

2009 Legislation – Business Liaison

22.31 Sec. 2. [160.165] MITIGATION OF TRANSPORTATION CONSTRUCTION

22.32 IMPACTS ON BUSINESS.

22.33 Subdivision 1. Definitions. For the purposes of this section, the following terms
22.34 have the meanings given:

23.1 (1) "project" means construction work to maintain, construct, reconstruct, or
23.2 improve a street or highway;

23.3 (2) "substantial business impacts" means impairment of road access, parking, or
23.4 visibility for one or more business establishments as a result of a project, for a minimum
23.5 period of one month; and

23.6 (3) "transportation authority" means the commissioner, as to trunk highways; the
23.7 county board, as to county state-aid highways and county highways; the town board, as to
23.8 town roads; and statutory or home rule charter cities, as to city streets.

23.9 Subd. 2. Business liaison. (a) Before beginning construction work on a project,
23.10 a transportation authority shall identify whether the project is anticipated to include
23.11 substantial business impacts. For such projects, the transportation authority shall designate
23.12 an individual to serve as business liaison between the transportation authority and affected
23.13 businesses.

23.14 (b) The business liaison shall consult with affected businesses before and
23.15 during construction to investigate means of mitigating project impacts to businesses.
23.16 The mitigation considered must include signage. The business liaison shall provide
23.17 information to the identified businesses before and during construction, concerning project
23.18 duration and timetables, lane and road closures, detours, access impacts, customer parking
23.19 impacts, visibility, noise, dust, vibration, and public participation opportunities.

Note: Became effective August 1, 2009

FROM THE MN/DOT DESIGN-BUILD RFP FOR SAINT PETER (SPRING 2009)

3.2.6.5 Community and Business Relations

Mn/DOT will develop and implement a community and business relations effort to enhance and build relationships with the neighborhoods and public, including affected businesses, and to provide high-level Vision and Progress messages. As part of the communication matrix process and with oversight from Mn/DOT, the Contractor shall develop and implement community relations strategies that communicate Coping messages to the public. Coping strategies shall focus on providing the public with the information they need to make short- and long-term decisions about how they can deal with the Work with as little disruption as possible.

Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Grant Opportunity

An RFP from DEED is anticipated “soon” (potential announcement in State Register in October). Contact: Madeline Harris, DEED; 651-259-7474

182.27 Sec. 22. **CONSTRUCTION MITIGATION PILOT PROGRAM.**

182.28 Subdivision 1. **Purpose.** The purpose of the construction mitigation grant program
182.29is to mitigate the impacts of transportation construction on local small businesses, to
182.30promote the retention of jobs in transportation construction areas, and to provide outreach
182.31to the public and small businesses to minimize interruption to local commerce. The
182.32Department of Transportation, Department of Employment and Economic Development,
182.33and local government units shall work together to ensure that the recommendations
183.1of the Department of Transportation's 2009 report to the legislature on transportation
183.2construction impacts and any statutory changes resulting from the report recommendations
183.3are applied when implementing the grant program.

183.4 Subd. 2. **Establishment.** The commissioner of employment and economic
183.5development shall develop and implement a construction mitigation grant program to
183.6make grants available to local government units to mitigate the impacts of transportation
183.7construction on local small businesses.

183.8 Subd. 3. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section:

183.9(1) "applicant" means a local government unit;

183.10(2) "commissioner" means the commissioner of the Department of Employment and
183.11Economic Development;

183.12(3) "eligible transportation project entirely or partially funded by state or federal
183.13funds" means a project that will affect one or more small businesses as a result of
183.14transportation work because the work is anticipated to impair road access for a minimum
183.15period of one month;

183.16(4) "local government unit" means a county, statutory or home rule charter city,
183.17town, special district, or other political subdivision;

183.18(5) "project" has the meaning given it in Minnesota Statutes, section 161.2415; and

183.19(6) "small business" means a business that employs ten or fewer employees and is
183.20located in an area that is adjacent to an eligible project.

183.21 Subd. 4. **Applications.** A grant applicant shall prepare and submit to the
183.22commissioner a written proposal detailing a construction mitigation plan and strategies
183.23on how the applicant will implement the plan to meet the purpose of the grant program
183.24as provided in subdivision 1. An applicant shall identify any nonstate funding sources
183.25available to match state funds distributed under subdivision 5.

183.26 Subd. 5. **Fund distribution.** In distributing funds, the commissioner shall consider
183.27the types of businesses affected by the eligible transportation project and shall balance
183.28funding between eligible transportation projects within the seven-county metropolitan area
183.29and eligible transportation projects outside of the seven-county metropolitan area.

183.30 Subd. 6. **Expiration.** This section expires on July 1, 2011.

183.31 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.