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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Funding Secured for Highways 10 and 65 Projects in Anoka County

During the recently concluded legislative session, Anoka County secured \$102.75 million of state bonding funds and cash for a series of planned improvements along Highway 65 and \$30 million of combined funds to add a lane between Hanson and Round Lake Boulevards on US Highway 10.

The sections of Highway 65 slated for enhancements are in the areas of 99th Avenue, 105th Avenue, 109th Avenue and 117th Avenue in Blaine. Projects in this area will include adding frontage roads and overpasses, changing access, and improving facilities for people walking and bicycling. A total of four traffic lights along the thoroughfare will be removed, which will address congestion issues.

“We did very well with Highway 65 funding this legislative session,” said District 2 Anoka County Commissioner Julie Braastad, chair of the county’s Transportation Committee. “I’d like to thank all our partners in this endeavor, which includes our cities, MnDOT, and all our legislators who have pushed for years to make Highway 65 a priority. This roadway has been overlooked for a long time, and we’re excited about making Highway 65 safer and easier to traverse.”

District 6 Anoka County Commissioner Julie Jeppson said collaboration was key in securing the funding for the Highway 65 improvements.

“Being awarded this funding proves that if we all focus on major goals, they can be accomplished,” she said. “Anoka County elected officials and staff, along with partners from the

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City of Blaine and the state, and the members of the North Trunk Highway 65 Corridor Coalition, all worked together to acquire the much-needed funding that will be used to fix several areas of Highway 65.”

The add-a-lane undertaking is one of the last projects to be done on US Highway 10 in Anoka County. It marks the finish line of the US Highway 10 overhaul that has been many years in the making.

“Getting the third lane completed through Coon Rapids, both east and west, has been a long time coming, and it’s a monumental achievement that wouldn’t have been possible without our partners, which include Trunk Highway 10 Workgroup and the City of Coon Rapids,” said District 4 Anoka County Commissioner Scott Schulte. “I’m more than confident our highway team will work closely with MnDOT on this strategic congestion mitigation plan, so the project is completed in the near future.”