

January 10, 2013

**Tuesday, January 15, 2013**

5:00 p.m. – Mayor/Council/Staff Strategic Planning Session – Lake Itasca Room

## *Preview of Next Week*

**Mayor/Council/Staff Strategic Planning/Organizational Development** – Tuesday, January 15 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and again Thursday, January 24 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The sessions, facilitated by Anita Duckor, Duckor & Associates, will be held in the Lake Itasca Room and dinner will be provided.

## *Council Update*

**Emerald Ash Borer Symposium.** It has been almost ten (10) years now since EAB first infested trees in Minneapolis. This destructive insect has since also been confirmed in Ramsey County and Houston County. Late in 2011, EAB was confirmed in Shoreview, which borders Anoka County, meaning the likelihood of EAB being found in Anoka County is fairly high. If the progression from other states, such as Michigan and Ohio, are any indication, the rate of mortality amongst ash trees will start to increase very rapidly over the next couple years. While EAB has not been confirmed in the City of Ramsey or Anoka County as of yet, it is only a matter of time before it's found. That will have definite impacts, both economically and aesthetically, on the City and property owners. A symposium focusing on EAB has been organized for February 12, 2013, at the Hopkins Center for the Arts, 11<sup>th</sup> & Main Downtown Hopkins, MN, at 9:00 a.m., that will include some of the leading experts from states already dealing with thousands of dead ash trees annually. This symposium is not only geared toward industry professionals but also for elected officials and property owners to provide direct insight into likely impacts of EAB and possibly management strategies a municipality may wish to consider. *Attached to the Weekly Update is a brochure for this upcoming Emerald Ash Borer Symposium.*

### **Department Activities:**

#### **Building Maintenance**

- Take down holiday tree and decorations
- Work on miscellaneous heating issues
- Repair broken faucets

#### **City Clerk**

- Met w/Nowthen City Clerk (Corrie) - their Council would like to have a strategic planning session and Corrie was interested in visiting about strategic planning sessions we have done in the past – formats, length, etc.
- Coordinated new Mayor & Council Reception w/Building Maintenance
- Getting approved contracts/JPA's in for signatures and mailing (i.e. TimeSavers, NWACCC, etc.)

## Finance

- Prepare for preliminary audit – Thursday & Friday
- 2013-2017 CIP with final revisions
- Begin work on 2012 Payroll Year End Processing in preparation for running W2s

## HR

- Reviewed performance evaluations
- Researched and prepared personnel cases
- Met with key staff to discuss upcoming recruitments

## IT

- Two computer replacements/upgrades completed this week. Again keeping in mind this is simply a reorganization of resources to move older equipment out of circulation, while improving staff hardware with little or no cost.
- We're currently in the process of updating our email mailing lists. This process is typically automated, but has not been working as intended. Manual updating, for whatever reason, is necessary. Once updating is completed it could take up to 48 hours for the lists to update on staff computers.
- Intranet updated to reflect document changes for 2013.

## Parks

- Department of Corrections (DOC) cut brush in storm sewer retention ponds and then cleaned vehicles at the PW facility
- Staff gearing up for adding much needed windows (2) on south side of Park Center building at Central Park
- Parks and Recreation intern accepted position at Cottage Grove; fare-well Adam Moshier!!!

## Planning/Building

- Meeting to discuss implementation of recycling program in City parks
- Attended Geographic Information System (GIS) training at LOGIS
- Held various meetings for potential new land uses (Sunfish Lake Business Park, Former Super Valu, etc.)

## Police

- **Happy Holidays.** While City staff attended the holiday party at The Fountains on Friday evening, thieves hit the parking ramp and stole eight water supply brass valves. The valves are valued at \$180 apiece. Investigators viewed ramp video that showed a vehicle entering the ramp at 1744 hrs and leaving at 1801 hrs. Three suspects are seen on foot within the ramp that exited the vehicle. Investigation continues. The cities of Elk River, Coon Rapids and Brooklyn Park were also hit.
- **A First.** Officers received a call of a DK driver at the gas pumps at Super America. An officer stopped the vehicle for failing to signal a turn as the vehicle left the business. The driver indicated that she had been released from the hospital and was in pain. She further stated that she was distracted from her driving because she was hungry but was alright to drive. She was told to eat and was released from the scene. (Add this to the list of excuses for distracted driving)
- **Not So Funny.** Officers received a second hand report of a person having a chest pains at a residence in Ramsey, with the victim's son in route from Anoka. Upon arrival, officers learned that the victim had been on the phone with his son and had told him he was leaving a blank check on the table for him. The son told him he was going on a shopping spree with the check and the victim told him he was having a heart attack. The son did not realize he was joking. Officers and paramedics cleared.

