

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gage County Awarded \$22.7 Million in Federal BUILD Grant for Transportation Improvements

July 14, 2026 (Lincoln, Neb.) – The Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) is pleased to announce that Gage County has been awarded a \$22.7 million Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT).

The funding will support improvements on Clatonia-DeWitt Road and Hickory Road, including three bridge replacements and approximately eight miles of pavement reconstruction. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$29.6 million.

The award also marks a significant milestone for the NDOT Infrastructure Hub (IHub). Gage County's BUILD grant is among the first projects to successfully complete the full IHub process from application development to a successful federal award. The IHub will continue supporting the county by assisting with grant administration as the project moves forward.

"The Nebraska Infrastructure Hub was created to help communities across our state compete confidently for federal funding opportunities that make a meaningful difference," said NDOT Director Vicki Kramer. "This grant award represents the value of connecting local leaders with grant experts to make crucial investments in Nebraska's transportation system."

The Nebraska Department of Transportation also recognizes Nebraska's congressional delegation for their support of Gage County's BUILD grant application. Senator Deb Fischer secured \$4.7 million for the project in the FY 2026 Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development (THUD) appropriations bill.

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“This project is important to the safety of travelers along the highway and will help the local ag industry move their products,” Fischer said. “I was proud to take the hard work of our local leaders to Secretary Duffy and convince DOT of the immediate need for this investment.”

The Gage County grant is only one example of the efforts NDOT has made to secure more federal dollars for Nebraska projects. Under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), NDOT has received more than \$90 million in BUILD/RAISE funding since 2022, and, since its launch in August 2024 the IHub has:

- Reviewed 150 projects
- Supported 85 entities
- Approved 95 projects for assistance
- Submitted 65 grant applications
- Provided 472 hours of direct assistance

#NDOT#

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