

March 2009

## Freeborn County, MN – Joint Transportation Project with MnDOT

Freeborn County and the Minnesota Department of Transportation announced a joint transportation project funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The funds are through the Federal Highway Administration, Highways Infrastructure Investment Program that are passed through the State.

Mn/DOT's proposed shovel-ready projects included, among others, a 12-mile resurfacing of Interstate 90 from the west limits of Alden to Highway 13 near Albert Lea and Freeborn County's proposed shovel ready project that consisted of a concrete overlay for Freeborn County State Aid Highway 46, from Arena Road in Albert Lea to Alden.

Christopher Shoff, Freeborn County Board Chair, stated "We began discussing the possibility of submitting them as a joint project, allowing for greater economies of scale and less impacts to the traveling public."

The joint project's estimated cost is \$17.6 million. They have a low bidder at \$15.99 million and should be awarding soon. Information will be verified by MNDOT once bids have been completed and the contract will be let in 30 calendar days to the lowest bidder.

It is estimated that this joint project will provide 405 new jobs to complete a project with a life expectancy of 60 years.