

Editorials

/ Opinion / Editorials /

School Talk>

- Editorials
- Letters
- Blogs
- Forums
- Polls
- SUMBIT Opinion

Highway 14 needs attention now

March 11, 2012

The Journal

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It's no secret that Highway 14 is considered one of the worst, most dangerous highways in Minnesota. Surveys taken at the Minnesota State Fair have it at the top of the list year after year. And a statistical analysis of accident and fatality reports prove that people are dying because of this inadequate road.

Yet the Minnesota Department of Transportation doesn't appear to be including much funding for improvements to the highway in its latest 20-year plan for state highway projects.

That is unacceptable, and on Friday the Highway 14 Partnership held new conferences urging Gov. Mark Dayton to make sure Highway 14 gets included in the plan. The public is asked to get behind the effort as well.

We heartily concur. Highway 14 should be among the state's top priorities. Even 20 years seems too long to wait for expansion of the highway to four lanes from Mankato to New Ulm. It needs to be done as soon as possible. The project must not be allowed to languish.

Here is contact information for Gov. Dayton: 130 State Capitol, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155. Telephone: (651) 201-3400, Toll Free: (800) 657-3717. Email: mark.dayton@state.mn.us.

Call him up, write him a letter, send him and e-mail - let him know that Highway 14 is a hazardous road that needs to be fixed now.

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