

# Dakota County 2022 Highway 50 Safety Improvements



VI-2022

Highway 50 is a significant east-west connection that carries 5,000 to 5,700 vehicles daily through agricultural areas of southern Dakota County. This highway segment is identified as a future principal arterial as it provides an east-west connection across the county and connects to Scott and Goodhue counties.

Highway 50 is a rural two-lane highway with narrow shoulders, failing drainage, poor sight lines and a lack of dedicated turn lanes at major intersections. Residents and township officials have identified safety concerns. The intersection with Highway 85 (Hogan Avenue) in the City of New Trier needs reconstruction to improve the pedestrian crossing and make it ADA accessible. The segment of Hogan Avenue north of Highway 50 has failing pavement and requires reconstruction.

**The issue:** The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) plans a resurfacing project for Highway 50 between Highway 52 and U.S. 61 in 2026, with no funding for safety improvements. If improvements aren't made with this project, the next opportunity to improve safety during a pavement resurfacing project will be more than a decade away.

**The solution:** Provide funding to increase the scope of MnDOT's planned 2026 pavement preservation project to include necessary safety improvements such as dedicated turn lanes, widened shoulders or bypass lanes, and the reconstruction of Hogan Avenue in the City of New Trier. This work will improve the safety of an important east-west connection through rural Dakota County used by residents, farmers and heavy commercial vehicles.

**State request: \$10 million**

## Contact

---

**Steve Mielke**

Physical Development Director  
Steven.Mielke@co.dakota.mn.us (952) 891-7007

**Matt Smith**

County Manager  
Matt.Smith@co.dakota.mn.us (651) 438-4528