**Meeting to kick-off Henderson Flood Mitigation Hydraulic Modeling**

April 18, 2016

In attendance: Chris Bower, MnDOT; Ronda Allis, MnDOT; Fran Bigaouette, MnDOT; Nicole Bartelt, MnDOT; Petronella DeWall, MnDOT; Lon Berbich, City of Henderson; Rod Schumacher, ISG; Matt Thibert, ISG; Tim Becker, Sibley County Engineer; Darrell Pettis, Le Sueur County Engineer; Bobbie Harder, Sibley County Commissioner

The City of Henderson is interested in identifying ways to mitigate flood impacts to their community. The prudent first step is to undertake a flood feasibility study. One of the elements of a flood feasibility study is hydraulic modeling. Nicole Bartelt and Petra DeWall from the MnDOT Bridge Office in Oakdale have offered to conduct the hydraulic modeling. Chris Bower explained that this is just one piece of a larger feasibility study that will need to be completed. MnDOT and the City of Henderson need to find funds to complete the remaining portion of the study which will dig deeper into an alternatives analysis and benefit/cost comparison.

During the meeting, the purpose and need statement for the flood mitigation efforts was drafted. The purpose and need statement will define the framework for the study and will become an important component of any future environmental document. The purpose and need statement can be modified during the study as more information is gathered, but the draft purpose and need statement was:

**Purpose:** Provide a safe and accessible, 10-ton route into and out of Henderson to limit the length of detours and impacts to businesses during high water events.

**Need:** During 100-year flood events, access to the city of Henderson is severely restricted, necessitating lengthy detours and impacting local businesses and regional traffic.

Alternatives will include TH 19, TH 93 and CR 6. Slope stabilization along TH 19 is not a primary purpose of this project, but will be considered as a secondary purpose that would be pursued in conjunction with a flood mitigation alternative on TH 19.

The next step was to identify funding for the flood mitigation study. Ronda Allis is going to explore options for funding.

Discussed needs for information for hydraulic modeling – Nicole and Petra will make use of existing statewide LIDAR data – no additional survey information will be needed to develop the hydraulic modeling, however there will need to be some coordination with the consultant doing the flood mitigation study.

The group agreed to meet again in three months. Nicole Bartelt and Petra DeWall will give an update on the status of the hydraulic modeling, and Ronda Allis and Chris Bower will update the group on the status of the additional funding needed to complete the full feasibility study.