



## **Otter Tail County – Limited Area Star Lake Comprehensive Plan**

### **PMT Meeting #2 Summary**

**3:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 30, 2016**

**Dent Community Center  
201 Birch Street Dent, MN 56528**

Attendees: See Attachment 1 - Sign-in Sheet

#### **1. Welcome & Introductions**

SRF and Otter Tail County welcomed the group. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

#### **2. Discussion of Neighborhood Meeting**

SRF provided an overview of the presentation for the neighborhood meeting. Below are highlights from this discussion.

- The intent is for the county to provide opening remarks at the beginning of the presentation followed by a study overview from SRF. Representatives from Shooting Star Casino will provide information about their proposed development. SRF will then conclude the presentation with a walkthrough of the public participation survey residents will be receiving at the neighborhood meeting.
- SRF will coordinate with the county to update the project website immediately following the neighborhood meeting **(ACTION)**.
- The PMT agreed that it is important to outline for those present at the neighborhood meeting the public involvement intent is to engage a smaller group of individuals prior to broader public outreach that is planned for late May. The PMT also agreed that the neighborhood meeting has morphed into the broader public outreach now and that the study participants need to be accommodating under the circumstances.
- The PMT agreed that it was important to state that residents should submit feedback regarding the study and the proposed development via the public participation survey that will be handed out during the neighborhood meeting. The survey will also be available online via the project website. The PMT discussed posting the results of the survey on the project website as well. SRF will provide a summary of the survey results to the PMT for review **(ACTION)**. SRF will also coordinate with the county to update the project website with the survey results when appropriate **(ACTION)**.
- The PMT discussed the environmental process overview portion of the presentation. The PMT noted that it was important to inform the public that the proposed development is subject to federal environmental process. The PMT also noted that we need to explain that

the environmental review process is not part of the current Comprehensive Plan study and will not be discussed as part of the neighborhood meeting other than to inform the neighborhood about the process. It should also be noted that a high level environmental screening is being completed as part of the Comprehensive Plan study.

- The current understanding is that the White Earth Nation is not required to complete an EAW for the portion of the development on Fee Land. However, representatives from the White Earth Nation stated that the Tribe is planning to prepare a voluntary EAW for the entire development area (on Trust Land and Fee Land). They do not currently have someone under contract to complete the EAW; typically White Earth Nation staff complete their environmental review but they intend to have another entity prepare the EAW for this project.
- As discussed at PMT #1, the Star Lake Property Owners Association sent out a survey to its membership to get feedback on key issues regarding the proposed development. The property owner representative is still waiting to hear from the board to see if the answers or feedback from this survey can be shared with the PMT (**ACTION**).

### 3. Study Update (Technical Components)

SRF provided an overview of the study work completed to date. Below are highlights from this discussion.

- SRF provided initial data on trip generation anticipated for the White Earth Nation proposed development. The following are highlights:
  - SRF received trip generation and origin-destination information from Shooting Star Casino. An independent analysis was completed to cross reference the data provided and the results were discussed with the PMT. Given the results of this analysis, SRF proposed using a higher trip generation rate for the White Earth Nation's proposed development in order to be more conservative (conservatively high). The PMT agreed that using a higher trip generation rate was appropriate to best understand potential adjacent roadway impacts/needs.
  - The higher trip generation rate will be applied to an adjusted (lower) square footage of the casino gaming floor based on updated information from Shooting Star representatives.
  - A part of this study, SRF will also look at future traffic volumes beyond just the effects the proposed development will have on the system.
- SRF provided a preliminary traffic distribution map to the PMT. The traffic distribution identifies general areas for origin-destinations. The following items were discussed:
  - The trip attractions are expected from Fargo/Moorhead, Vergas/Detroit Lakes, Fergus Falls, Alexandria, Wadena, and Little Falls areas. Some of the areas are expected to be higher trip attractors than others; discussion took place about general directionality of trips with modifications recommended to represent more trip attractions from Alexandria and Wadena areas than from the Fargo area alone.
  - This will place more emphasis on Highway 10 as a potential route for traffic.

