



4646 Dakota St. SE  
Prior Lake, MN 55372

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### **A message from our Mayor:**

Let's face it: None of us likes road construction when it diverts or slows us from our destination, but it's important to recognize that each orange cone represents a long-term investment in the future economic success and quality of life for our community. The noise, dust, detours and delays are certainly difficult, especially for those living or working in the vicinity of the project, but as I said in my State of the City address, we can not maintain the high quality of life in Prior Lake without building and maintaining our transportation system.

Our 2030 Vision and Strategic Plan echoes this message. It states the development and maintenance of our transportation system is necessary to connect Prior Lake residents to the cultural, entertainment and employment opportunities throughout the Twin Cities area.

This year, significant road improvements are planned to our most heavily traveled roads including County Rd. 82, County Rd. 12 and County Rd. 21.

Improvements to County Rd. 82 will occur west of County Rd. 21. The project includes the installation of a 30-inch sewer pipe, storm water improvements and a four-lane divided roadway with traffic signals at the intersection of County Rd. 82 and County Rd. 83. Road work will proceed from east to west beginning at Fremont in April and ending at County Rd. 17 this December. Detours include County Rd. 12 and County Rd. 42.

Improvements to the intersection of County Rd. 12 and Hwy. 13 will occur this year, as well. For safety reasons, the county acquired Triangle Car Wash and Pro Service so the intersection can be realigned. This phase of the County Rd. 12 project will include curb and gutter and sidewalks to provide safe pedestrian travel. The final two phases of County Rd. 12 will be completed in 2010. This year's improvement will be coordinated with the County Rd. 82 project so residents in the Fremont Ave./Northwood Rd. area have reasonable access during the summer.

County Rd. 21 improvements from Franklin Trail to County Rd. 81 were accelerated from 2010 to later this year at the request of your city council in recognition of the large volume of traffic in this area. The improvements include the rebuilding of the Franklin Tr./County Rd. 21 intersection and signalization of the Fish Point Rd./County Rd. 21 intersection. Turn lanes will be added at Adelman St. and Credit River Rd. will be extended to the east to the Fish Point Rd./County Rd. 21 intersection.

Very soon there will be clear roads ahead, thanks to a lot of early planning and hard work. This council, and the one before it, stayed focused on the 2030 Vision and Strategic Plan and kept these many road projects on the fast track at Scott County. They have also cultivated and maintained the partnerships vital to completing them as quickly, cost effectively and successfully as possible. The result is a significant cost savings for residents, advanced completion dates and less inconvenience for all.

These multi-million dollar road reconstruction projects are not accomplished alone. In addition to the City's investment of \$7.5 million (mostly related to utilities), Scott County is investing in excess of \$20 million into the Prior Lake transportation system.

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) provided six acres of right-of-way and \$1.4 million in cash to help make improvements to County Rd. 82 a reality and Congressman John Kline's office secured almost \$2 million in federal dollars to help make the County Rd. 21 project possible. Also, thanks to the City's partnerships with Scott County and Prior Lake/Savage Dist. 719, County Rd. 21 will get a new signal at Jeffers Pass for the new elementary school this summer.

Most important, I want to thank you, the Prior Lake citizen, for the great patience and understanding you demonstrate through the inconvenience created by such projects.

When a road project is done right, when the city and county, along with its citizens and partners, come together and actively participate in the studies, public meetings, funding and design of a project, the construction phase represents a significant, long-term return for a city.

So, the next time you think about the headaches or delays that come with the many "Road Work Ahead" signs you may encounter, please remember, they also symbolize a healthy Prior Lake community poised for the future.

**Mayor Jack Haugen**