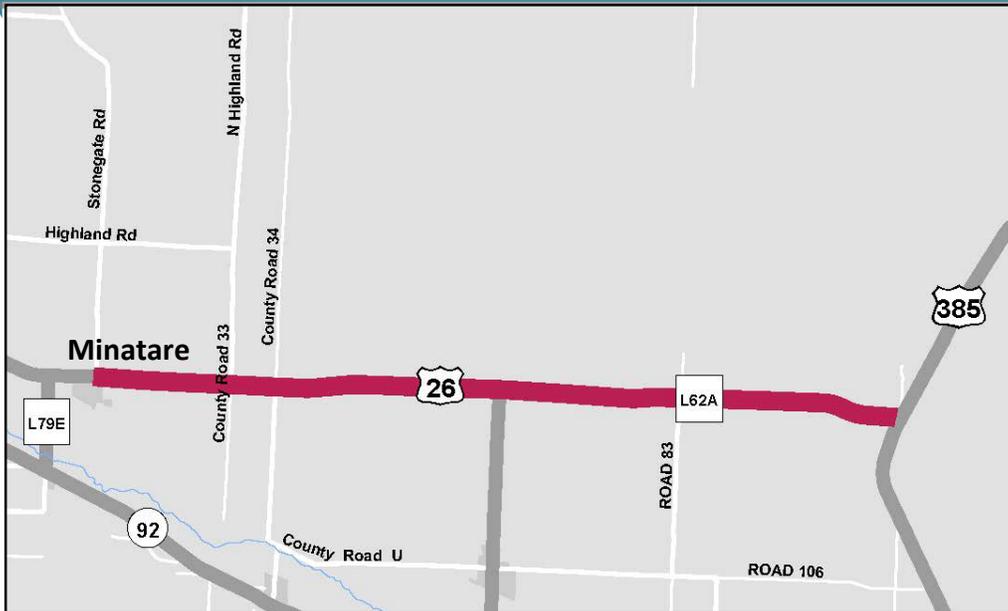


PROJECT PROFILE:
US 26 from Minatare to US 385



QUICK FACTS

Category: Construction

Project: US 26 from Minatare to US 385, 4-lane divided highway

Estimated project cost: \$60M

Length of project: 18 miles

WHY IT WAS SELECTED

Completes a Gap in the System: Currently, there is an 18-mile stretch of two-lane highway between two sections of US 26 that are already four-lane highway or are planned to be upgraded to four-lane highway. This project will extend the four-lane configuration to close that gap on this high priority corridor. NDOR plans to construct the majority of this project using a 2+2 approach. A 2+2 highway project involves using the existing two lanes of highway and adding two new lanes to make a four-lane divided highway.

Regional and Local Support: This project is part of what is commonly known as the Heartland Expressway Corridor – a project that stakeholders have long stressed the importance of completing. Recognizing that funding limits NDOR’s ability to construct improvements along the entire corridor, Nebraskans prioritized this segment for construction at NDOR’s recent stakeholder meetings. Stakeholders also expressed that completing the four-lane highway would be a significant safety enhancement and would generate more economic development opportunities.

Federally Designated High Priority Corridor: The Heartland Expressway Corridor serves as the middle section of the Great Plains International Trade Corridor, which extends from Mexico to Canada. Given its significance for trade and freight transport, it’s one of four federally designated High Priority Corridors that comprise the Ports-to-Plains Alliance. The Heartland Expressway Corridor (a portion of the Great Plains International Trade Corridor) extends 498 miles through multiple states— with about 200 of those miles located in Nebraska. According to some trade estimates, the 10 states that comprise the Great Plains International Trade Corridor generate \$280 billion in trade with Canada and Mexico—accounting for more than 25 percent of the total U.S. trade with these countries.

QUESTIONS?

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