

Wetlands Permitting Process for Typical Anoka County Highway Design Project



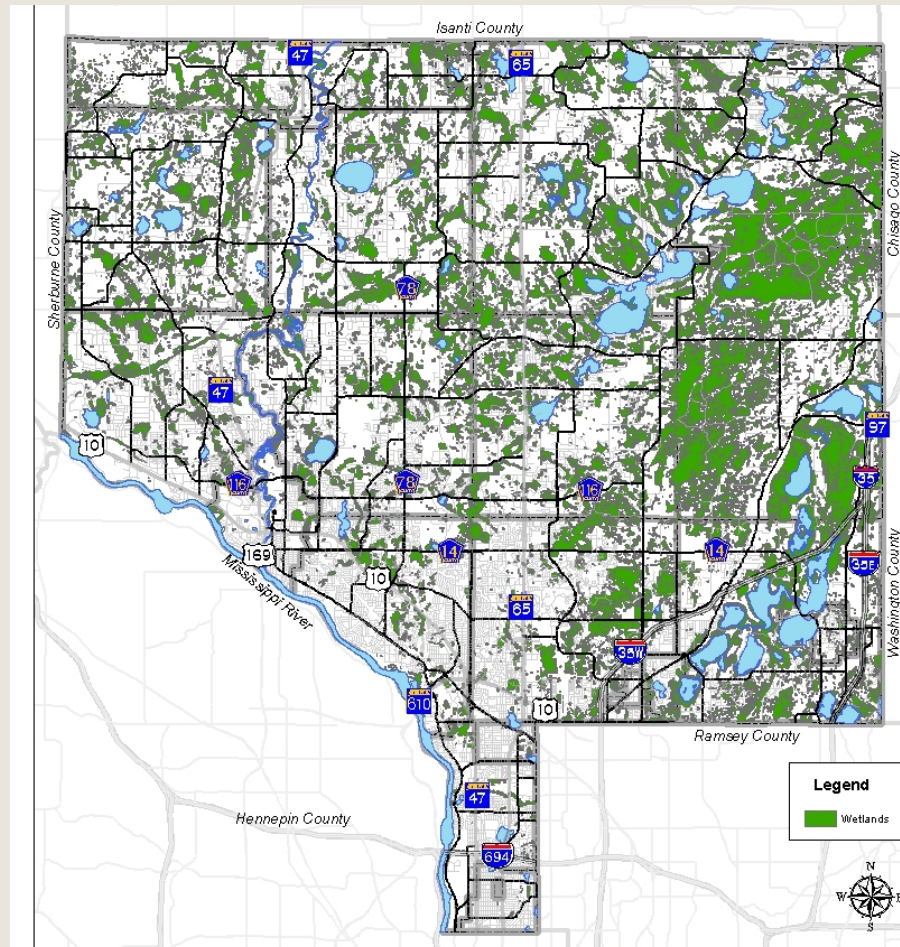
Curt Kobilarcsik
Engineering Program Manager
Anoka County

Anoka County Background



- Anoka County has 400 plus miles of highway
- Anoka County completes many design projects in house.
- Most projects have wetland impacts.
- Most projects are 2 lane to 4 lane expansion projects.
- In Anoka County there are 2 watershed districts and 4 wmo's
- Keeping current on watershed rules and regulations is an important part of the wetland permitting process to deliver a successful project.

