

TRANSPORTATION

Highway 27 Public Meeting

10-20-16

The Otter Tail County Highway Department will hold a public information meeting November 3rd to discuss the planned reconstruction of County Highway 27 from one mile north of Fir Avenue in Fergus Falls to just north of County Highway 10.

The meeting will be held at 7:00 pm in the county board room at the Government Services Center.

Officials will discuss preliminary project plans, specifications, right of way requirements and other pertinent data for the four-mile project.

Written statements and other exhibits in place of, or in addition to, oral statements, will be accepted at the meeting and up to 10 days following the meeting, and will be made part of the meeting record.

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Highway 34 culvert replacement set for Oct. 24

DETROIT LAKES, Minn. – Motorists on Highway 34 near Height of Land Lake may experience short delays on Monday, Oct. 24, while crews replace a culvert.

A temporary signal system will restrict traffic to a single direction at a time.

The work is necessary to repair an emergency drainage issue. The culvert has failed and will not allow water to pass.

The project is expected to last one day.

Crews will not replace the pavement until the following week, so motorists should to use caution near the work zone until the temporary gravel surface is covered.

For real-time travel information anywhere in Minnesota, visit www.511mn.org or dial 5-1-1.

Deer on Roadways

10-26-16

It's a dangerous time for motorists – and deer. Sue Roe, Public Affairs Administrator for the Minnesota Transportation Department says late October and November is the peak time for deer-vehicle crashes...

..."deer on the roadways." :22

Deer are more likely to be encountered in areas where habitat is close to the roadway, such as a bridge crossing over waterways, and during the early morning and evening hours when deer are most active.

From 2013 to 2015, there were 6,149 reported deer-vehicle crashes. There were 15 fatalities and 986 injury crashes. Crashes were reported in every county in the state.

Recently, the Wadena County Sheriff's Office has sounded the alarm about loose cattle on roadways that have caused collisions with vehicles. The sheriff's office is asking owners to check fences to make sure they're secure.

Since June 1st, there have been 48 calls of livestock unsecured and wandering onto public roads in Wadena County.

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NEWS 2

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Enbridge's proposed Line 3 oil pipeline replacement advances

10-31-16

Enbridge Energy's proposal to replace its Line 3 crude oil pipeline across northern Minnesota is taking a step forward. The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission on Friday approved plans for conducting an environmental review of the two-point-six billion dollar project. The project involves replacing a nearly 60-year-old pipeline that doesn't run at its original capacity. The pipeline runs from Alberta, Canada, to Superior, Wisconsin. The P-U-C denied a request by environmental and tribal groups to reopen the public comment period and further delay the project. Enbridge wants to run part of the replacement along the same route it proposed for the Sandpiper pipeline. But Enbridge recently canceled Sandpiper when it bought a one-and-a-half billion dollar stake in a pipeline system that includes Dakota Access, which has been the subject of tribal protests in North Dakota

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NWSZ

Winter Road Weight Restrictions

12-15-16

Winter truck load increases will begin tomorrow (Friday) on unrestricted highways in the north and north central frost zones.

MnDot says vehicles will be allowed to operate up to 10 percent over the standard legal maximum loads on unrestricted highways during the winter load increase period. However, trucks must comply with current registration weight laws and not exceed registered gross weight tolerances.

Drivers should check with local agencies before increasing weights on city, county and township routes. A winter weight increase permit is required to take advantage of the 10 percent weight increase on interstate highways only. A permit is not required for state trunk highways.

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I-94 Designated Zero Emissions Corridor

12-16-2016

A unique partnership has been formed with the Minnesota Department Of Transportation and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to designate the 85,000 mile route of I-94 from Detroit, MI all the way to the Minnesota/ North Dakota border as a zero emissions corridor. Tim Sexton with MNDOT says the goal is very specific...

TIM SEXTON MNDOT 6 SEC

OUTCUE: "...one mile of Interstate 94."

Sexton went on to say that while it is not clear what role government will play in the development of the idea, he hopes it will encourage private and commercial interests to take a leadership role in making it the country's first route and model of what a zero emissions corridor would look like with electric charging stations all along the entire route.

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Truck Load Increases

12-20-16

Winter truck load increases will begin Thursday on unrestricted highways in the central, metro, south and southeast frost zones, according to the Minnesota Department of Transportation. Winter load increases are already in effect for the north and north central frost zones.

Vehicles will be allowed to operate up to 10 percent over the standard legal maximum loads on unrestricted highways during the winter load increase period. However, trucks must comply with current registration weight laws and not exceed registered gross weight tolerances.

Drivers should check with local agencies before increasing any weights on city, county and township routes. The sign erected on the roadway governs the load limit in effect. A winter weight increase permit is required to take advantage of the 10 percent weight increase on interstate highways only; a permit is not required for state trunk highways.

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