

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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This legislation governs two highway projects on Trunk Highway 14 to reconstruct the segments as four-lane divided highways (which are roughly from New Ulm to North Mankato, and from Owatonna to Dodge Center). The bill:

- Requires submission to the Federal Highway Administration of the environmental impact statements for the two projects by two dates in calendar year 2010; and
- Mandates that after receiving final federal approval, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) must add each project to its construction schedule (the statewide transportation improvement program), and can not delay the projects from their scheduled start time except under special unforeseen circumstances and with notification to the legislature.

The bill also establishes that the requirements for the TH 14 projects do not increase funding for the MnDOT districts in which the projects are located, which has the effect of modifying the prioritization of projects to be undertaken in those districts.