

HIGHWAY 8

LET'S GET MOVING

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Highway 8 is an important interregional corridor that serves a variety of transportation needs. It is vital to sustaining local commerce and energizing future economic growth and vitality.

In recent years, Highway 8 has become increasingly strained due to high levels of daily commuters, large trucks hauling freight, and spikes in weekend recreational traffic.

A proliferation of secondary roads and private driveways provide direct access to and from Highway 8 which contribute to safety and mobility issues.

WHY IS THIS PROJECT NEEDED?



30% increase in future traffic

Traffic volumes on this two-lane highway **already exceeds 22,000 vehicles per day** and are expected to increase 30-40% by the year 2040.



No current bicycle or pedestrian facilities

This project provides an opportunity for an off-road pedestrian and bicycle trail that could connect to other regional trails.



1,084

crashes reported along TH 8 from 2012-2021

7 fatalities from 2012-2021

12 serious injuries from 2012-2021



Over **225** access/conflict points over the **22 mile corridor**

including county highways, city streets and commercial, residential and agricultural driveways.



Residential and commercial development along the TH 8 corridor is continuing to occur and expected to increase.



"The project will address system performance, improve the safety of the corridor for motorists and pedestrians, and supports local and regional economic and community development."

- US Representative Pete Stauber, MN District 8



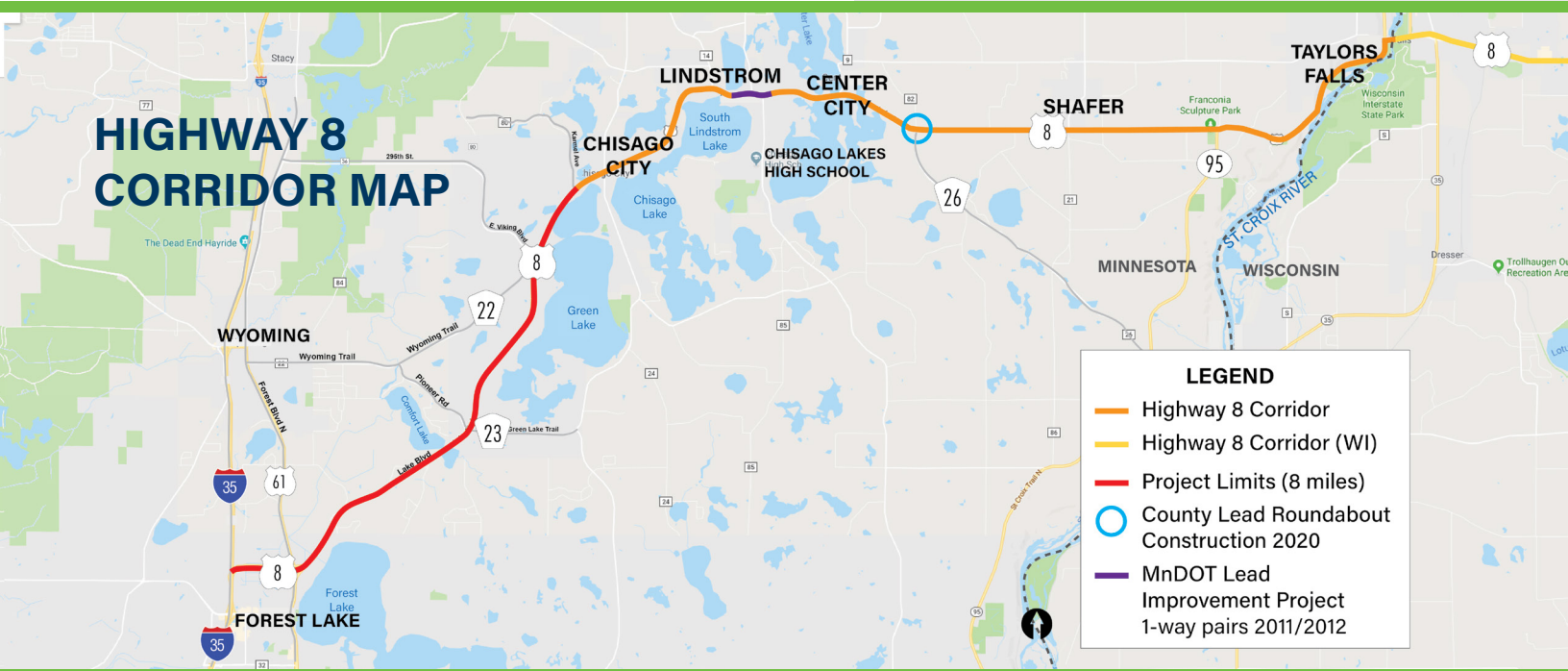
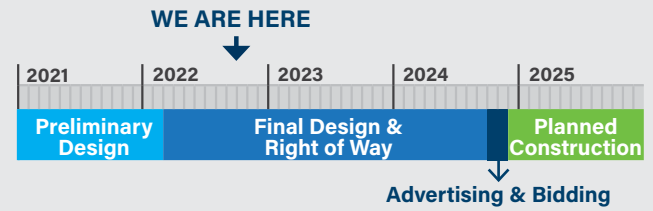
"On a daily basis I see drivers taking risks, such as illegally passing on the shoulder, which often results in a serious crash."

