

# UPDATE – APRIL 2023

## Verdigre North Bridge Replacement Project

Notice of Improvement Project | BRO-7054(19) Verdigre North; C.N. 31821

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Knox County are providing an update on a proposed project involving Structure Number C005413205 (Gross State Aid Bridge) that crosses Verdigre Creek on County Road 885 north of Verdigre in Knox County, Nebraska. **The project was put on hold to conduct a right-of-way (ROW) process with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) due to the adjacent land for construction being in a Wetland Reserve Program easement. Knox County has now acquired the needed ROW and easements for the project to proceed.**



### PROJECT LOCATION

Identified as **Verdigre North**, this project is located approximately 1,000 feet west of Nebraska Highway 14 (N-14). The existing crossing at this location does not meet current bridge sufficiency ratings and improvements to the crossing required. In this location, the creek is within the boundaries of the Missouri National Recreational River and the Verdigre Creek National Recreational River. The Gross State Aid Bridge is a single span, 182-foot-long steel truss bridge that is 16 feet wide and carries approximately 80 vehicles per day. The adjacent crushed rock roadway is approximately 26 feet wide. A replacement bridge would be constructed approximately 100 feet north, downstream of the existing bridge. **The existing bridge would be removed after construction of the new replacement bridge and connection of the new approaches to County Road 885.** The adjacent roadway would be expanded to 28 feet wide with crushed rock surfacing. Existing driveways northwest and southeast of the structure would be re-graded to match the proposed roadway. The project would also realign and improve roadway approaches, approximately 525 feet west of the new bridge, and approximately 975 feet east of the new bridge. The new, three-span bridge would be 280 feet long.

### PURPOSE & NEED

The purpose of this project is to preserve the transportation asset, improve reliability of the transportation system, and perpetuate the mobility of the traveling public with a crossing of Verdigre Creek in the vicinity of the existing crossing on 885 Road. This project is needed because the existing bridge is substandard in width, has deteriorated, and is near the end of its useful life. Additionally, the current alignment of 885 Road with the bridge does not meet minimum design standards.

# SCOPE OF WORK

In addition to the replacement and removal of the existing bridge, this project would include removal of trees and shrubs, and site grading to prepare for construction. A temporary bridge or work platform for construction vehicles may need to be constructed in the Verdigre Creek channel. Areas disturbed during construction would be stabilized utilizing erosion control methods.

# IMPACTS

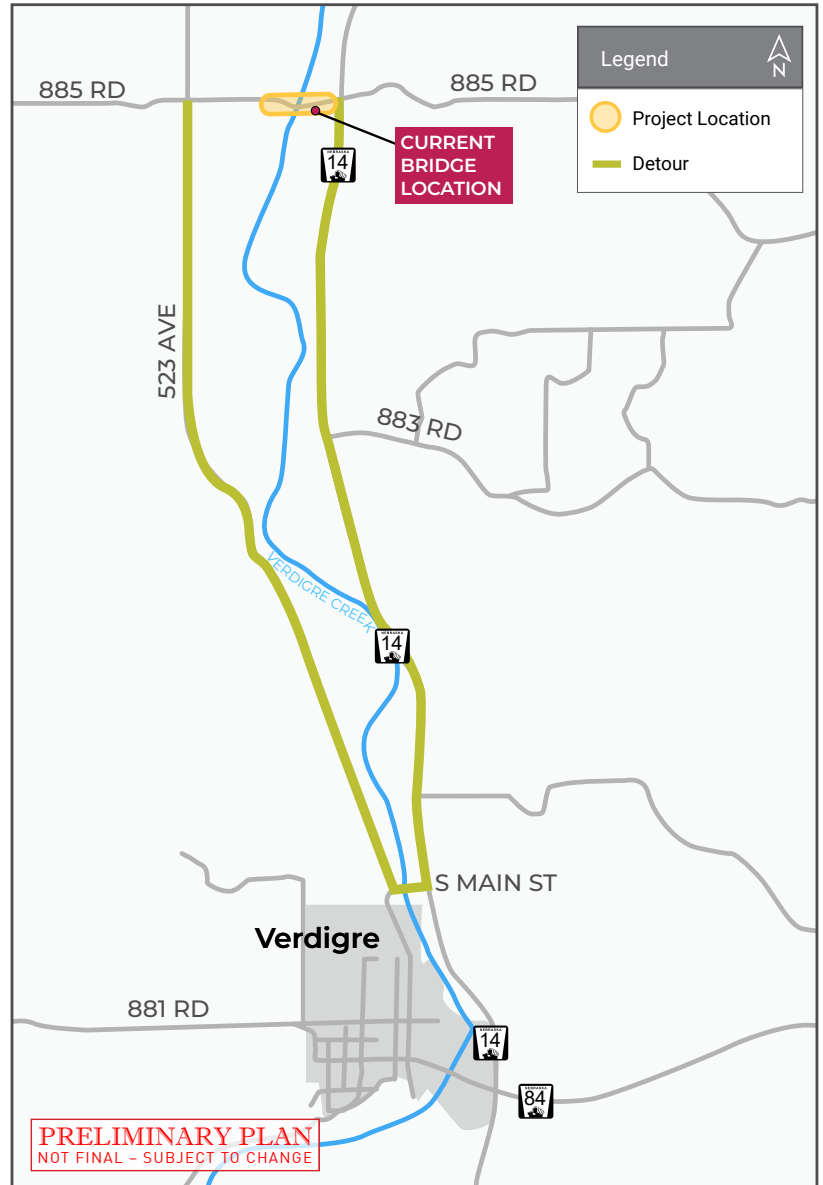
Knox County has now acquired the needed ROW and temporary easements for the project to proceed. Access to adjacent properties would be maintained during construction, but may be limited at times due to phasing requirements. Impacts to wetlands and Verdigre Creek would occur, and a Section 404 Clean Water Act permit would be needed.

# SCHEDULE & COST

Construction could begin as early as winter of 2023 and be completed as early as winter of 2024. Total cost for the project is estimated at \$3.0 million and funding would come from federal and state sources.

# DETOUR

The proposed project would be constructed under traffic with lane closures controlled with approved temporary traffic control devices and practices. However, for less than one month, a designated detour of approximately six miles would be required to connect roadway approaches. The designated detour route would be provided utilizing 523 Avenue, North Main Street and N-14.



# CONTACT US

Information about the Verdigre North Bridge Replacement project can also be found at NDOT's website at [ndot.info/31821](http://ndot.info/31821).

For those without internet access, information may be obtained through the contact listed to the right.

Any questions or comments regarding this project should be directed to:

### Kevin Barta

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