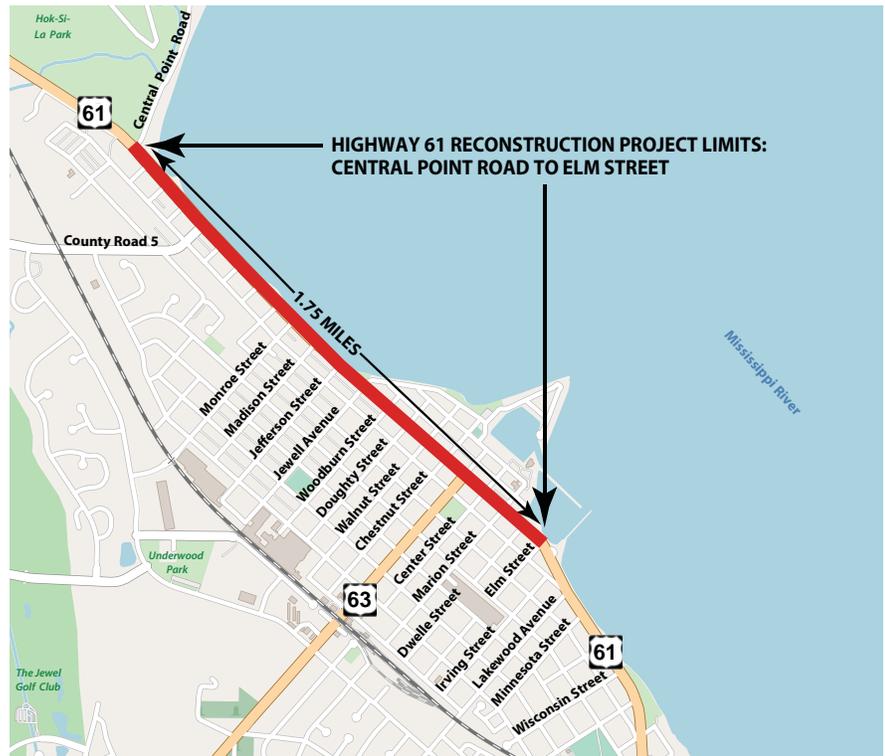


The 3-lane highway project being developed by MnDOT and the City of Lake City provides significant improvements to the Highway 61 corridor through the community. The previously considered option of resurfacing the existing 4-lane undivided roadway would keep the corridor largely as is with no notable improvements. The graphic on the second page illustrates the proposed 3-lane design and includes a photo of the existing 4-lane undivided for comparison purposes.

The 3-lane reconstruction project would occur in 2020. If the project is changed, the construction would be delayed an uncertain number of years and funding would have to be resecured.

A 3-lane highway provides the following benefits, compared to a 4-lane undivided highway:



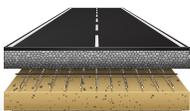
Safety

- Reduces total crashes by 30% to 50%



Traffic Speeds

- Reduces vehicles traveling at least 5 mph over the speed limit by 60% to 70%
- Results in more uniform and consistent traffic speeds



Pavement

- Replaces deteriorated pavement and subgrade (portions are 95-years-old)
- Provides long-term fix (35+ years, compared to 10-15 years with a 4-lane resurfacing).



Water Quality/Lake Pepin Benefits

- Decreases roadway run-off into Lake Pepin due to reduced pavement surface

The proposed project provides the following bike and pedestrian benefits that will not occur if the 4-lane is retained:

- Continuous sidewalks for residents and visitors (currently 3,300 feet of roadway without sidewalks)
- Fewer traffic lanes for bicyclists and pedestrians to cross
- Two pedestrian-activated crosswalk flashers
- Off-street trail for bicyclists (currently bicyclists share the road with vehicles)
- Additional greenspace

For more information, please contact:

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Illustration of the proposed Highway 61 improvements.

Roadway Traffic Capacity

As illustrated in the graphic to the right, both a 3-lane and a 4-lane undivided roadway easily accommodate the existing and forecast traffic volumes through Lake City.

MnDOT is also researching the feasibility of passing lanes on Highway 61 north of Lake City to provide safer passing opportunities. The passing lanes are being considered because the 3-lane construction is a change from current conditions.