- **Not Winterized.** Officers were dispatched to check a townhouse that had water coming out from under the front door. Officers arrived to a middle unit townhouse and observed water, approximately three feet deep, on the main level. There was paperwork on the front door saying the unit had been winterized and there was a lock box on the door. Officers broke the box open but there was not a key in the box. Officers then broke out a window next to the front door so that they could unlock the door. They were able to force the door open enough against the pressure of the water to allow the water to rush out. It appeared the fire sprinkler system had frozen and broke. The Fire Department and Public Works arrived to assist in shutting off the water and salting the sidewalks in the area. The water flowing out of the house was caught on squad video--you may have the opportunity to view the event at an upcoming All Staff Meeting!

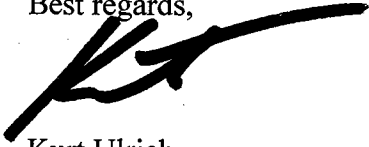
#### **Public Works**

- With the warmer weather this week we are out scraping some residential roads trying to get some of the ice pack off. This is a common request from residents when we get a stretch of warm weather. Crews will also be installing our new dynamic radar speed signs on Sunwood Dr in the COR this week. These are the signs that flash your speed when you exceed the posted speed limit. They also have the ability to collect basic traffic information such as vehicle counts and speeds.

#### **Save the Date:**

- **Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce Casino Royale Gala Dinner Fundraiser** – February 22, 2013 – New Location This Year – Green Haven Golf & Banquet Center, Anoka. Dinner starts at 7:00 p.m. Ticket information available on the attached flyer. *Attached to the Weekly Update is a Flyer for the Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce Casino Royal Gala.*

Best regards,



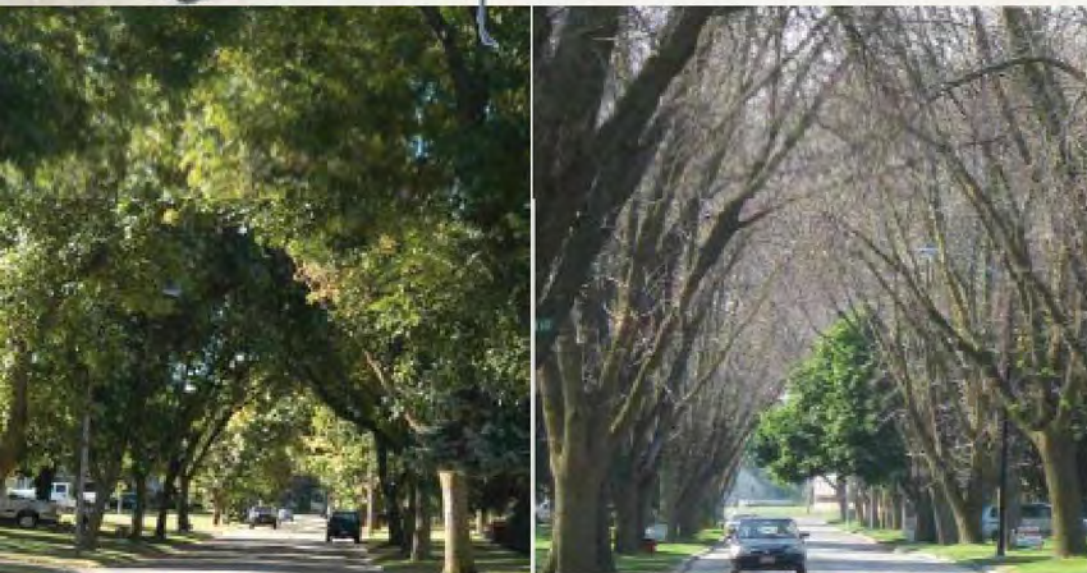
Kurt Ulrich  
City Administrator

Attachments: Brochure for this upcoming Emerald Ash Borer Symposium  
Flyer for the Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce Casino Royal Gala  
Article from the *History Center News* Newsletter regarding the 2012 Holiday  
Ornament from Ramsey  
Alliance Legislative Update, January 2013

# MANAGE EAB BEFORE IT MANAGES YOU



Learn from Nation's Leading EAB Experts



BEFORE: June 2006

AFTER: August 2009

**Toledo street before and after EAB** Photo courtesy of Dan Herms, OSU

## EMERALD ASH BORER SYMPOSIUM

Register Early!

