



AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Tuesday, April 12, 2016, 9:30 A.M.

**Rice Lake City Hall
4107 W. Beyer Road
Duluth, MN**

**STEVE RAUKAR, Chair
Seventh District**

**FRANK JEWELL, Vice-Chair
First District**

**PATRICK BOYLE
Second District**

**CHRIS DAHLBERG
Third District**

**TOM RUKAVINA
Fourth District**

**PETE STAUBER
Fifth District**

**KEITH NELSON
Sixth District**

County Auditor
Donald Dicklich

County Administrator
Kevin Gray

County Attorney
Mark Rubin

Clerk of the Board
Phil Chapman

The St. Louis County Board of Commissioners welcomes you to this meeting. This agenda contains a brief description of each item to be considered. The Board encourages your participation. If you wish to speak on an item contained in the agenda, you will be allowed to address the Board when a motion is on the floor. If you wish to speak on a matter that does not appear on the agenda, you may do so during the public comment period at the beginning of the meeting. Except as otherwise provided by the Standing Rules of the County Board, no action shall be taken on any item not appearing in the agenda.

When addressing the Board, please sign in at the podium and state your name and address for the record. Please address the Board as a whole through the Chair. Comments to individual Commissioners or staff are not permitted. The St. Louis County Board promotes adherence to civility in conducting the business of the County. Civility will provide increased opportunities for civil discourse in order to find positive resolutions to the issue before the Board. Tools of civility include: pay attention, listen, be inclusive, do not gossip, show respect, be agreeable, apologize, give constructive criticism and take responsibility [County Board Resolution No. 560, adopted on September 9, 2003]. Speakers will be limited to five (5) minutes.

****In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for this meeting should notify Property Management 72 hours prior to the meeting at (218)725-5085.****

All supporting documentation is available for public review in the County Auditor's Office, 100 North 5th Avenue West - Room No. 214, St. Louis County Courthouse, Duluth, MN, during regular business hours 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday. Agenda is also available on our website at <http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/GOVERNMENT/BoardofCommissioners.aspx>

AGENDA
St. Louis County Board
April 12, 2016
Page 2

9:30 A.M. Moment of Silence
 Pledge of Allegiance
 Roll Call

“Words of Wisdom” – Commissioner Frank Jewell, First District

Proclamation: Child Abuse Prevention Month

AT THIS TIME CITIZENS WILL BE ALLOWED TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA. [Speakers will be limited to 5 minutes each.]

FOR ITEMS LISTED ON THE BOARD AGENDA OR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA, CITIZENS WILL BE ALLOWED TO ADDRESS THE BOARD AT THE TIME A MOTION IS ON THE FLOOR.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of business submitted on the consent agenda.

REGULAR AGENDA

Public Works & Transportation Committee – Commissioner Stauber, Chair

1. Twin Ports Interchange FASTLANE Grant Application Letter of Support request. **{16-157} [Has not been to committee; requires consent of the Board to be considered.]**

Central Management & Intergovernmental Committee – Commissioner Jewell, Chair

2. Appoint David Lee as the St. Louis County Public Health and Human Services Director effective April 25, 2016. **{16-156} [Without recommendation.]**

ADJOURNED:



S A I N T
LOUIS
COUNTY
M I N N E S O T A

- Proclamation -
CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH
April 2016

WHEREAS, All children have the basic right to a family and a safe, loving and supportive home that promotes their social, emotional, physical, cultural and developmental well-being; and

WHEREAS, The Children and Family Services Division of St. Louis County Public Health and Human Services Department served 5,858 children in 2015; and

WHEREAS, Child abuse and neglect is a serious problem affecting every segment of our community, and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone; and

WHEREAS, All forms of abuse - sexual, physical, emotional and neglect - can have long-term psychological, emotional and physical effects, and lifelong consequences; and

WHEREAS, Child protection is a core function of county government in the state of Minnesota, with prevention of abuse and neglect being the best defense for our children and families; and

WHEREAS, The ability to protect children at risk for abuse and neglect rests on the dedication and professionalism of St. Louis County's Child Welfare Staff, who often work under extreme stress because of their commitment to the children who need them;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board recognizes that protecting children is everyone's job, and declares its continued commitment to the collaboration between St. Louis County staff and all community partners in this effort and hereby proclaims April 2016 as **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH** and urges all citizens to work together to help protect children from abuse and neglect.

BOARD LETTER NO. 16 - 157

PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

APRIL 12, 2016 BOARD AGENDA NO. 1

DATE: April 12, 2016 **RE:** MnDOT FASTLANE Grant
Application - St. Louis County
Letter of Support

FROM: Kevin Z. Gray
County Administrator

James T. Foldesi
Public Works Director/Highway Engineer

RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:

To provide a safe, well maintained road and bridge system.

