

**Final Report**  
**BROOKINGS TRANSPORTATION STEERING COMMITTEE**  
**April 20, 2015**

Pursuant to the Charter as established by the Brookings City Council, the Transportation Steering Committee is an ad hoc committee created and charged with the purpose of investigating four, specific transportation improvement projects; and suggest a comprehensive strategy for city-wide vehicular transportation improvements.

The following are the four improvement project, the Committee's recommendation to the City Council, and the City Council's response.

1) Highway 14-bypass improvements

*Committee recommendation:* Concur with DOT proposal for lane improvements and create 'round-abouts' at the ramp intersections on both sides of I-29; but explore increased widths of the lanes; (9-8-14).

*DOT:* SDDOT reversed their position on the plans and eliminated the 'round-abouts'.

*Committee re-consideration of recommendation:* The committee reversed its action of September 8 and concurred with the reversed decision of the DOT to support the elimination of the 'round-abouts'; (10-20 -2014).

*Council action:* Concur with revised recommendation to eliminate 'round-abouts'; (10-21-14).

2) Highway 14; 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue to 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvements

*Committee recommendation:* Concur with DOT proposal for improvements, bridge replacement, landscape amenities; (9-22-14.)

*Council action:* Action is pending and scheduled for April 28, 2015.

3) Highway 14; Main Avenue to Medary Avenue improvements

*Committee recommendation:* Concur with the DOT proposal for a 5-lane design with 11' width outside lane, with adjustments to move sidewalks closer to ROW line, incorporated historic street lighting, alternative sidewalk design, preserving as much boulevard width and as many trees as possible, incorporate reforestation plan, moving storm sewer system of curb/gutter, and consider 25 MPH speed limit; (12-1-14).

*Council action:* Rejection of the recommendation; (12-9-14).

4) 20<sup>th</sup> Street South overpass/interchange improvement

*Committee recommendation:* Proceed with an Interstate Justification Report (IJR) for an interchange by initiating the "needs assessment" of the IJR. (2-23-15)

*Council action:* Direct staff to proceed with plans for an overpass and a subsequent interchange by initiating the "needs assessment" of the Interstate Justification Report (IJR); (3-24-15).

5) Turn-back of Highway 14

*Committee action:* Took no action to support the turn-back of Highway 14 and concurred with the Council's previous action of November 22, 2011 to take no action supporting the turn-back. (2-23-15)

*Council action:* Took no action supporting the turn-back; (11-22-11). Council's re-consideration of the 11-22-11 action is pending as of April 1, 2015.

By taking no action to support a turn-back, the policy defaults to a position of State Highway 14 being retained by the SDDOT under state transportation jurisdiction.

With regard to the charge of developing an overall financially sustainable transportation strategy; the Committee recommends the following:

- A) Adopt the five recommendations associated with each of the five specific objectives as outlined in the Charter.
- B) Work to secure a member of the Brookings community to be appointed to the State Transportation Commission.
- C) Prioritize the improvement of West 20<sup>th</sup> Street South from Main Avenue to Rio Grande Avenue.
- D) Install pavement surfacing on Western Avenue from 20<sup>th</sup> Street South to 26<sup>th</sup> Street South.
- E) Participate in "project upgrades" on DOT contracts for landscaping end entryway features with first priority being Highway 14 from 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue to 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue and second priority pending funding for Highway 14 from Main Avenue to Medary Avenue.
- F) Secure a cost-share funding commitment for the 20<sup>th</sup> Street South/I-29 interchange IJR for (i) "Needs Assessment" phase, and (ii) final phase from:
  - a. City of Brookings
  - b. Brookings County
  - c. East Brookings Business and Industry Association
  - d. Adjacent property owners to East 20<sup>th</sup> Street South
  - e. Federal Highway Administration/SD Dept. of Transportation for (ii)
- G) In order to insure that land use development is adequately supported by the most efficient transportation systems, leverage intergovernmental partnerships where such transportation system crosses jurisdictional boundaries; or is otherwise necessary and/or impacted by other units of government.

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Keith Corbett; Chair

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Daryl Englund; Vice Chair