
Public Open House Summary

82nd Street Project – Design Phase
September 27, 2023



82nd Street
Project



CARVER
COUNTY

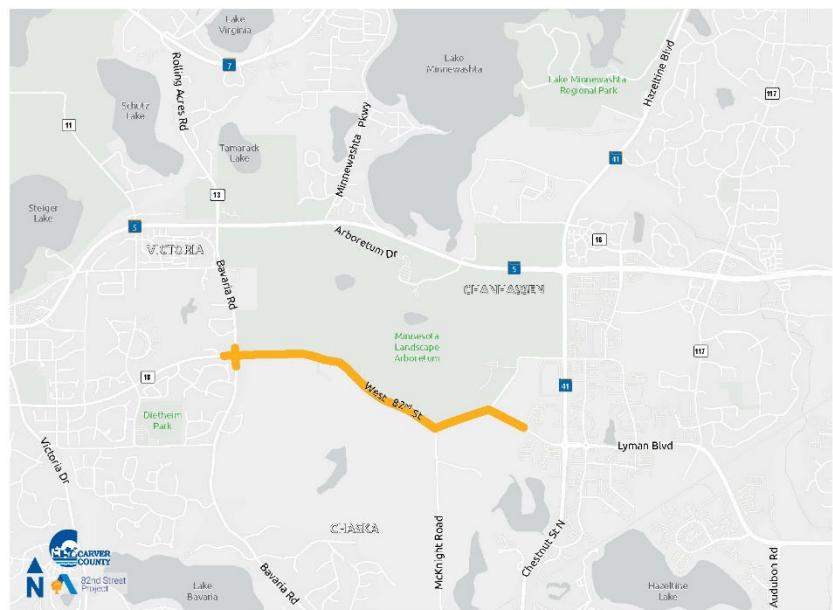
Project Overview

Carver County and its partners are advancing several projects from the Arboretum Area Transportation Plan, a visioning study that identified transportation needs and priorities in the cities of Chaska, Chanhausen, and Victoria.

The 82nd Street Project will complete a missing connection between Highway 13 (Bavaria Rd.) to just west of Highway 41. Highway 18/82nd St. improvements will provide a critical connection for the City of Victoria, as well as future access to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and residences and businesses in the cities of Chaska and Chanhausen.

The 82nd Street project aligns with the vision set forth in the Arboretum Area Transportation Plan (AATP) to address the following community priorities:

- Reduce traffic congestion
- Improve road safety
- Enhance walking and bicycling conditions and connections
- Respect the environment
- Connect local destinations



The first phase of public engagement for this project began in the Fall of 2023 and included a public open house event. See below for a summary of the public open house, including outreach methods, meeting materials, and a summary of public feedback.

Public Open House

Overview

Carver County hosted a joint open house for the 82nd Street Project and Highway 5 Project on September 27th 2023. The purpose of the public meeting was to:

- Share the recommended visions from the Arboretum Area Transportation Plan.
- Discuss the proposed design options for each project. Information included what was decided in the study phase and what still requires public feedback.
- Present the latest project schedules and concept layout for public comment.



The joint public open house was held in the MacMillian Auditorium of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum’s Oswald Visitor Center. The auditorium was divided into two rooms with a physical wall. The welcome/greeter station was hosted just outside the auditorium in the Reedy Gallery, along with overview exhibits for nearby projects (e.g., Victoria Downtown West Project, Crimson Bay Road Improvements and Arboretum Master Plan). The event was held in-person, open-style (no presentation), and did not include a virtual option to attend. Meeting materials were posted on the project website after the meeting.

Outreach methods

The joint public meeting was broadly promoted in the community, with outreach and communications strategies including:

- Mailed postcard invitations to comprehensive mailing list spanning residence in Chaska, Chanhausen, and Victoria
- Facebook advertising and social media promotion on county and city pages
- Flyers and project handout distribution
- Email notifications to project contact lists and elected officials
- Press release and traditional media advertising

The project information boards and project layout were posted on the project website after the meeting for those who were unable to attend.

