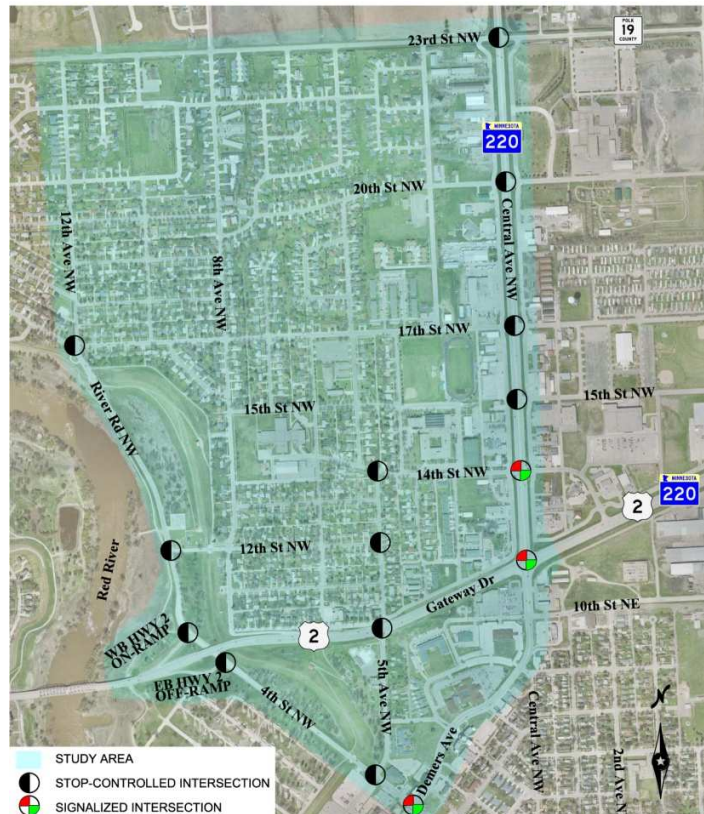


East Grand Forks Northwest Street Network Study

A study is being conducted to look at alternatives to improve the north-south traffic flow in the northwest area of the City of East Grand Forks. The Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MPO 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) has identified a major investment to improve the north-south traffic flow in this area and public feedback has identified the ability to travel across the metropolitan area as a key concern.

The study area includes the northwest area of East Grand Forks bordered by River Rd NW and 4th St NW on the west, Demers Ave on the south, Central Ave on the east and 23rd St NW on the north. The figure to the right illustrates the study area.

Currently, a planned investment includes the reconstruction of the US Highway 2/5th Ave NW intersection as a full access with traffic signalization to provide north-south connectivity across US Highway 2. The existing geometry of this intersection is a right-in/right-out only for eastbound US Highway 2 traffic. There is no access for westbound US Highway 2 traffic to 5th Ave NW. The City of East Grand Forks reconstructed this intersection to this configuration after the flood in 1997. In a more recent 2006 study, the *US Hwy 2 Access Management Study*, the US Highway 2/5th Ave NW intersection was recommended to be a full access signalized intersection primarily to address issues when the River Road was closed due to flooding.



Recently, the need for full access at 5th Ave NW has been questioned by the City of East Grand Forks due to potential impacts to the neighborhood on the north side of US Highway 2, and because the flooding impacts are only short-term. During non-flood condition, River Road provides access to the neighborhood and the northwest area. This study will present potential access alternative options for this intersection, as well as evaluation criteria for each option.

In addition to the US highway 2/5th Avenue NW intersection, the intersection of River Road NW/17th St NW/12th Ave NW was investigated based on safety concerns. Potential alternatives to improve safety and right-of-way confusion this intersection will be identified.

An informational open house will be held at the East Grand Forks Senior High School Library at 5:30 PM on Thursday, September 29, 2011 to provide an overview of the potential intersection alternatives for both the US Highway 2/5th Ave NW intersection and the River Road NW/17th St NW/12th Ave NW intersection. The open house will provide interested citizens an opportunity to voice concerns and provide comment as it relates to these alternatives. The consultant, Alliant Engineering, will be on hand to lead discussion and answer questions.