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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The I-35W Solutions Alliance Board of Directors

FROM: Robert J. Tennesen

RE: Legislative Report

DATE: June 14, 2012

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### Legislature

The legislature will reconvene in January 2013. It is unlikely that any committee meetings of importance will occur before the November general election.

Candidate filings for the House and Senate closed on June 5. Three senators – Sheran, Eaton and Dibble – do not have opponents from the other party. Eaton has a primary opponent. Four representatives – Morrow, Cornish, Mike Nelson and Hoppe – are unopposed. The primary election will be August 14, 2012.

### Candidate Forums

Each election year for the past decade the Solutions Alliance has hosted two forums for candidates in the general election. Candidates are asked to present their evaluation of needs, resources and solutions to transportation challenges. When senators and house members are all up for election, the number of candidates at each forum is unwieldy and affords insufficient time for useful discussions. This year we should consider three forums to accommodate all candidates and ensure a meaningful discussion of issues.

### The Transportation Finance Advisory Committee (TFAC)

The Transportation Finance Advisory Committee (TFAC), charged with making recommendations to the governor on future transportation funding, met April 20, 2012 and again May 18, 2012 to begin work. Commissioner Sorel is the chair and Ken Buckeye is the project manager. The committee expects to use its September and November meetings to make decisions, and present recommendations and a marketing plan to the governor by December 1, 2012. Task Force members include state and county officials, academics, labor officials and business representatives from various industries and areas of the state. The TFAC will have meetings for public comment.

Future meeting schedule:

June 22	10 am – 3 pm	Highway Federal Credit Union Conference Center
July 16	10 am – 3 pm	Highway Federal Credit Union Conference Center
August 13	10 am – 3 pm	Highway Federal Credit Union Conference Center
September 24	10 am – 3 pm	Highway Federal Credit Union Conference Center

For more information on TFAC go to: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/tfac/>

### Corridor Investment Management Strategy (CIMS)

MnDOT held meetings throughout Minnesota to obtain the response and observations of interested corridor organizations, public officials and private citizens to its CIMS. The purpose of CIMS is to identify opportunities that offer low costs and high benefits. Included in MnDOT’s strategies are: (a) reduced risk safety strategies (rumble strips, roundabouts, reduced conflict intersections), and (b) low cost designs and MnPass lanes that address safety, access and mobility. MnDOT intends to hold annual meetings and host an interactive website “to exchange information and discuss opportunities for collaborative and sustainable investment,” for the purpose of identifying investment opportunities that meet the CIMS criteria.

The I-35W Solutions Alliance was represented at the meeting on May 29 at the Southdale Library in Edina. Maps and information on three corridors were presented at the meeting, I-35W South (Lakeville – Minneapolis), Mn 62 (Hwy 55 to I-494), and Mn 100 (Brooklyn Center – Edina). Data was presented on existing conditions, safety performance, and 2012-2015 STIP Projects.

I-35W South Projects

Investment Area	Project	Length (Miles)	Route	Year	Cost
Storm Sewer	Rehab/Replace Drainage Structures <i>Blackdog Rd to 90<sup>th</sup> Street</i>	3.1	I35W	2012	\$265,000
Bridge	Replace Bridge (94 <sup>th</sup> St), drainage, retaining walls <i>Bloomington</i>	1.5	I35W	2014	\$ 8.5 Million
Landscaping	Landscaping <i>Various locations</i>	6.2	I35W	2012-2014	\$ 1 Million
Noise Wall	Noise Barrier <i>Burnsville Cir. To 157<sup>th</sup> ST</i>	0.3	I35	2015	\$885,000

Total \$ 10.7  
Million

Chart is from Corridor map at <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/cims/corridor/i35-nm-i94/maps/I35W%20South.pdf>

For more information on CIMS go to: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/cims/about.html>

### **Metropolitan Council TAB meeting June 20, 2012 at 3:30 pm, 390 N. Robert St., St. Paul**

The Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) of the Metropolitan Council will hold a public hearing on June 20 to receive public reaction to the proposed 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. The program will include highway, transit, bikeway and pedestrian enhancements and air quality projects that are proposed for federal funding in the seven-county metropolitan area in the next four years. The TIP is prepared jointly by the Metropolitan Council and the Minnesota Department of Transportation. Projects contained in the TIP reflect the region's priorities and help implement the region's transportation plan. Progress made on implementing the region's transportation plan will be reported in the TIP and at the public hearing. The program will be adopted by the Transportation Advisory Board and approved by the Metropolitan Council.

- Written comments to: Kevin Roggenbuck, Transportation Advisory Board, 390 North Robert St., St. Paul, MN 55101
- Fax comments to Kevin Roggenbuck, (651) 602-1739
- Record comments on the Council's Public Information Line: (651) 602-1500
- Send comments electronically to : [data.center@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:data.center@metc.state.mn.us)

Comments must be received by 4:00 p.m., Friday, July 6, 2012.