

**City of Ramsey
BNSF Railroad Interchange Initiative
2015 Consulting Services Agreement**

**Amendment 1
July, 2015**

Overview

The Tinklenberg Group respectfully submits the attached work plan as Amendment 1 to its Consulting Services Agreement with the City of Ramsey. This work plan is proposed in response to the City's continuing interest in pursuing funding for the construction of underpasses on Ramsey Boulevard and Sunfish Lake Boulevard at their intersection with the BNSF rail corridor. The heightened interest and awareness the City has created among key decision makers through its earlier efforts provides this work plan a remarkable basis for achieving the outcomes identified and advancing the improvements the City is seeking.

Timing and Cost

The activities identified in the attached work plan will begin immediately upon the City's adoption of this amendment and continue through the end of December, 2015. It can be amended at any time by mutual consent of the parties and terminated without cause by either party with 30 days advance notice.

The cost of the Consulting Services associated with attached work plan will be \$27,000 payable in five equal monthly installments of \$5,400 beginning immediately following the City's adoption of the amendment.

Agreed and Approved

Kurtis G. Ulrich
City Administrator, City of Ramsey

Elwyn Tinklenberg
President, The Tinklenberg Group

Date

Date

Ramsey US Trunk Highway 10 Improvement Development Plan

July, 2015

The City of Ramsey's leadership on issues related to the safety and congestion of US TH 10 has produced both significant improvements and important opportunities in the corridor. The improvements are best exemplified in the on-going construction of the Armstrong Interchange project, but other, less visible improvements have occurred as well. These include the high degree of cooperation and collaboration that characterizes the work with the county and other cities in the corridor, the heightened awareness of corridor issues among key legislative and congressional leaders, the growing public and business community support for the City's US TH 10 efforts, and increasing interest in economic development opportunities in the City along US TH 10. All of these improvements contribute in significant ways to the momentum that has built around the City's US TH 10 initiatives and the realistic opportunities that now exist for those initiatives to succeed in attracting additional public investment in planned corridor improvements.

This proposed work plan seeks to capitalize on those improvements and opportunities by implementing a series of strategies focused on the goal of securing funding for additional construction projects in the US TH 10 corridor benefiting the City of Ramsey. These strategies will be targeted in three areas of opportunity: federal support, state legislative support, and Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) support. It is critical to engage these efforts now in order to take full advantage of the important inroads the City has through its earlier legislative initiatives, its very successful federal contacts, and the effective way in which the City has broadly communicated its US TH 10 rail crossing and safety concerns. At both the federal and state levels, long term transportation funding decisions are currently being considered and the strategies proposed in this work plan will help insure that the city continues to be in the best possible position to benefit.

1. Federal

A. Federal support strategies will include:

- Follow-up work with congressional members and staff contacted during the City's June meetings in DC

- On-going efforts to identify and secure potential federal funding sources for US TH 10 improvements
 - Track and capitalize on funding opportunities that may emerge in the process of reauthorizing federal transportation legislation
 - Schedule and organize a tour of US TH 10 improvements and opportunities for Minnesota's member of the US House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
- B. Federal support outcomes
- Improved connections with congressional members and staff
 - Identification of optional federal funding sources
 - Transportation funding targeted local projects
- C. Federal support strategies deliverables
- Monthly written progress/activity report to City Council
 - Site visit and meeting with US Representative

2. State legislative

- A. State legislative support strategies will include:
- Scheduling and organizing tours of Ramsey US TH 10 needs and projects with members of the legislative bonding/capital investment committees
 - Developing and implementing targeted contact plans for key legislative leaders
 - Developing and nurturing positive and on-going media contacts regarding US TH 10 needs and issues
 - Supporting continued development and growth of business community awareness of and engagement in US TH 10 issues and projects
 - Organizing and facilitating a US TH 10 summit meeting of interested communities along the entire corridor to increase visibility and awareness of corridor needs/issues and to support broader, coordinated efforts to fund necessary improvements
 - Developing and organizing essential groundwork for US TH 10 funding proposals to be introduced during the 2016 session of the state legislature
- B. State legislative support outcomes
- Improved connections with critical state legislators
 - Improved connections with other corridor communities
 - Increased public awareness vis increased media placements
 - Increased participation of local business community in US TH 10 advocacy
 - Funding consideration by legislature in 2016
- C. State legislative support deliverables
- Monthly written progress/activity report to City Council
 - Inclusion of Ramsey on State Bonding tour

- Draft 2016 legislation to provide funding
- US TH 10 “summit” meeting of corridor communities

3. MnDOT

A. MnDOT support strategies will include:

- Support and monitor development of funding categories appropriate to issues on US TH 10
- Continue to identify and capitalize on opportunities to keep the MnDOT Commissioner and key MnDOT staff informed about and supportive of improvement needs in the US TH 10 corridor
- Work with the Metro Division of MnDOT to advance the schedule of identified improvements on US TH 10
- Continue to develop and maintain awareness and support by the Governor and key staff in the Governor’s office regarding US TH 10 issues and opportunities
- Utilize the US TH 10 summit meeting referenced above to engage broader support within MnDOT for corridor improvements

B. MnDOT support outcomes

- Improved connections with MnDOT via the Commissioner’s office and District offices
- Improved awareness and identification of corridor improvements on MnDOT’s scheduled plans

C. MnDOT support deliverables

- Monthly written progress/activity report to City Council
- US TH 10 projects included on MnDOT’s construction schedule

Activities implementing these strategies are proposed to begin immediately upon approval by the City Council and will continue through the end of December, 2015