



CSAH 13 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Q: WILL A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT BE PLACED ON MY PROPERTY TO PAY FOR THIS PROJECT?

A: No, the primary source of project funding is anticipated to be a combination of federal and state aid transportation dollars. Crow Wing County has no recent history of levying special assessments to fund highway improvement projects.

Q: WHAT IS A COUNTY STATE AID HIGHWAY (CSAH)?

A: Some County routes are designated as "County State Aid Highways" (CSAH). These routes are typically higher volume roads constructed and maintained by counties, therefore, they are eligible for State Funding originating from gas tax and vehicle registration fees.

Q: WHY CAN'T CSAH 13 SIMPLY BE RESURFACED TO IMPROVE ITS DETERIORATED CONDITION?

A: CSAH 13 is one of the few CSAH routes on the County Road Network that has not been constructed to meet MN State Design Standards. Several challenges exist with the current corridor including substandard pavement structure, narrow right-of-way, storm water drainage, and roadway design deficiencies. Issues such as these create significant cost increases for maintaining County Highways. A simple resurfacing project would perpetuate these challenges for years to come and be an irresponsible response to many known problems.

Q: CSAH 13 HAS LITTLE HISTORY OF DOCUMENTED CRASHES. DOESN'T THAT MEAN IT'S SAFE?

A: No. Although there are only a few severe crashes documented, many users have had minor incidents and cited observations or involvement in close calls due to the road's existing configuration. Additionally, as traffic levels continue to increase, it is likely that more of these incidents will occur. Being proactive to address the potential for crashes is always the best alternative.

Q: WON'T SAFETY ACTUALLY DECREASE BECAUSE THE SPEED OF TRAFFIC MAY INCREASE?

A: The posted speed limit on CSAH 13 is not anticipated to be changed. It is true many users feel comfortable traveling at higher speeds on smooth roads. This would also hold true if the roadway received a simple resurfacing. The advantage of a comprehensive improvement is the ability to address conditions that would be compounded by higher speeds. Improving sight lines and providing paved shoulders for emergency vehicles, patrols, cyclists, and pedestrians are among these proposed improvements.

Q: HOW MUCH PROPERTY WILL THE COUNTY BE SEAKING AND HOW MANY TREES WILL BE IMPACTED?

A: Projects of this nature will always have property and vegetation impacts. The County is committed to minimizing both occurrences as much as possible. The roadway configuration listed on the opposite side of this sheet represents the minimum cleared right-of-way width (100') necessary to meet MN State Design Standards.

Q: SINCE THE PROJECT REQUIRES ADDITIONAL LAND TO ACCOMDATE THE REQUIRED WIDTH, WILL PROPERTY OWNERS BE COMPENSATED?

A: Yes. Compensable items includes land, fences, yard trees, and structures located on private property. Crow Wing County will compensate residents at fair market values for these items. Trees within the current right-of-way footprint (66') are not eligible.

Q: HOW WILL THE COUNTY ADDRESS UTILITES?

A: The CSAH 13 corridor has several overhead and underground utilities along its entire length. State law allows public utilities to exist within public roadway corridors. The law also requires these companies to fund the relocation of their facilities when the road authority initiates a project that disrupts them. Typically the right-of-way space between 42' and 50' is reserved for public utility installations, reducing the need for additional easements.

Q: WHEN WOULD THIS PROJECT BE BUILT?

A: This segment of the project, County Road (CR) 137 to CSAH 4, has been designated for federal and state funding in the summer of 2020. The remaining segment from CR 137 to State Highway 371 will be reconstructed in 2021. This information along with other projects can be found in the Crow Wing County Highway Improvement Plan located on our website.

Q: HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO BUILD THIS PROJECT?

A: The CSAH 13 improvement will likely be build within 4-5 months. The County will work with the contractor to phase the project, in an effort to limit disruption and maximize construction efficiency. Although the highway will be closed during construction, local residence will have access to their properties throughout the project.

Q: WHERE CAN GO TO FIND MORE INFORMATION?

A: Please visit the County's project website.
<http://crowwing.us/150/Future-Projects>