Steele County
Agenda Item

Subject: Approve Resolution of Support for Aurora Township Project Grant Applications to the Local Road Improvement Program and to Act as Project Sponsor

Department: Highway

Committee Meeting Date: February 11, 2021

Board Meeting Date: February 23, 2021

Consent Agenda: ☒ Yes ☐ No **Resolution:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

Policy Committee Recommendation:

Move to Board for Approval

Recommendation:

Approve resolution of support for the Aurora Township projects grant applications to the Local Road Improvement Program and to act as Project Sponsor

Background *(Including Budget Impact)*:

The Local Road Improvement Program is a State bond funded program available to local agencies on a competitive basis. The 2020 Legislature provided $75 million for LRIP. For a township or small city (<5,000 population) to take part they must have the County sponsor their project.

The Aurora Town Board approached the County Highway Department about a couple small projects. The projects were evaluated for eligibility and determined to be eligible. The County Engineer, trying to manage expectations, discussed the scoring criteria and informed the Township that while possible to be selected, it's not very probable. However, since it's relatively low effort to apply we would proceed with the applications.

Aurora Township is proposing two projects which are described in more detail in the attached township resolution. One of the projects provides for raising a roadbed for a relatively short distance and providing an appropriately sized centerline culvert to address roadway overtopping and washouts from storm events. The other project involves replacing an existing centerline culvert with a larger culvert to address roadway overtopping issues.

Project applications are due March 3, 2021 and project selections should be announced in May 2021.

Attachments:

Resolution
Aurora Township Resolution

LOCAL ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM RESOLUTION
STEELE COUNTY

WHEREAS the State legislature has provided $75 million in Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) funding, and

WHEREAS non-State-Aid cities and townships must have a County sponsor, and

WHEREAS Aurora Township has requested County sponsorship for these projects by Resolution dated February 4, 2021, and

WHEREAS SE 48th St. from SE 54th Ave. to ½ mile east has a history of flooding during rain events, and

WHEREAS reconstruction of this section of roadway will alleviate this flooding, and

WHEREAS SE 34th Ave. from CSAH 3 to ½ mile south has a history of being overtopped during rain events, and

WHEREAS replacement of the existing 18" centerline culvert with a 30" culvert would alleviate this overtopping, and

WHEREAS the Township has coordinated this effort with the County Engineer, and

WHEREAS The Aurora Town Board understands that it will be responsible for all costs not covered by LRIP including but not limited to consultant engineering, right-of-way acquisition, construction administration and inspection, utility construction, as well as construction costs above the LRIP award, and

WHEREAS Aurora Township has agreed to maintain such improvements for the lifetime of the improvements.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The County agrees to act as project sponsor for the project(s) should the Township be awarded LRIP funds, and that such sponsorship shall include the following responsibilities:

- Be the fiscal agent on behalf of the Township and have funds flow from MnDOT to the County to the contractor.
- Request a State Aid Project number for the project(s).
- Ensure the project(s) meets milestones and dates.
- Assist the Township in execution of a grant agreement.
- Develop, review and/or approve the plan(s).
- Submit the plan(s), engineers estimate(s), and proposal to the MnDOT District State Aid Engineer.
- Advertise, let, and award the project(s).
- Submit pay requests to State Aid.
- Communicate progress and updates with the District State-Aid Engineer and State Aid Programs Engineer.
- Ensure that the project(s) receive adequate supervision and inspection.
- Assist with project(s) close out.

STEELE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

_____
James Brady, Chair

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution is a true and correct copy of the Resolution presented to and adopted by the Steele County Board at a duly authorized meeting thereof held on the 23rd day of February 2021, as shown by the minutes of said meeting in my possession.

_____
Laura Ihrke, Steele County Auditor

LOCAL ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM RESOLUTION
AURORA TOWNSHIP BOARD

WHEREAS the State legislature has provided $75 million in Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) funding, and

WHEREAS LRIP funds can be used for roadway construction and improvements and that other costs, including but not limited to, consultant engineering and inspection, utility construction, as well as construction costs above the LRIP award will need to be paid for by the Township, and

WHEREAS SE 48th St. from SE 54th Ave. to ½ mile east has a history of flooding during rain events, and

WHEREAS reconstruction of this section of roadway will alleviate this flooding, and

WHEREAS SE 34th Ave. from CSAH 3 to ½ mile south has a history of being overtopped during rain events, and

WHEREAS replacement of the existing 18" centerline culvert with a 30" culvert would alleviate this overtopping, and

WHEREAS SE 48th St. connects Dodge County Road 1 with Steele County Road 159, both paved, and

WHEREAS SE 34th Ave. connects CSAH 3/CR 173 with CSAH 4, and

WHEREAS residents and agricultural producers of Aurora, Havana, and Ripley townships and the more than 100 vehicles per day that use SE 48th St. and the more than 100 vehicles per day that use SE 34th Ave. will benefit from the project, and

WHEREAS the Township has coordinated this effort with the County Engineer.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Town Board supports these projects and agrees to maintain such improvements.
2. The Town Board supports submittal of the LRIP applications.
3. The Township provides assurance that the township will pay all costs associated with the project(s) beyond the LRIP grant award.
4. The Town Board seeks the support of the County to act as project sponsor for the project(s) should the Township be awarded LRIP funds, and that such sponsorship shall include the following responsibilities:
   - Be the fiscal agent on behalf of the Township and have funds flow from MnDOT to the County to the contractor.
   - Request a State Aid Project number for the project(s).
   - Ensure the project(s) meets milestones and dates.
   - Assist the Township in execution of a grant agreement.
   - Develop, review and/or approve the plan(s).
   - Submit the plan(s), engineers estimate(s), and proposal to the MnDOT District State Aid Engineer.
   - Advertise, let, and award the project(s).
   - Submit pay requests to State Aid.
   - Communicate progress and updates with the DSAEs and State Aid Programs Engineer.
   - Ensure that the project(s) receive adequate supervision and inspection.
   - Assist with project(s) close out.

ADOPTED 2-1, **2021**

AURORA TOWNSHIP BOARD
Steele County, Minnesota

By: _____
Chairman

ATTEST:

By: _____
Township Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a Resolution duly passed, adopted, and approved by the Aurora Township Board on the 1st day of February, 2021.

_____
Township Clerk