Anoka County Wetlands Map

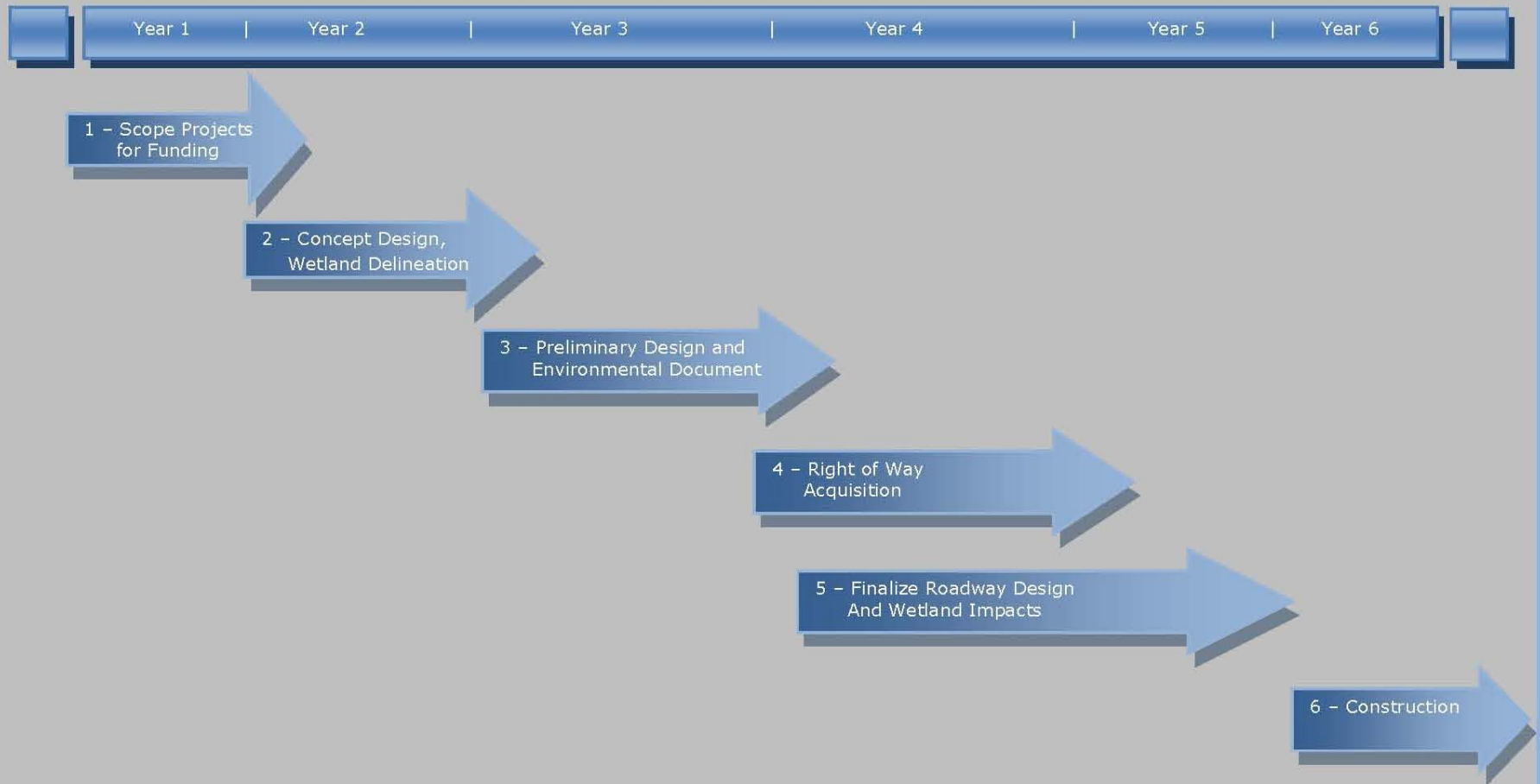


Overview of Roadway Project Process



- Step 1: Scope projects for funding
- Step 2: Concept Design
- Step 3: Preliminary Design
- Step 4: Right of Way Acquisition
- Step 5: Final Design
- Step 6: Construction

Project Schedule



1	2	3	4	5	6
Scope projects for funding and apply for Federal funds	Concept designs, delineate wetlands, finalize delineation with TEP/COE panel, Open house meeting	Preliminary Design and Environmental document, investigate wetland impacts, pre-application meeting with TEP/COE panel, update design to address TEP comments	Right of Way acquisition	Finalize roadway design and wetland impacts, prepare and submit permit form, receive letters of decision, mitigation of wetland impacts, Open house meeting	Construction