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

[www.takeactionfortrees.com](http://www.takeactionfortrees.com)

Hopkins Center for the Arts

11th & Main Downtown Hopkins, MN :: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Registration Opens 7:30 AM; Lunch 12 - 12:30 PM

"It (the borer population) doesn't explode instantly. It takes some time to build up. But then it explodes exponentially. There are 60 million dead ash trees in southeast Michigan alone."

Deb McCullough, a forestry entomology professor at Michigan State University



## Is YOUR emerald ash borer plan ready for the death curve?

### Battling the Emerald Ash Borer Exponential Death Curve

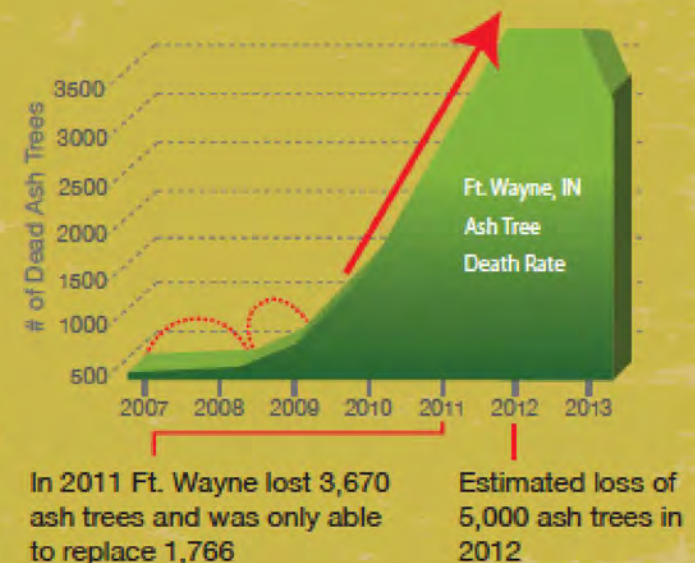
**The emerald ash borer multiplies fast!** At first it is invisible within a community. Then a few trees die as the insect population grows. Suddenly, this insect population explodes and ash tree death skyrockets. Within a 4 year time frame – 80% of all the ash trees will die.

Without a sufficient EAB readiness plan there will be devastating impacts:

**Economic Impact** Because ash trees comprise approximately 20-25% of all the urban trees in the Twin Cities, the number of dead trees will be overwhelming. Costs for removal and replacement will go up. Resources will be strained and overwhelmed. Budgets destroyed. The legal liability will be costly.

**Environmental Impact** The sudden loss of many mature trees in a community will impact wildlife, storm water mitigation, energy costs, water usage for lawns, as well as many other impacts including quality of life.

**Public Safety Impact** Trees killed by EAB become brittle quickly. They drop large limbs within months of dying that could cause property damage, injuries, or worse.



Dan Herms, the leading Emerald Ash Borer expert in the country, and a panel of other top speakers, will make the presence of Emerald Ash Borer real for the audience. The exponential curve of death will wreak havoc on a community's environment, monetary resources, and legal liability. Approximately 80% of the ash trees in a region will die in a four-year period. Whether you are a homeowner, business owner or a city—without a plan—if you wait and do not act, your costs and consequences to deal with this epidemic will be substantially greater.



## Learn from Nation's Leading EAB Experts

ISA CEU's AVAILABLE

**Dr. Dan Herms**  
Ohio State University

Dr. Herms is one of the leading EAB experts in the country. His groundbreaking research and insect behavior models are used by other researchers, scientists, and tree managers to understand the behavior and predict the future outcome of any Emerald Ash Borer epidemic. Dan will bring an understanding of this issue that few others have the experience or expertise to articulate, including the latest in EAB research and science.



**Chad Tinkel**  
City of Ft. Wayne, Indiana

Chad has been through the epidemic phase of Emerald Ash Borer and is still dealing with the repercussions. His city, Fort Wayne, Indiana, currently has thousands of dead standing ash trees. Chad brings us the sobering reality of what it is like to have 80% of your ash trees die in 4 years as well as the lessons he has learned and advice for those who are preparing for this onslaught. He will discuss the many unexpected outcomes that he deals with in the face of EAB, such as phone calls from residents, working within the politics of the city, the 10 lawsuits he has handled so far, and debris disposal. Chad's story is both chilling and fascinating.