ACTION REQUESTED:

The St. Louis County Board is requested to pass a resolution supporting the FASTLANE grant application that the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) will be submitting to the Federal Highway Administration to replace the I35/I535/TH 53 interchange in Duluth and authorize the County Board Chair to send a letter in support of the project to be included in the grant application.

BACKGROUND:

MnDOT will be submitting a Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-Term Achievement of National Efficiencies (FASTLANE) Grant application to better accommodate freight movements through the interchanges adjacent to the Clure Public Terminal. The scope of the project will include the reconstruction of the I-35/I-535/Highway 53 interchange and will include the replacement of 3 bridges in the I-535/Garfield Avenue interchange as well as the replacement of 27 other bridges that are overweight restricted, fracture critical, functionally obsolete or structurally deficient within the corridor. Safety improvements will include a conventional design which provides all exits and entrances on the right hand side of the road. Merging sight distances will be improved and merging conflicts will be eliminated. Weaving problems near the interchange will be eliminated to provide lane continuity for through traffic on I-35. The proposed work will be within the existing right of way and should not add any additional lanes.

The average annual daily traffic at the interchange is 72,200 vehicles per day with approximately 5% (3,450) being heavy commercial truck traffic. The continued expansion of the Clure Public Terminal into an intermodal facility with highway, rail and waterway freight connections is expected to generate approximately 25,000 heavy commercial loads per

year with significant increases projected into the future for overweight cargo such as wind turbine components.

The cost of the project is \$150-200 million dollars. The grant application will request a 60% FASTLANE participation with MnDOT funding the remaining 40%. There will be no local agency funding required. If successful in acquiring FASTLANE funding, the preliminary design and environmental work will begin in 2016 with construction beginning in 2018.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board pass a resolution supporting the Federal Highway Administration FASTLANE grant application MnDOT will be submitting to replace the I35/I535/TH 53 interchange and authorize the County Board Chair to send a letter in support of the project to be included in the grant application.

MnDOT FASTLANE Grant Application - St. Louis County Letter of Support

BY COMMISSIONER _____

WHEREAS, St. Louis County has a vested interest in the continued expansion of the Clure Public Terminal in Duluth, MN, into an intermodal facility with highway, rail and waterway freight connections; and

WHEREAS, The existing interchange infrastructure and deficient bridges within the corridor present safety concerns and barriers for the continued development and expansion of the Clure Public Terminal; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is seeking support from stakeholders in securing the FASTLANE grant to facilitate the necessary improvements;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board supports the project and authorizes the County Board Chair to send a letter to MnDOT in support of the project to replace the I35/I535/TH 53 interchange and associated bridges to be included in the FASTLANE grant application being submitted to the Federal Highway Administration.

Twin Ports Interchange FASTLANE Freight Funding Application

MnDOT will be submitting a Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-Term Achievement of National Efficiencies (FASTLANE) Grant application to replace the I-35/I-535/Highway 53 interchange and improve the I-535/Garfield Avenue interchange. The purpose of this project is to better accommodate freight movements through the interchanges adjacent to the Clure Public Terminal.

Project Scope

- Reconstruct the I-35/I-535/Highway 53 interchange
- Replace 3 bridges in the I-535/Garfield Avenue interchange
- Replace 27 bridges: overweight permit restrictions (25), fracture critical (7), functionally obsolete (4), structurally deficient (1)
- Improve safety of the I-35/I-535/Highway 53 interchange
 - Provide a new conventional design
 - Provide all exits and entrances on the right
 - Improve merging sight distance and eliminate merge conflicts
 - Eliminate weaving problems near the interchange
 - Provide lane continuity for through I-35 traffic
- Work will be within the existing right of way
- Will not add lanes