Right of Way Schedule



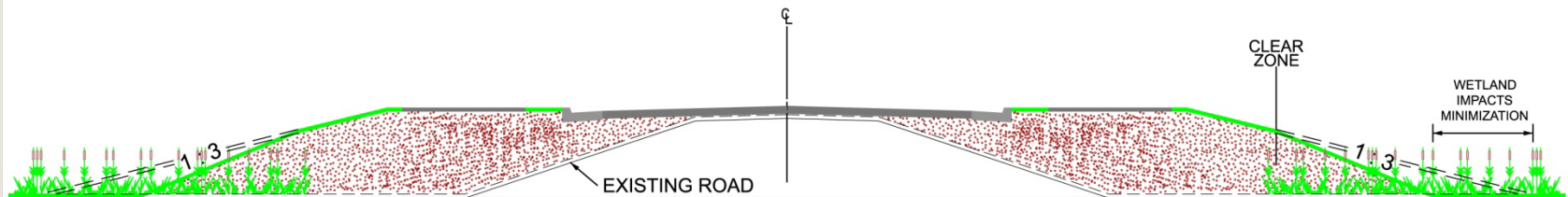
- Finalize Construction Limits, Set Right of Way
- Plat Right of Way (1 month)
- Appraise Parcels (2 months)
- Review Appraisals (1 month)
- Send Offer Letters (30 Day Good Faith Negotiations)
- File Condemnation (90 Days)
- Possession Date (2 weeks)
- Right of Way Certificate #1

- Total Time Required (minimum) = 8 ½ months (use 10-12 months for planning)
- If the Right of Way Acquisition process is started without the proper approvals for wetland impacts, the schedule and potentially the funding are at risk!