**Shawn Bernick, MS**  
Rainbow Scientific

How should a city educate its citizens? How have other communities partnered with their citizens in dealing with this problem? What are ways that neighborhood associations can be prepared and proactive? Where should tree preservation methods be utilized? Shawn will bring a perspective that will help with some of the nuts and bolts of being in action to address this issue.



**Richard Cowles, PhD**  
Connecticut Ag Experiment Station

Richard Cowles is one of the top experts in the country on the interactions of insecticides and the environment. His knowledge and understanding of how these compounds work and interact with soil, trees, and insects is highly insightful; he will give you valuable information on how to safely use treatment tools, where to be careful, and valid concerns for anyone dealing with EAB. His ability to clearly articulate this information will bring real science to this controversial topic, for both the lay person and the arborist.



**Richard Hauer, PhD**  
University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point

Rich brings a point of view to the topic of Emerald Ash Borer that creates a sensible context for the people responsible for making plans for their city, neighborhood, or yard. He brings a unique model, interesting stories and insights, as well as many examples of response plans that progressive cities have utilized to deal with tree-related emergencies.



**Gary Johnson, PhD**  
Moderator  
University of Minnesota – Extension





# EMERALD ASH BORER SYMPOSIUM

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Learn from Nation's Leading EAB Experts

Cost: \$25\* **REGISTRATION IS OPEN TO ALL!**

Register Online Today!

[www.takeactionfortrees.com](http://www.takeactionfortrees.com)

For questions or to register by phone: Contact Kim Fischer at 952.252.0532  
[kfischer@rainbowtreecare.com](mailto:kfischer@rainbowtreecare.com)

Hopkins Center for the Arts :: **9:00 AM**

Free parking across the street in the public ramp. Coffee all day; Lunch with beverages at 12 noon.

\* Cost is free for attendees of October 22 Coalition Seminar



Kim Fischer :: EAB Management Consultant  
Ashcare Division of Rainbow Tree Company  
11571 K-Tel Dr., Minnetonka, MN 55343

*Anoka Area Chamber  
Of Commerce  
"Casino Royale"*  
Gala Dinner Fundraiser

**February 22, 2013**

*New Location This Year!*  
Green Haven Golf &  
Banquet Center, Anoka  
5:30-Social, Dinner-7:00

Presenting Sponsor:

**FEDERAL PREMIUM AMMUNITION**



This is the biggest event of the Chamber year!  
The "Casino Royale" Gala Dinner

**LIMITED SEATING!**

Donation Opportunities:  
Silent Auction, Live Auction,  
Raffles, Sponsorship

*Ticket Information and Table Packages*

**"Royal Flush" Table Sponsor**

**\$1200**

You'll get:

- 4 tickets (8 people at your own table)
- Priority Table Seating
- Your Impression on the BIG screens rotating with other sponsors at different times of the event
- Special Signage at your table
- Acknowledgment in the Event Program & upcoming Chamber Newsletter
- Special acknowledgment at the event
- 20 Raffle Tickets
- Roses for your special attendees
- Full page ad in an upcoming edition of the Chamber Newsletter! (\$99 value)

**"Black Jack" Table Sponsor**

**\$750**

You'll get:

- 4 tickets (8 people at your own table)
- Priority Table Seating
- Your Impression on the BIG screens rotating with other sponsors at different times of the event
- Special Signage at your table
- Acknowledgment in the Event Program & upcoming Chamber Newsletter

**Individual Tickets**

**\$125 per couple**

You'll get a fabulous dinner for two plus chances to win up to \$1000 in The Gala Game and other games to be played.

*Sponsorship Opportunities With a Lucky Streak!*

Have your business STAND OUT in the crowd by being a sponsor. More information on these sponsorships can be found on the other side of this flyer. Numerous sponsorships are available including:

- "Roulette" Heads or Tails Game
- "Poker Chip" Live Auction
- "One Armed Bandit" Bag of Swag Game
- "Pit Boss" BIG Raffle
- "Slots" Win All the Wine on the Table Raffle
- "7 or 11" Non-Winning Ticket Prize

## Sponsorship Opportunities

**"Roulette" Heads or Tails Game-One sponsorship available. Cost \$700. Here's what you'll get:** This game will be played twice during the event. One person will win \$100 during each of the games. Your name will be featured throughout the evening as the game is being played. Your impression will be on the BIG screens, rotating with other sponsors at different times of the evening. You'll receive special acknowledgement at the event, in the event program and Chamber newsletter.

