

**NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION OPEN HOUSE MEETING**

Tuesday, September 18, 2018; 5:00 – 7:00 PM; Presentation 5:00-5:30 PM

**Niobrara High School - Gymnasium
247 North Highway 12, Niobrara, NE**

S-12-5(1011), Niobrara East & West; CN: 31674

The Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) will hold a public information open house to present the new alternative for Nebraska Highway 12 (N-12) located on alignment near the Village of Niobrara in Knox County, Nebraska. The meeting will be held at the Niobrara High School - Gymnasium, 247 North Highway 12 in Niobrara, NE, on Tuesday, September 18th. The information open house is scheduled from 5:00-7:00 PM, with a presentation given from 5:00-5:30 PM.

Identified as *Niobrara East & West*, the proposed project includes two segments of the existing N-12 roadway east and west of the Village of Niobrara. The highway experiences flooding and damage due to high water levels associated with the Missouri River.

The purpose of the proposed project is to rehabilitate the existing roadway to maximize utilization, improve the safety and reliability, and bring the roadway up to current NDOT design standards for a major arterial highway between Verdel, Nebraska and Santee Spur (S-54D). The project is needed due to ongoing risk of flooding, unreliable operations, and interruptions to regional connectivity. The completed project would construct a two-lane roadway with paved shoulders. The new roadway would remain generally on the same alignment as existing N-12, but at an elevation of three feet or higher than the expected 100-year flood elevation. Bridges and culverts would be constructed where appropriate.

Potential impacts to environmental resources would be evaluated as the proposed project design progresses. These resources include, but are not limited to, environmental justice/civil rights, cultural resources, historic properties, publicly owned recreation properties (Section 4(f)), endangered and threatened species, hazardous materials, water quality, and other water resources, including wetlands and streams.

This project would require the acquisition of additional property rights, which could include new right-of-way (ROW), control of access (CA), permanent easements (PE), and/or temporary easements (TE). If your property is impacted by this project, you will be contacted by a representative of NDOT's Right-of-Way Division to discuss the impacts and

next steps once the design footprint has been established. It is anticipated access to adjacent properties would be maintained during construction. Access to existing or proposed future driveways may be limited during construction due to construction sequencing. It is anticipated segments of N-12 would be closed during construction and detour routes would be identified using temporary signage.

This public open house meeting is being held to provide information regarding the current project status and recently identified NDOT-preferred alternative, located on-alignment. All interested persons are invited to attend and present relevant comments and questions. Design and environmental information will be displayed and personnel from NDOT will be present to answer questions and receive comments. The information "open house" format allows the public to come at any time during the advertised hours, gather pertinent information about the project, speak one-on-one with project personnel, and leave as they wish.

NDOT will make every reasonable accommodation to provide an accessible meeting facility for all persons. Appropriate provisions for the hearing and visually challenged or persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) will be made if the Department is notified by September 11, 2018. The public is being encouraged to make suggestions or express concerns regarding this proposed project. Comments will be collected October 3, 2018. Written comments or requests should be submitted to: Sarah Soula, Public Involvement Manager, Nebraska Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 94759, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4759; sarah.soula@nebraska.gov; voice telephone 402-479-4871, Fax 402-479-3989.

Information regarding the proposed project will be made available the day after the meeting, on the NDOT website, at <https://dot.nebraska.gov/projects/> by clicking on the "Niobrara East & West" link. For those without internet access, information may be obtained through the contact above or at NDOT Headquarters, 1500 Hwy 2, Lincoln, Nebraska.