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#### **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

State Headquarters 1500 Nebraska Parkway PO Box 94759 Lincoln, NE 68509-4759 Communication Office: 402-479-4512 dot.nebraska.gov



Jim Pillen, Governor

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Governor Pillen Celebrates Completion of US-275 Scribner–West Point segment and Highlights Next Steps for US-275

**Nov. 4, 2024 (Lincoln, Neb.)** — Today, the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT), along with Governor Jim Pillen, hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the completion of the final segment of US-275 Scribner – West Point corridor.

Expansion of this corridor began construction in the summer of 2021 near West Point. Koss Construction Company built approximately 13.5 miles of the corridor, while Graham Construction, Inc. began construction of the final 5 miles in 2022.

Expanding and improving the US-275 corridor has far-reaching, positive impacts on the mostly rural region of northeast Nebraska, supporting the region's economic competitiveness and providing a more efficient and reliable connection to national freight networks.

"The completion of this stretch of the US-275 expressway is a big win for Nebraska, but we have more work to do," said Gov. Pillen. "The local communities understand the need for this expressway to be complete, and the economic benefit it will provide. Local support for this work has been strong and sustained for decades. Today, I have directed NDOT to condense the time needed to complete US-275 expressway from Norfolk to West Point."

Completing the US-275 corridor would enhance the economic, employment, service, healthcare and educational connections for the surrounding region. This corridor provides local steelmakers, manufacturers, livestock producers, farmers and small businesses access to major markets statewide.

Agriculture remains one of the primary industries of regional small businesses and is a major factor of growth in commerce in the region. Enabling easier access to markets empowers small producers to compete regionally while simultaneously growing their communities at home.

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"This newly finished section of US-275 is a major step in our mission to complete the expressway system," said Vicki Kramer, NDOT Director. "The NDOT is exploring conservative and responsible bond financing options in an effort to complete the US-275 corridor on a more condensed schedule that would otherwise not be possible using the pay as you go strategy."

Video of the event can be viewed on <u>NDOT's Facebook</u> page, photos can be viewed here: <u>US-275</u> <u>Ribbon Cutting Event | Flickr</u>, media b-roll of the event can be viewed here: <u>Hwy 275 B-Roll</u> and media b-roll of the completed segment can be viewed here: <u>Hwy 275 Flyover</u>.

#NDOT#

### Contact:

Jeni Campana, (402) 479-4512

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