



## I-494 AUXILIARY LANE (BETWEEN FRANCE AVENUE AND I-35W)

### EASTBOUND AUXILIARY LANE ADDITION

The I-494 corridor commute is ranked as the 17th worst commute in the entire nation. The majority of the total traffic delay on I-494 is on the eastbound lanes between Hwy 169 and I-35W. Traffic on eastbound I-494 can be congested for up to eight hours each day. Approximately 21 percent of metro-area jobs are located along the I-494 corridor. Congestion will continue to get worse if improvements are not made soon.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation's I-494/TH62 Congestion Relief Study identified a number of potential improvements to improve traffic flow and increase safety. Survey participants prioritized selected potential road improvements based on an estimated percentage of funding. The top three ranking improvements were all located on I-494 and ranked among the least expensive alternatives.

To ease lane capacity deficiencies, one of the top ranked projects adds an auxiliary lane (1.4 miles) on eastbound I-494 beginning at the France Avenue loop entrance and extending past Xerxes Avenue and Penn Avenue ending at the I-35W southbound exit. Construction could coincide with the I-35W/I-494 Turbine Interchange Improvements – Phase I and Metro Transit's Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit work in 2018-2019 to minimize construction costs and delay to the public.

### COST

This portion of the project is estimated to cost \$12.9 million.

### QUESTIONS

For more information, contact Public Works Director Karl Keel at 952-563-8731, email: [kkeel@BloomingtonMN.gov](mailto:kkeel@BloomingtonMN.gov).