Project Freight Connection

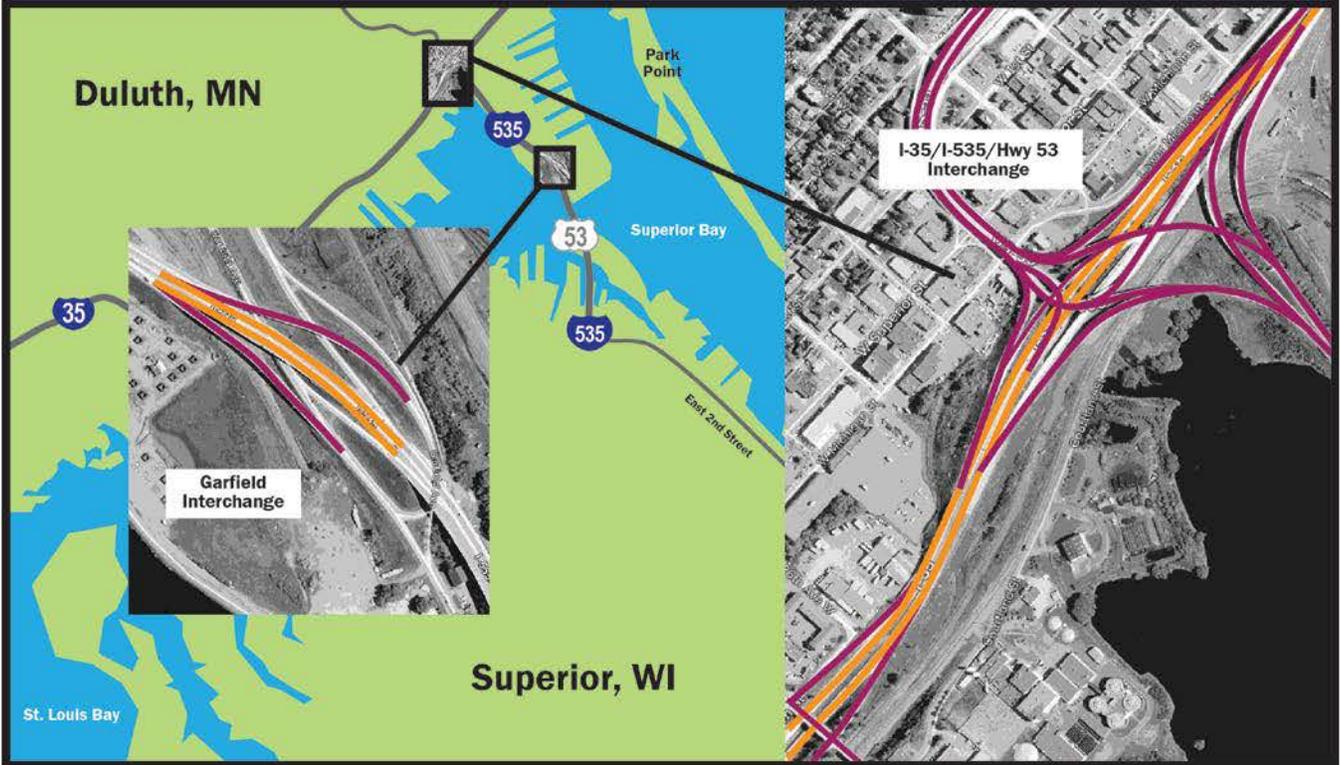
- Interchange traffic count
 - Average annual daily traffic – 72,200
 - Heavy commercial average annual daily traffic – 3450
- First mile to the Clure Public Terminal
- Intermodal facility with highway, rail and waterway freight connections
- 25,000 heavy commercial loads generated per year with significant increases projected
- Overweight project cargo such as wind turbine components
- Project will provide direct access for overweight permitted loads

Project Funding Request and Timeline

- Cost: \$150-200M
 - FASTLANE request will be 60% or \$90-120M
 - MnDOT will fund remaining 40%
 - No local agency funding required
- The environmental document will be a Categorical Exclusion and complete in 2017
- Contracting: design-build or construction manager general contractor alternative delivery
- If FASTLANE funding is provided, construction will begin in 2018
- Preliminary design and environmental field work will begin in 2016



I-35/I-535/Hwy 53 & Garfield Ave. Interchanges



His academic credentials include a Master's Degree in psychology from the University of St. Thomas and Bachelor's Degree in political science from the University of Minnesota. As a St. Louis County resident and Duluth native, Mr. Lee is familiar with the health and human service needs of our citizens and is well-versed in the multitude of statewide programs and the challenges presented by the unique mix of urban and rural communities of northeast Minnesota. His personality and approachable demeanor will be an asset in this leadership role as Public Health and Human Services Director for St. Louis County.

This position was advertised with a starting salary consistent with the Management Compensation Plan. All benefits will be provided consistent with the Management Compensation Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board appoint David Lee as Public Health and Human Services Director effective April 25, 2016 at an annual salary rate of \$136,323 (Pay Plan A1, Grade 32/Step M3 of the 2016 St. Louis County Management Compensation Plan), payable from Fund 230, Agency 600001.

Public Health and Human Services Director Appointment

BY COMMISSIONER _____

RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board appoints David Lee as the St. Louis County Public Health and Human Services Director effective April 25, 2016, at the annual salary rate of \$136,323 (Pay Plan A1, Grade 32/Step M3 of the 2016 St. Louis County Management Compensation Plan), with benefits as provided by the Management Compensation Plan, payable from Fund 230, Agency 600001.