**"Poker Chip" Live Auction-One sponsorship available. Cost \$500. Here's what you'll get:** The Live Auction is always a BIG hit with the crowd. Our professional auctioneer will give you plenty of pump for the dollar. Your name will be featured at the raffle table throughout the evening. Your impression will be on the BIG screens, rotating with other sponsors at different times of the evening. You'll receive special acknowledgement at the event, in the event program and Chamber newsletter.

**"One Armed Bandit" Bag of Swag Raffle-One sponsorship available. Cost \$500. Here's what you'll get:** This raffle will feature a table full of bags of swag that people can buy for \$10 each. Three people will find something special in their bag and will win \$100, \$150 and \$250. Bags cost \$10 each. Your name will be featured at the raffle table throughout the evening. Your impression will be on the BIG screens, rotating with other sponsors at different times of the evening. You'll receive special acknowledgement at the event, in the event program and Chamber newsletter.

**"Pit Boss" BIG Raffle-One sponsorship available. Cost \$500. Here's what you'll get:** This raffle is held throughout the evening and will feature tables full of wonderful prizes. Tickets are \$1 each. Your name will be featured at the raffle table throughout the evening and said during each give-a-way segment. Your impression will be on the BIG screens, rotating with other sponsors at different times of the evening. You'll receive special acknowledgement at the event, in the event program and Chamber newsletter.

**"Slots" Win All the Wine on the Table Raffle-One sponsorship available. Cost \$500. Here's what you'll get:** This raffle will feature a table full of wine that will be provided by the Chamber. One ticket holder will win all the wine on the table. Tickets are \$10 each. Your name will be featured at the raffle table throughout the evening. Your impression will be on the BIG screens, rotating with other sponsors at different times of the evening. You'll receive special acknowledgement at the event, in the event program and Chamber newsletter.

**"7 or 11" Non-Winning Ticket Prizes-Five sponsorships available at \$100 each. Here's what you'll get:** As one of five businesses to sponsor the Non-Winning Ticket Prize Table. This table features a prize package for all non-winning Gala Game tickets. Sponsorship cost is \$100. Your name will be featured at the table during the evening along with special acknowledgment at the event and in the event program and Chamber newsletter. Your impression will be on the BIG screens, rotating with other sponsors at different times of the evening.

## What is the Gala Dinner?

A total of up to 200 tickets (400 total attendees) will be sold. Each ticket is numbered and has a chance at numerous cash prizes that will be drawn for during the event. Cash prizes ranging from \$100 to \$1,000. Every non-winning ticket will also receive a gift. That means that no matter what, you will be a winner at this event. Also, a number of raffles will be held along with a silent and live auction. The profits from this event go toward the Chamber Scholarship Program and Chamber Membership Programming.

---

## "Casino Royale Gala Dinner" Registration Form

Please fill out the form and fax to (763.421.0577) or mail to: Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce, 12 Bridge Square, Anoka, MN 55303. This event sells out so reserve your tickets and sponsorships right away.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, we will be a **"Royal Flush" Table Sponsor**. Cost is \$1200.00.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, we will be a **"Black Jack" Table Sponsor**. Cost is \$750.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, we would like \_\_\_\_\_ Ticket(s) for the Gala Dinner. Cost is \$125 per ticket which serves two people.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, we would like to sponsor the **"Roulette" Heads or Tails Game**. Cost \$700.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, we would like to sponsor the **"Poker Chip" Live Auction**. Cost \$500.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, we would like to sponsor the **"One Armed Bandit" Bag of Swag Game**. Cost \$500.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, we would like to sponsor the **"Pit Boss" BIG Raffle**. Cost \$500.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, we would like to sponsor the **"Slots" Win All the Wine on the Table Raffle**. Cost \$500.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, we would like to be one of five sponsors of the **"7 or 11" Non-Winning Ticket Prizes**. Cost \$100.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, we would like to donate a prize for the Silent Auction/Raffle. Please have someone call us.

