Jason Kjenstad (HDR Engineering, Inc.) – 605-977-7740

- Provide Background on Study Team Approach
  - Study Team Partners
    - SDDOT
    - Sioux Falls MPO
    - South Dakota Highway Patrol
    - City of Sioux Falls
    - Consultant Team
    - Sioux Falls MPO Citizen Member
    - Federal Highway Administration
- Background on Consultant Team
  - HDR Engineering, Inc. – Lead Consultant with Sioux Falls based Office, HDR's role is to lead the technical discussions for the study advisory team in order to aid in the decision making process. HDR's internal team is comprised of roadway, traffic, and transportation planning engineers. Information about HDR can be found at WWW.HDRINC.COM
    - HR Green Inc. - Sub consultant with a Sioux Falls based office, assisting with the Minnesota Avenue Crossroad Study, HR Green has previous experience related to this specific interchange. Information about HR Green can be found at WWW.HRGREEN.COM
    - Citilabs – Sub consultant with Headquarters in Tallahassee Florida, Citilabs role on this project is to assist with the building of the Dynamic Traffic Assignment (DTA) Model within the Cube Avenue Platform. Information about Citilabs can be found at WWW.CITILABS.COM



    - Airsage – Sub consultant located in Atlanta, Georgia, assisting and providing the data to complete the origin & destination Study (O/D) for use in the Dynamic Traffic Assignment Model. Airsage is providing data sets that



help identify the origin and destination of users of the roadway network around Sioux Falls. When a mobile phone is active on a cellular network, Airsage receives wireless signals and uses them anonymously to determine locations. Airsage products are all based on anonymous data derived from wireless carrier signaling data. Information about Airsage can be found at WWW.AIRSAGE.COM

- Unique Aspect of Project
  - Incident Management
    - There are three main objectives on this project when it comes to Incident Management
      - 1) Develop detour plans for the segments of I229 (a.k.a Benson Road to Rice Street, Rice Street to 10th Street, etc..) that would indicate the route drivers would be detoured if an incident would inhabit traffic flow to the point a detour would needed.
      - 2) Within the study advisory team, begin dicussions on general incident management plans and processes, how they would be implemented from a communication perspective, and which agencies need to be partners in the process. Additional work to finalize a complete incident management plan will be needed outside this study.
      - 3) Identify strategies to improve safety along the corridor with the possibility of implementing Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) applications. Different types of ITS measurses will be investigated during the study like quick clearance procedures, variable speed limits, and others. The goal is to alert motorists of incidents and manage the safety of the corridor.
- Study Website
  - WWW.I229STUDY.COM
    - Project website was prepared to be the portal to get information out to the study stakeholders, this website will contain all items publicly presented at the upcoming public open house to be held October 30th, 2013 at the Sioux Falls Convention Center. The public open house will begin at 5:30 pm with a brief presentation introducing this important project to the public.