- The group also discussed potential routes of the casino patrons coming from Fargo-Moorhead.
- SRF will work with the White Earth Nation and Shooting Star Casino to refine the anticipated origin-destination for the proposed development **(ACTION)**.
- SRF provided a summary of the preliminary crash analysis that was completed thus far. It was noted that a crash analysis for the years 2009 to 2013 was completed as part of the Otter Tail County Transportation Plan. For purposes of consistency, and the data still being recent, it will be used again for this study but in a more focused fashion/area. SRF presented maps showing key areas of concern with regards to crashes. These maps will be included in the final study document.
- SRF noted that Otter Tail County does not have their own access management spacing guidelines. It was suggested that the MnDOT access spacing guidelines be followed with regards to the proposed development's access on County Road 41. This practice is common among Minnesota county's and understood to be the case in Otter Tail County when the Transportation Plan was developed.
- SRF showed the group an updated map with potential redevelopment areas. This map is a work in progress and will be presented to the group again when it is further along. The PMT will be asked for feedback on the feasibility or likelihood of future development areas. **(ACTION)**.

#### 4. Looking Ahead

- SRF will coordinate with the PMT to schedule its next meeting for early May **(ACTION)**. The group agreed during the meeting that the next public outreach meeting should occur in mid/late May; the timing of this meeting is dependent on the first public meeting and technical work progress **(ACTION)**.



Attachment 1  
Sign-in Sheet



## Otter Tail County - Limited Area Star Lake Comprehensive Plan

PMT #2 Meeting - Attendees

March 30, 2016

Attend	Name	Agency	Email	Phone
X	Rick West	Otter Tail County	<a href="mailto:rwest@co.ottertail.mn.us">rwest@co.ottertail.mn.us</a>	218-998-8473
X	Larry Krohn	Otter Tail County	<a href="mailto:LKrohn@co.ottertail.mn.us">LKrohn@co.ottertail.mn.us</a>	218-998-8060
X	Wayne Johnson	Otter Tail County	<a href="mailto:waynej@loretel.net">waynej@loretel.net</a>	218-863-7500
X	Lee Rogness	Otter Tail County	<a href="mailto:leerogness@yahoo.com">leerogness@yahoo.com</a>	218-770-7066
X	Bill Kalar	Otter Tail County	<a href="mailto:bkalar@co.ottertail.mn.us">bkalar@co.ottertail.mn.us</a>	218-998-8105
X	Nick Leonard	Otter Tail County	<a href="mailto:nleonard@co.ottertail.mn.us">nleonard@co.ottertail.mn.us</a>	218-998-8057
X	David Hauser	Otter Tail County	<a href="mailto:dhauser@co.ottertail.mn.us">dhauser@co.ottertail.mn.us</a>	218-998-8406
X	Liz Foster-Anderson	White Earth Enterprises, LLC	<a href="mailto:liza@whiteearth.com">liza@whiteearth.com</a>	218-473-2145
X	Eric Lagerquist	Cunningham Group	<a href="mailto:elagerquist@cunningham.com">elagerquist@cunningham.com</a>	612-617-2985
X	Mike Donoho	Star Lake Property Owners Association	<a href="mailto:mdonoho@prtcl.com">mdonoho@prtcl.com</a>	
X	Lee Mindemann	Star Lake Township	<a href="mailto:lee@mindemann.net">lee@mindemann.net</a>	218-298-2010
X	Jody Martinson	MnDOT District 4	<a href="mailto:jody.martinson@state.mn.us">jody.martinson@state.mn.us</a>	218-846-7964
X	Craig Vaughn	SRF Consulting	<a href="mailto:cvaughn@srfconsulting.com">cvaughn@srfconsulting.com</a>	763-249-6774
X	Cindy Gray	SRF Consulting	<a href="mailto:cgray@srfconsulting.com">cgray@srfconsulting.com</a>	701-893-7402
X	Molly Stewart	SRF Consulting	<a href="mailto:mstewart@srfconsulting.com">mstewart@srfconsulting.com</a>	763-452-4784
X	Scott Omlid	White Earth Nation	<a href="mailto:scott.omlid@whiteearth-nsn.gov">scott.omlid@whiteearth-nsn.gov</a>	
X	Nick Valentine	Shooting Star Casino	<a href="mailto:nvalentine@starcasino.com">nvalentine@starcasino.com</a>	