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Officials celebrate bypass completion

By **FAITH KAMMERDIENER**
Press staff writer

DODGE CENTER -- The new Highway 14 bypass garners other positives to Dodge Center and to the Minnesota Department of Transportation than increasing safety. The interchange gives Dodge Center two accesses it can market, attracting new commercial and industrial businesses that make the city thrive. Dodge Center already has an industrial park in the plans. Highway access should attract new businesses to the park boosting the city's economy, said Dodge County engineer Guy Kohnholfer. "It can't help but open up the area for business," Kohnhofer said. The Minnesota Department of Transportation is already planning to build a new truck station at the Dodge County Road 26 access, bringing more jobs to Dodge Center. Dodge Center, Dodge County, MnDOT and other officials dedicated the new stretch of Highway 14 Thursday at the Dodge County Highway Building. Since traffic no longer travels through Dodge Center, Kohnhofer said he hopes he won't come across any more fatal accidents that occurred along the old stretch of Highway 14 running into Dodge Center. Dodge Center started pushing for the bypass around the city in 1988 with a meeting at the Dodge Center Country Club. More than 200 people attended, standing shoulder to shoulder in the room. A task force was then appointed to work on the project. Former Dodge County engineer Dale Grove helped get the project going when he started working on the project using for his final paper while earning his master's degree. "This is something we can really talk about," said

