



# Corridors of Commerce

## Highway 169

2 to 4-lane expansion of TH 169 from Itasca County Road 15 to 1 mile east of Itasca County Road 7

- Critical link of Western Mesabi Corridor
- Key freight route for Mesabi iron ore industry
- Improves connection from US Highway 53 (Virginia) to US Highway 2 (Grand Rapids)

## Highway 2

Add three passing lanes to a 38 mile portion of Hwy 2 between Deer River and Cass Lake

- Enhances highway safety by reducing pressure for traffic to make high-risk passes when traveling behind slower moving vehicles, commercial trucks and recreation traffic.

## I-94

Add lanes from MN 101 to MN 241

- Adds capacity to one of the state's fastest growing corridors
- Alleviates congestion along heavily used freight and tourism corridor
- Alleviates congestion on secondary routes

## Hwy 34

Passing lanes from Detroit Lakes to Nevis

- Enhances highway safety by reducing pressure for traffic to make high-risk passes when traveling behind slower moving vehicles, commercial trucks and recreation traffic.

## Highway 14

4-lane east of Owatonna (Segment 1)

- Support Rochester Destination Medical Center and its projected 40,000 jobs
- Gateway to southern Minnesota regional trade centers
- Address critical safety challenges

## Highway 14

4-lane N. Mankato to Nicollet (Advanced to 2015-16)

- Mankato-North Mankato Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is the fastest growing MSA in the state (gross domestic product, employment growth and goods production)
- Mankato MSA leads all Greater Minnesota MSAs in population growth.
- Addresses critical safety challenges

## Highway 14

Nicollet Bypass (4 lane)

- Improves safety at two high crash intersections (TH 99 and TH 111 in Nicollet)
- Enhanced mobility for heavy commercial traffic between regional trade centers
- One step closer to goal of 4-lane facility from New Ulm to Rochester

## Highway 23

Passing lanes from Willmar to I-90

- Enhances highway safety by reducing pressure for traffic, to make high-risk passes
- Encourages commercial traffic to use the corridor instead of seeking a longer and potentially less safe alternative route
- Provides opportunities to pass slower traffic which better accommodates the varying mix of corridor traffic
- Increases the predictability of travel time for the corridor

## Highway 610

New Freeway connection from Hennepin County Road 81 to I-94

- New connection will accommodate 50,000 vehicles per day
- Alleviates traffic on existing principal arterials I-94 and I-694
- Modal connectivity with future Bottineau LRT Transit hub

## I-694

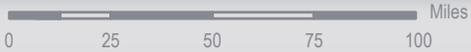
Dynamic shoulder lane from Rice to Lexington

- Over 25 major employers adjacent to this segment of the I-694 Corridor
- Total employment adjacent to the improvement is 37,000 employees
- I-694 carries 100,000 vehicles per day, and serves as the designated truck bypass of I-94 through the core metro area
- Only 2 thru lanes in each direction results in over 6 hours per day

# Corridors of Commerce



[mndot.gov/corridorsofcommerce](http://mndot.gov/corridorsofcommerce)



-  **Projects**
-  **Passing Lane Projects**  
Passing lane projects occur on segments of highlighted area.