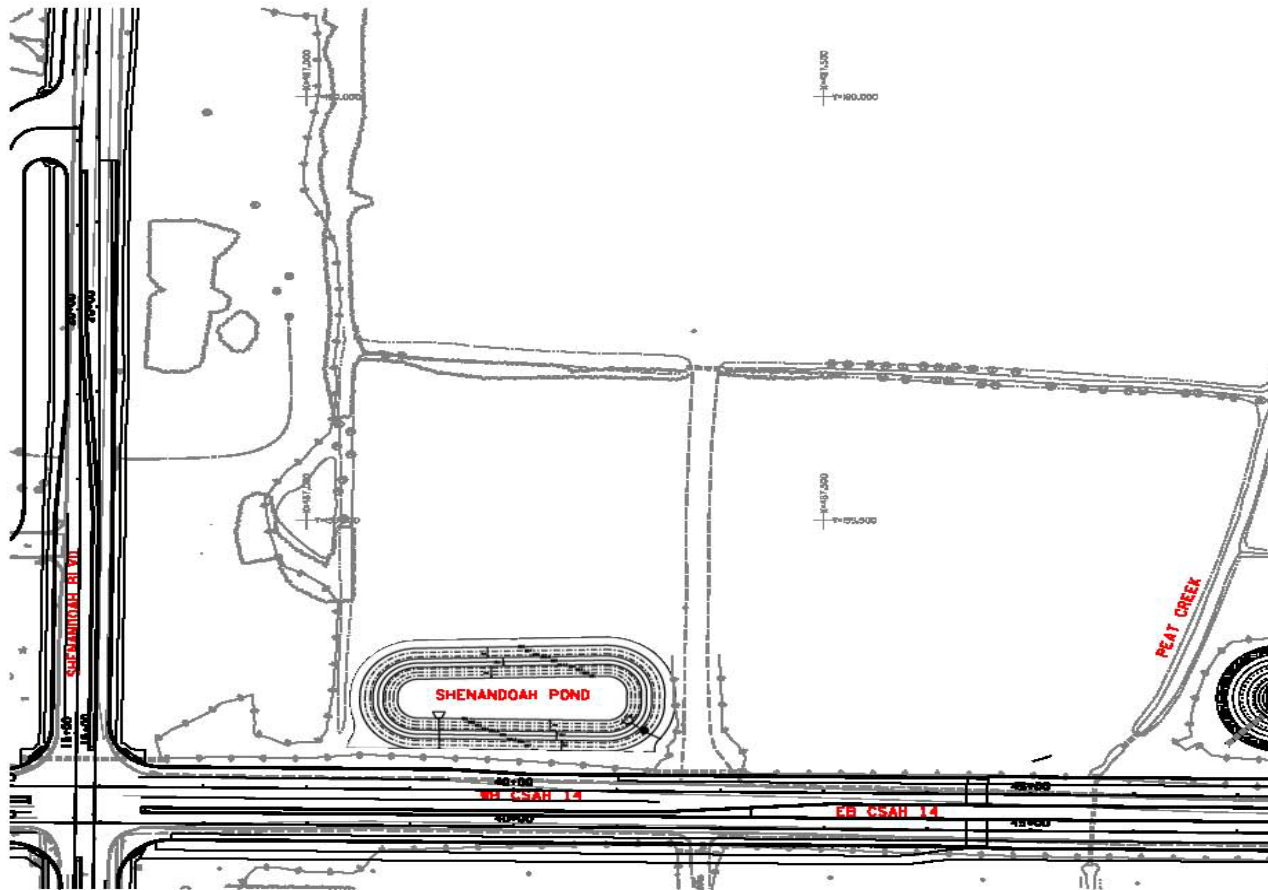
Typical Anoka County Project



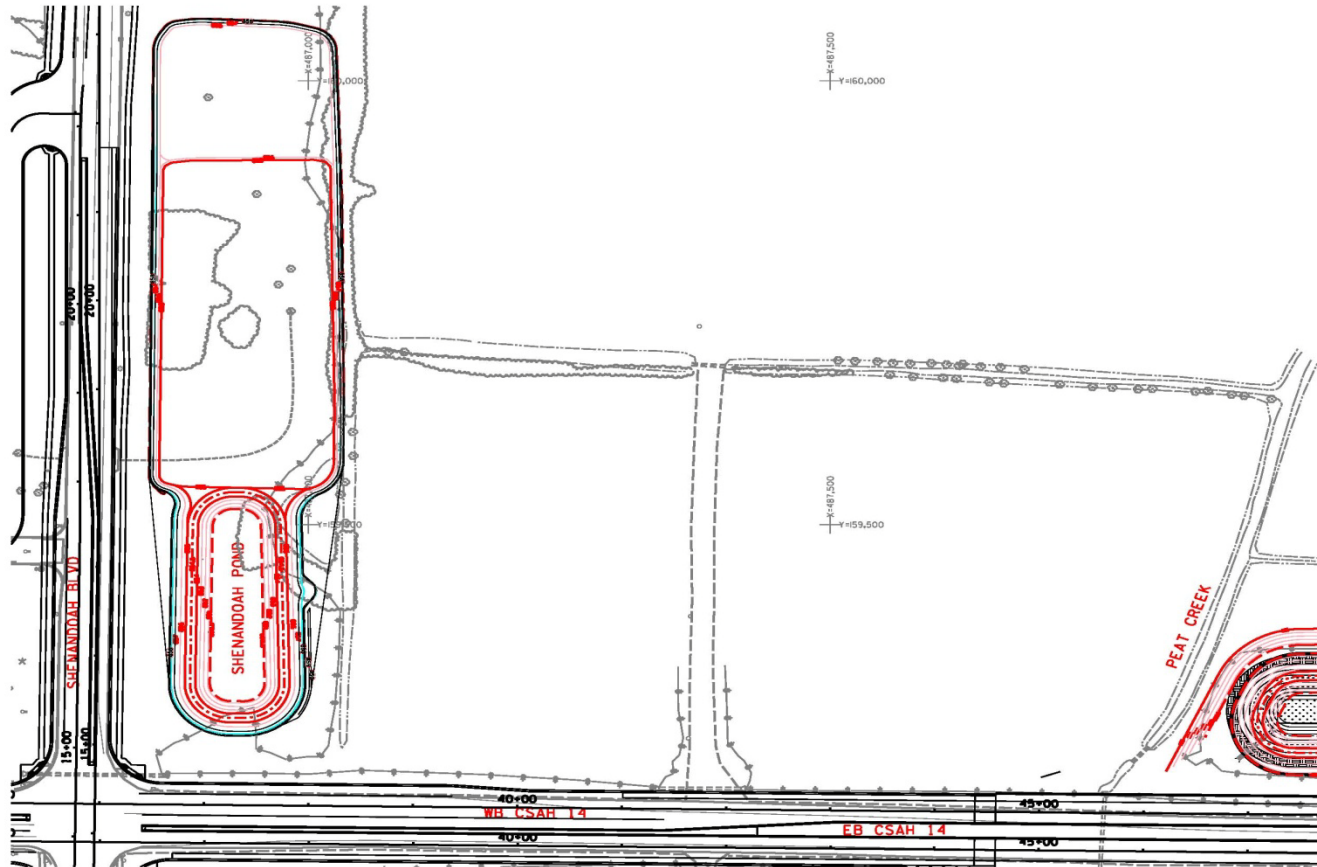
TYPICAL ANOKA COUNTY HIGHWAY PROJECT



Project Example – Preliminary Pond Location



Project Example – Final Pond Location



Permit Form Submittal



- **Submit to COE, DNR, LGU (Typically Watershed District) and BWSR (if using BWSR Road Bank)**
- **Submittal includes application, project narrative and construction plan sheets**
- **Typically use Combined Form**

Response Letter to Applicant



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Operations
Regulatory (2009-02812-TJF)

Mr. Curt Kobilarcsik
Anoka County Highway Department
1440 Bunker Lake Boulevard
Andover, Minnesota 55304

Dear Mr. Kobilarcsik:

Authority is hereby granted to the Anoka County Highway Department to discharge dredged and fill material and conduct excavation and grading within a total of 4.31 acres of wetlands, including sod field areas, for the purpose of upgrading about 1.4 miles of County State Aid Highway 14 (Trunk Highway 242). The work area extends generally between Coon Creek Boulevard on the west and Crane Street on the east. The project involves impacts to waters (Peat Creek) and wetlands that are tributary to Coon Creek and ultimately the Mississippi River. The jurisdictional waters and wetlands are located along the south line of Section 3 and the north line of Section 10, T31N, R24W, Anoka County, Minnesota.

The authorized work includes roadway construction, construction of a pedestrian trail along the south side of CASH 14 and the creation of new storm water ponds and infiltration areas. It also includes the past excavation and berm construction of the Hanson Pond and the proposed work to enlarge this storm water management pond. The authorized work is shown on the enclosed drawings labeled 2009-02812-TJF, Pages 1 of 3 through Pages 3 of 3, hereby incorporated as part of this Letter of Permission. This authorization is issued under the provisions of LOP-05-MN.