Firm Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax this form to the Chamber at 763.421.0577 or mail it to:  
Anoka Area Chamber, 12 Bridge Square, Anoka, MN 55303



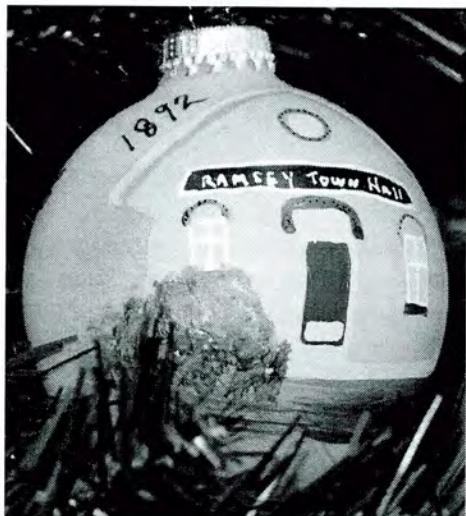
Code #5 is Polypropylene. Most of the Rubbermaid/Sterlite tubs on the market today are made from polypropylene and this is your best choice in preservation materials if you are using a plastic tub. Codes #1, #2, and #4 are all acceptable, but #5 is best for safe storage of prized possessions.

means something to you, right? If it doesn't, why are you keeping it? If it does, inspecting it is a great time to enjoy it.

Don't forget to write down what the object means to you and keep the story with the object. If it's precious to you, be sure the next generation knows why to help them treasure it as much as you do.

*(This information is drawn from the book Saving Stuff, by Don Williams, senior conservator of the Smithsonian Institution.)*

## 2012 Holiday Ornament from Ramsey



The 2012 ornament from Ramsey.

It is always great fun to see what our communities come up with for their ornament on the County Tree in the ACHS lobby each year. This year, Ramsey City Councilperson Jason Tossey presented ACHS with a hand-painted glass ball on December 4. The ornament depicts the District 28 School building, built in 1892 and used as a school until 1949. After that, since the township did not have a town hall, they began using the school as their town hall. The building served as Ramsey's township, then city, hall until 1978 when a new Ramsey City Hall was completed. It is a fitting commemoration for the ornament painted by Ramsey resident, Jean Marie.

There are only four communities left to place ornaments on the tree before every city and township in the county are represented with their special ornament. All the county communities have been on the tree with individual bows since the project started, but now there are just four bows left to replace with ornaments.

**Subject:** FW: Transportation Alliance Legislative Update Jan 8, 2013  
**Attachments:** image010.emz



## Alliance Legislative Update

January 8, 2013

---

### ***2013 Legislative Session Convenes***

The 2013 Legislative Session has officially begun today with the swearing-in of members. The regular session

needs to conclude on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Between now and May 20<sup>th</sup>, the Transportation Alliance will be working to build a strong coalition to advocate for increased investments in transportation as part of the overall agenda of improving the state's economy, creating jobs and improving the quality of life for Minnesotans.

Legislative leaders have made it clear that balancing the general fund budget is the top priority. The state faces a \$1 billion deficit for the coming biennium and legislative leaders and the governor are looking to deal with the long-term structural deficit in the budget.

Tax reform is another priority of the administration and we expect to see a tax reform proposal that involves broadening the base for charging state sales tax and possibly lowering some tax rates.

Governor Dayton will be releasing his budget on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. It's not clear what the budget will look like for transportation beyond the usual appropriations from the Highway User Tax Distribution Fund. The recommendations of the Transportation Finance Advisory Committee (TFAC) have not been wholly embraced by the administration. There continues to be debate among legislative leaders about whether or not the legislature will pass a capital bonding bill this year or wait until next session.

The Transportation Alliance will be working its member organizations to present a united front at the capitol this session. Our [Transportation Alliance 2013 Legislative Agenda](#) calls for a strong transportation funding package that involves revenue increases, bonding requests, local option fees that could be levied at the discretion of local governments, and tax reform proposals.

### ***Transportation Alliance Hosts Workshop for Legislators***

The Minnesota Transportation Alliance hosted a Transportation Workshop yesterday for legislators to learn more about Minnesota's transportation system and how it is funded. We had 28 legislators from both parties and both bodies attend the event which featured presentations from the Alliance, Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), League of Minnesota Cities (LMC), Associated General Contractors of Minnesota (AGC), American Council of Engineering Companies of Minnesota (ACEC), the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB), the Minnesota Public Transit Association (MPTA), the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 49, and the Laborers District Council of Minnesota and North Dakota.