Additionally, the 82nd Street Project hosted a neighborhood meeting with residents directly adjacent to the 82nd Street project area one month before the open house. Invitations to the September 27th public meeting and postcards were sent to residents adjacent to the project area.

Meeting materials

The following materials were provided at the public open house. After the event, meeting materials were posted to the project webpage.

Display boards: The project presented nine display boards. Information presented included:

- Project overview
- Existing conditions
- Project schedule
- Design considerations (i.e., roundabout, creek crossing options, etc.)
- Next steps & how to stay involved

Layouts: A preliminary layout showing roadway design and areas of the project being further evaluated was available to review and provided comments.

Handouts: A project overview handout was available at the welcome table, along with project contact cards.

Comment cards: Comment cards were provided to capture public feedback. The cards included space for attendees to write their name, email address, and nearest intersection, and prompted them to note any opportunities or challenges they saw in the presented plans.

Contact cards: Contact cards with the project webpage, phone number, and email were provided.



What we heard

The 82nd Street Project received five written comments and ten comments added to the preliminary project layout. Largely, meeting attendees shared positive support for the 82nd Street Project. Community members shared positive feedback on the multi-modal improvements and improved regional connect/vehicle mobility.

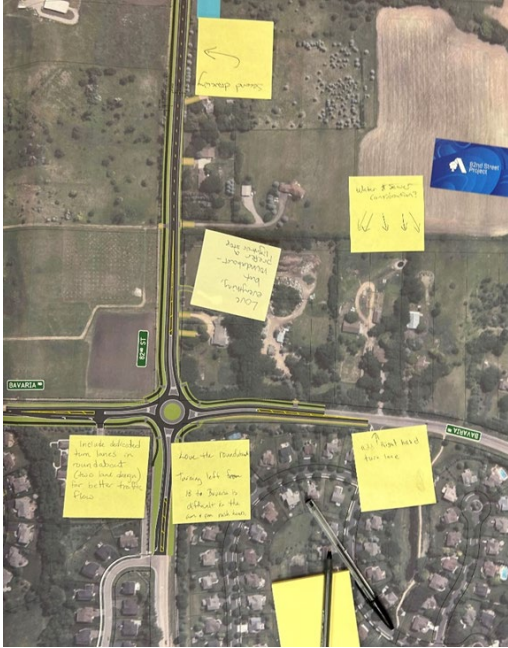


General themes from attendees:

- Positive support for the preliminary layout and roundabout at 82nd/Bavaria
- Questions about schedule, construction staging and posted detour routes
- Concerns about pedestrian safety, multimodal connections to existing trail and sidewalk network and uncertainty regarding pedestrian crossing at the new roundabout
- Concerns about vehicle speeds and regional traffic using 82nd Street
- Positive feedback and general comments received throughout the meeting

Public comments received:

- “I am excited to see that a roundabout is included in the final decision! I use the roadway frequently and that intersection needs attention. I am also happy to see the line-up with Lyman Blvd. The road narrows quite a bit, please consider making a bit wider roadway.”
- “We are highly concerned about excessive encroachment into our property. Particularly, we are concerned that our land will be converted into a road and the mature trees on the north side of the road will be moved or cut down. The arboretum side of the road is a ditch. PLEASE, PLEASE don’t take our trees in favor of preserving a ditch. We are also concerned about safety. Speed limit of 40 MPH is too fast, as it will embolden drivers to continue to speed. Some municipalities are lowering speeds (St. Louis Park lowered residential streets to 20 mph) to protect homeowners in the community. 35 MPH is fast enough.”



- “Plan to have contractor complete roundabout while school is not in session. Too many buses use this intersection.”
- “82nd Street Project makes sense (unlike Highway 5) Great putting the roundabout at 18/82nd Street/Bavaria!”
- “While pedestrian walkway just added the east side of Bavaria (between 82nd and Hillpointe Lane), I’m concerned about walking to the west side of Bavaria at the new roundabout at 82nd/Bavaria. I cross at that intersection now to get to the Victoria Community Center and I’m worried that cars won’t slow down for pedestrians.”