- Sheriff Brandon Thyen, Chisago County Sheriff's Office

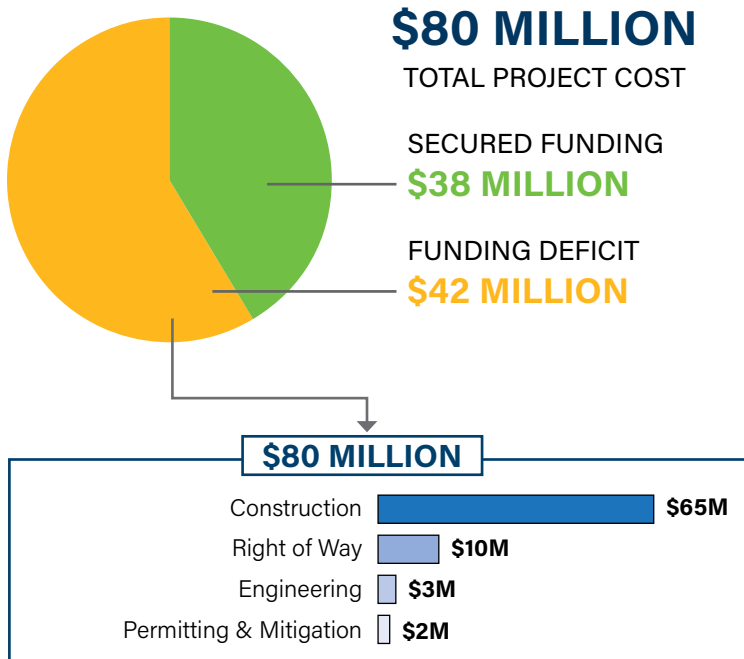
THE SOLUTION

The solution will likely involve converting Highway 8 to a 4-lane divided roadway with a raised median/barrier or ditch separating directional traffic. Proper access management will play a critical part in improving safety and mobility.

PROJECT TIMELINE



WE ARE ASKING FOR YOUR SUPPORT



CONTACT

Joe K. Triplett, PE, County Engineer

651-213-8700 | Joe.Triplett@chisagocounty.us
 313 N. Main Street, Rm 400,
 Center City, MN 55012

www.chisagocounty.us/1115/Trunk-Highway-8

Trunk Highway 8 Coalition members:

- Chisago County
- Washington County
- City of Chisago
- City of Wyoming
- City of Forest Lake
- City of Lindstrom
- City of Center City
- City of Shafer
- City of Taylors Falls
- Chisago Lake Township
- Franconia Township
- Shafer Township
- Mndot Metro District
- TH 8 Taskforce
- Chisago County Sheriff's Department
- Lakes Area Police Department
- Wyoming Police Department
- Forest Lake Police Department
- Lakes Area EMS
- Chisago County HRA/EDA
- Wyoming Chamber of Commerce
- Chisago Lakes Chamber of Commerce
- Chisago Lakes School District
- Forest Lake School District
- Comfort Lake/Forest Lake Watershed District
- Chisago County Lake Improvement District