Those in attendance included the Chairs of the 3 Transportation Committees and many of the members of those committees.

# Transportation Day

at

## The Capitol

February 7, 2013

Kelly Inn, St. Paul

9:30 am to 3:00 pm

### REGISTER

**TODAY: [www.transportationalliance.com](http://www.transportationalliance.com)**

**Join Your Colleagues and Make a Difference for transportation in your part of the state. We make it easy to meet with legislators and hear first-hand from key decision makers. We make appointments for you.**

- Hear from the New **Transportation Committee Chairs**
- New MnDOT Commissioner **Charlie Zelle** Invited
- **Governor Dayton** Invited
- Visit with colleagues from all sectors of Transportation and all parts of the state
- Meet with your **New Legislators**
- Updates on Transportation Funding/ New Legislation

#### ***New Transportation Committee Membership***

The membership lists for the new Transportation Committees have been published. The Senate has one committee: Transportation and Public Safety Division, a division of the full Finance Committee. The Chair of the Committee is Senator Scott Dibble (DFL-Minneapolis) a long-time champion for transportation who has been involved in the efforts to dedicate the motor vehicle sales tax to transportation and the passage of Chapter 152, the comprehensive transportation funding package passed in 2008. The [full committee list](#) is available on the Senate web site.

In the House, there are two committees: [Transportation Finance](#) and [Transportation Policy](#). The Transportation Finance Committee is chaired by Representative Frank Hornstein (DFL-Minneapolis) another strong ally for transportation funding over the years who worked closely with us on the veto override in 2008. The Transportation Policy Committee is chaired by Representative Ron Erhardt (DFL-Edina) who is back in the legislature as part of the DFL caucus after a four year hiatus. Rep. Erhardt was the leader in developing the legislation that led to the constitutional amendment

dedicating the motor vehicle sales tax to transportation and worked to build support among Republicans for the veto override in 2008.

### ***Annual Report on Major Highway Projects Released***

MnDOT has issued the latest Annual Report on Major Highway Projects. This year's report covers more projects and combines the report on expenditures from the trunk highway fund. The Transportation Alliance worked with the Minnesota Chamber on legislation that expanded the scope of this report to provide more information on the status of projects as well as how the bid price compared to the engineers' estimate.

The legislation calls for future reports to include more detailed information on the use of trunk highway funds within each MnDOT district and audit information on data systems. These reports provide important information to the legislature on the use of resources and the delays that can occur with funding shortfalls.

### ***New T&I Committee Chair Spells Out Priorities for 2013***

US Rep. Bill Shuster, the new Chair of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee laid out his priorities for the year in an article in Roll Call.

Shuster's top priority is reauthorization of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) along with the reauthorization of federal passenger and freight rail safety programs which expire in 2013.

He notes that the committee will pursue an aggressive oversight agenda. He states:

Oversight of the recently enacted MAP-21 will be critical to ensure its major reforms, including the streamlining of the bureaucratic approval process for transportation projects, are implemented in accordance with congressional intent. Ensuring we move forward with important aviation modernization reforms is also essential to reduce air traffic delays, cut down on emissions and pollution, and lower costs for consumers. We will also focus on holding federal agencies accountable to ensure common-sense regulations and to restore regulatory balance to provide the certainty necessary to create jobs.

Finally, preparing for the reauthorization of surface transportation programs, which expire on Sept. 30, 2014, will be a priority of the committee....Key to that effort will be paying for the investments responsibly. With the Highway Trust Fund facing its own version of a fiscal cliff in the coming years, we must find a way to pay for transportation improvements without borrowing from our children. We cannot borrow our way to a better future.

## **Transportation Alliance Washington, D.C. Fly-In June 4-6, 2013**

*Federal transportation funds are critical – we need to ensure uninterrupted funding for Minnesota.*

Join your colleagues and hear from the Minnesota Congressional delegation including its newest member, Rep. Rick Nolan who was recently appointed to the House T&I Committee.

Margaret Donahoe  
Executive Director  
The MN Transportation Alliance  
[margaret@transportationalliance.com](mailto:margaret@transportationalliance.com)  
[www.transportationalliance.com](http://www.transportationalliance.com)  
525 Park St Ste 240  
St. Paul, MN 55103-2106  
(651) 659-0804

Watch What The Alliance Can Do  
For You!  
[Click Here to Watch our New 3  
minute Video](#)

