

# CITY OF PERHAM

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April 27, 2009

Lee Berget  
Transportation District Engineer  
1000 Highway 10 West  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

Dear Lee,

The City of Perham is seeking a letter of support from MnDOT regarding a proposed interchange at the intersection of US Highway 10 and Otter Tail County Highway 34 adjacent to Perham. In your letter, could you please describe the financial and/or expertise commitment MnDOT could make to this project.

Two factors drive the need for this interchange, 1) Access for a new \$38 million hospital/clinic facility to be constructed beginning fall of 2009 and 2) Routing the approximately 1,200 weekly semis serving Perham's industries.

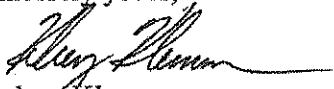
Perham Memorial Hospital is planning to construct a new \$38 million hospital/clinic near US Highway 10. This site was chosen because it is near the hospital's existing campus and its visibility to Highway 10. One drawback to this site is that access directly to-and-from Highway 10 is limited. Traffic would need to be routed through town, creating issue of safety, convenience and timeliness for emergency cases, employees and patients.

The interchange would also have a major safety and convenience impact on Perham industries, which receive approximately 1,200 semis weekly, many of which are routed through the downtown and residential areas. This interchange would help route many of these semis directly to industries. Perham's six top industries are expected to have total sales of approximately \$635 million in 2009. These companies have a multibillion dollar regional/national economic impact, and employ approximately 1,100 people, expected to grow to over 1,200 in 2009. The interchange is needed to accommodate their growth.

MnDOT's support for this project would assist the city as it attempts to find state and/or federal funding for this important project. I would appreciate receiving your letter of support by Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely yours,

  
Kelcey Klemm  
Perham City Manager

# OTTER TAIL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Government Services Center \* 515 Fir Avenue West \* Fergus Falls, MN 56537 \* 218-998-8060 \* Fax 218-998-8075 \* [www.co.otter-tail.mn.us](http://www.co.otter-tail.mn.us)

April 30, 2009

Kelcy Klemm, City Administrator  
City of Perham  
125 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE, PO Box 130  
Perham, MN 56573

RE: Proposed MN TH 10 Interchange/Otter Tail County State Aid Highway 34 Improvements

Dear Mr. Klemm:

The Otter Tail County Board of Commissioners is in full support of this proposed highway improvement project which will provide a safe and efficient access to the new Perham Medical Center. This new facility will provide state of the art medical services to our region.

The Otter Tail County Board of Commissioners indicated our support of the new Medical Center and required highway improvements in Otter Tail County Board Resolution No. 2008-06 dated January 22, 2008 (See attached copy). The only update is that the semi truck traffic at this date is approximately 1200 per week as provided by the City of Perham. In this resolution, Otter Tail County has committed to the costs of the engineering required for the County State Aid Highway 34 improvements.

Our continued support was reaffirmed on our regular County Board meeting on April 28, 2009 in discussions with Mr. Chuck Johnson, City of Perham Economy Director.

If we can be of further assistance or if additional information is required, please feel free to contact Larry Krohn, Otter Tail County Coordinator at 218-998-8068 or [lkrohn@co.ottertail.mn.us](mailto:lkrohn@co.ottertail.mn.us). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Everett P. Erickson, Chair  
Otter Tail County Board of Commissioners

cc: Doug Huebsch, OTC Commissioner  
Larry Krohn, OTC Coordinator  
Rick West, OTC Engineer  
File

*Douglas A. Huebsch*  
First District

*John D. Lindquist*  
Third District

*Leland R. Rogness*  
Fifth District

*Everett P. Erickson*  
Second District

*Roger Froemming*  
Fourth District

**OTTER TAIL COUNTY BOARD RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR HIGHWAY INTERCHANGE FOR NEW HOSPITAL  
AND CLINIC FOR PERHAM HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
PERHAM, MINNESOTA**

Resolution No. 2008-06

WHEREAS, Perham Memorial Hospital and MeritCare Clinic have outgrown their current facility, constructed in 1959, and medical providers have grown from 5 in 1997 to 13 in 2008, and will include an additional surgeon in July of 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Hospital District is made up of three cities (Perham, Dent, and Richville) and 10 townships and serves an additional ten communities in Otter Tail, Wadena, and Becker County, and has a user base estimated at 15,000, and is located 25 miles from the next nearest hospital; and

WHEREAS, the medical facility has 415 employees, with a total payroll of \$13.3 million with a major impact on the 24 communities where they reside in West Central Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, East Otter Tail County has over 1,400 industrial production jobs that could be considered dangerous, and which might necessitate emergency medical response; and

WHEREAS, the Perham Hospital District Board has selected a site for a new facility adjacent to their existing nursing home and congregate care facilities, to take advantage of the efficiency that comes with proximity as well as visibility to Highway 10; and

WHEREAS, access by emergency vehicles to the new facility is critical, and would be substantially quicker and safer directly from Highway 10, and would keep these emergency vehicles from traveling through residential neighborhoods and past schools; and

WHEREAS, an interchange at the intersection of US Highway 10 and Otter Tail County Highway 34 would provide the most efficient and safe access for emergency vehicles, as well as consumer vehicles traveling on Highway 10; and

WHEREAS, Perham has approximately 350 semi trucks per week that visit its various industries, and said interchange would help keep them from driving through residential neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the County of Otter Tail intends to make commitments to this project for engineering fees on CSAH 34, totaling an estimated \$174,830; and

WHEREAS, this 10/34 interchange is critical for this \$30 million project to proceed;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Otter Tail County Board of Commissioners that the Board urges financial support from the State of Minnesota to help construct said 10/34 interchange.

Adopted at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2008.

By:   
Syd Nelson, County Board Chair

ATTEST:  
  
Larry Krohn, County Board Clerk

**CERTIFICATION**

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF OTTER TAIL

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly passed, adopted and approved by the County Board of said County January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008.

(SEAL)

  
Larry Krohn, County Board Clerk

**RESOLUTION 2009 - 14**

**CITY OF PERHAM, MINNESOTA  
RESOLUTION COMMITTING LAND FOR INTERCHANGE CONSTRUCTION**

WHEREAS Perham Memorial Hospital and Home intends to build a new \$38 million medical facility in Clearwater Estates 1<sup>st</sup> Addition; and

WHEREAS the City of Perham has purchased land on which the new facility will sit, and is selling approximately 60 acres of this land to PMHH; and

WHEREAS this medical facility is expected to generate large volumes of employee, patient and ambulance traffic; and

WHEREAS approximately 1,200 semis per week come and go from Perham, servicing Perham's industries; and


WHEREAS an interchange at the intersection of US Highway 10 and Otter Tail County 34 would enhance the flow and safety of medical traffic and semis, keeping both from traveling on residential streets or on Main Street; and

WHEREAS the City of Perham owns the land that would be needed for the southeast corner of this interchange; and

WHEREAS the City of Perham is seeking funding to pay for a substantial portion of this interchange;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Perham supports construction of an interchange at the intersection of Highways 10 and 34, and agrees to donate the appropriate amount of city-owned acres to be used for this southeast corner when/if this interchange is constructed.

The above resolution is hereby adopted on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 2009.

  
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Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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City Manager