This action is based upon the recommendation of the Chief of Engineers and under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). The authorization is subject to the enclosed General and Standard Conditions and the following special condition:

1. The applicant shall ensure that a total of 8.62 acres of compensatory wetland mitigation is provided to offset the total of 4.31 acres of water/wetland impacts (2 to 1 replacement ratio). We understand the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will be providing the majority (6.57 acres of credits) of the wetland replacement through its Local Road Replacement Program. The applicant, Anoka County, would provide the remaining compensatory mitigation by debiting mitigation bank credits from its own mitigation bank (0.556 acre) and through the purchase of mitigation credits (1.50 acres) from Steve Strandland mitigation bank (Account Number 1350).

Route: 335-A

Rd No: 14

File: 02-614-32

Permit

US Army Corps

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ST. PAUL DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
SIBLEY SQUARE AT MEARS PARK
190 FIFTH STREET EAST, SUITE 401
ST. PAUL, MN 55101-1638

MAR 15 2010

RECEIVED

MAR 16 2010

ANOKA COUNTY
HIGHWAY DEPT

Mitigation of Wetland Impacts



- **BWSR Road Bank**
- **Anoka County Bank**
- **Private Bank**
- **Onsite Mitigation**

Review of Key Steps to Receive Permit Approval



- Hire consultant to delineate wetlands and prepare permit
- Finalize delineation with TEP/COE Panel
- Prepare preliminary design and investigate wetland impacts
- Pre-Application Meeting with TEP/COE
- Update roadway design to address TEP/COE comments
- Prepare and submit Combined permit form
- Receive letters of decision
- Finalize mitigation of wetland impacts
- Begin Construction!

Lessons Learned



- Start Wetland Permitting process early
- Coordinate early and often with TEP/COE
 - Including pre-application meeting
- Should do one year look ahead with TEP/COE on all projects
- Sod farms are considered wetlands
- Hire experts when needed (especially for federally funded projects with sunset dates)