

March 23, 2005

TO: John K. Abraham, Transportation Engineer
Charles Craft, Police Chief
Brian P. Murphy, Assistant City Manager/Services
Douglas J. Smith, Real Estate & Development Director
Steven J. Vandette, City Engineer

FROM: John Szerlag, City Manager

SUBJECT: Options/Ramifications for Proposed I-75/Crooks/Long Lake Interchange Improvement Project

As a result of the ICMA citizen survey where it was indicated that 51 percent of the residents oppose the above-referenced project, I was asked to delineate options as well as ramifications thereof available to City Council so they could either reaffirm or change their directive on whether to proceed. Given this, we'll identify the ramifications which includes pros and cons for the following options:

- I. Proceed with environmental assessment in conjunction with property acquisitions.
- II. Proceed with environmental assessment.

Once the assessment is complete, acquire property where applicable.
- III. Abandon the project before any further monies are expended on property purchases/environmental assessments.

Please know that there is another option, and that is to perform an environmental assessment and then abandon the project. However, this is not efficient nor effective and thus should not receive further consideration.

In addition to the above, I'd like your best forecast as to when you believe FHWA funding could be available for this project. Are we talking years or decades?

Please complete this assignment so that I may share it with City Council as a report and communication for the May 2, 2005 agenda. And as always, see me if you have any questions.

JS/mr\Szerlag\2005\To Staff Re Ramifications of I-75 Project

c: The Honorable Mayor and Council
Lori G. Bluhm, City Attorney
John M. Lamerato, Assistant City Manager/Finance & Administration