

Legal Notice

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

March 23, 2023; 5:00 - 7:00 PM

Mid-Plains Community College - Valentine Campus, 715 US-20, Valentine, NE 69201

STP-12-2(106) Minnechaduza Creek Bridge; C.N. 80944

The Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) will hold a public information open house meeting regarding proposed improvements to the bridge over Minnechaduza Creek on Nebraska Highway 12 (N-12) in Cherry County. The meeting will be held at Mid-Plains Community College – Valentine Campus, 715 US-20 in Valentine, NE on Thursday, March 23 from 5:00 - 7:00 PM. The meeting will be an open-house format. There will be no formal presentation.

Identified as *Minnechaduza Creek Bridge*, the proposed project is located on approximately 0.40 miles of N-12, approximately three miles east of Valentine, at mile marker (MM) 3.98. Construction may begin and/or end approximately 1,000 feet ahead of or beyond the actual project limits to accommodate bridge work.

The purpose of this project is to preserve the transportation asset, improve reliability of the transportation system and perpetuate the mobility of the travelling public. The need for this project is based on the current condition of the bridge.

The work on this proposed project would include removing the existing bridge and reconstructing a new single-span 175-foot by 36-foot bridge on the existing alignment. Additional work would include new guardrail as well as new curb and flume.

This project would require the acquisition of temporary easements (TE). If your property is impacted by this project, you will be contacted by a representative once the design footprint has been established. Access to adjacent properties would be maintained during construction but may be limited at times due to phasing requirements.

Construction of this proposed project could begin as early as summer 2024 and be completed by fall of 2025. The bridge would be closed during construction; a detour would be required. The designated detour would utilize N-12, Whitetail Road, Nolett Road, 906th Road, and U.S. Highway 83 (US-83) and is anticipated to be in use between Labor Day of 2024 and Memorial Day of 2025.

This project occurs within the historic Fort Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge and is also within the boundary of the Niobrara National Scenic River. The refuge would be impacted due to the need for ROW (temporary easements) in this area. This project does not include activities on Nebraska Spur 16A (S-16A) and would not affect access to the river or the refuge. There are currently no anticipated impacts to the summer recreational season. Impacts to historic properties are being considered, and comments related to historic properties would be taken at this meeting.

This meeting is being held to provide information regarding the proposed project and to receive the public's input. All interested persons are invited to attend and present relevant comments and questions. Design information will be displayed, and NDOT personnel will be present to answer questions and receive comments.

NDOT will make every reasonable accommodation to provide an accessible meeting facility for all persons. Appropriate provisions for the hearing or visually challenged and persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) will be made if NDOT is notified by March 17, 2023.

The public is being encouraged to make suggestions or express concerns regarding this proposed project. Comments will be collected through Sunday, April 9, 2023, and should be submitted to: Sarah Fisher, Public Involvement, Nebraska Department of Transportation, PO Box 94759, Lincoln, NE 68509-4759, sarah.fisher@nebraska.gov, voice telephone (402) 479-3832, fax (402) 479-3989.

Information regarding the proposed project will be available the day of the public meeting at ndot.info/80944. For those without internet access, information may be obtained through the contact above or at NDOT Headquarters: 1500 Nebraska Parkway, Lincoln, NE. For further information, contact: Mark Kovar, NDOT District 8 Engineer, mark.kovar@nebraska.gov, voice telephone (402) 387-2471.