

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

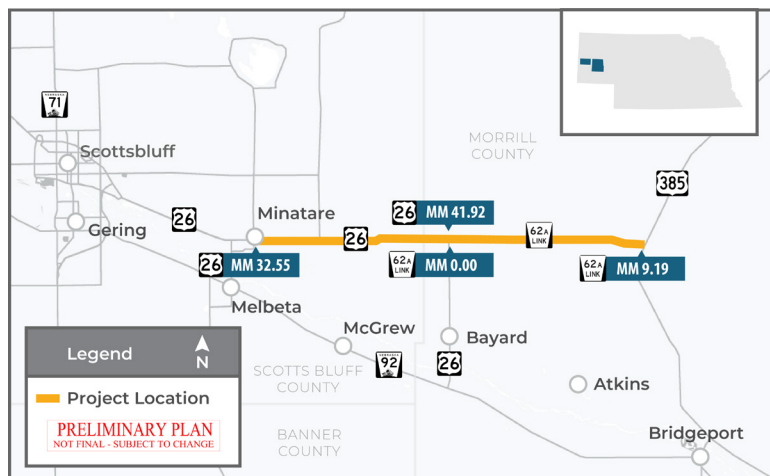
SEPTEMBER 8, 2022

NH-26-1(172) Minatare - US-385; C.N. 51521

The Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) are seeking input on proposed improvements to approximately 18.19 miles of US Highway 26 (US-26) and Nebraska Link 62A (L-62A) in Scotts Bluff and Morrill Counties.

Project Location

The proposed project, known as Minatare - US-385, would expand the existing two-lane highway to a four-lane expressway. The project starts just west of Minatare's Main Street at approximately mile marker (MM) 32.55 and extends east to the junction of US-26 and L-62A at MM 41.92. The project continues east on L-62A from the junction with US-26 at MM 0.00 to the junction of US-385 and L-62A at MM 9.19. The typical section would be more urban in nature through Minatare. The intersections would be improved throughout the project and there would be controlled access throughout the project.



Preliminary Purpose & Need

The proposed purpose of the project is to provide an improved highway on this National Highway System (NHS) High Priority Corridor and to fulfill the legislative intent of constructing a four-lane highway along the Heartland Expressway Corridor. The proposed need is based on the high traffic volumes, including a high percentage of heavy truck traffic, local travelers, and agricultural vehicles. The project would also complete the last remaining gap in the four-lane highway system between Scottsbluff/Gering and Alliance, as well as strengthening the economic and social connections of the greater economic region of western Nebraska.

Right-Of-Way

Proposed project alternatives 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). Residential and commercial structures are anticipated to be impacted by the project. Relocation assistance will be provided to eligible displacees requiring relocation. If your property is impacted by this project, you would be contacted by a representative from NDOT's Right of Way Division 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.

FEEDBACK

Comments will be collected through **September 23, 2022** and should be submitted to:

SEND COMMENTS TO:

Lucas Nelsen

NDOT Public Involvement
P.O. Box 94759
Lincoln, NE 68509-4759
lucas.nelsen@nebraska.gov
tel (402) 479-3890
fax (402) 479-3989

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Doug Hoevet

NDOT District 5 Engineer
doug.hoevet@nebraska.gov
tel (308) 436-6587

For more information visit ndot.info/51521



PRELIMINARY PLAN
NOT FINAL - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

SEPTEMBER 8, 2022

NH-26-1(172) Minatare - US-385; C.N. 51521

Accommodation of Traffic During Construction

At this point and based on the conceptual level design that has been completed, NDOT does not anticipate highway closures or detours during construction. Highway traffic would generally be maintained on the existing lanes during the construction of the new lanes. NDOT does however anticipate the need for temporary closure of local intersecting roads during the reconstruction of those intersections.

Summary of Potential Impacts

| | NORTH ALTERNATIVE | SOUTH ALTERNATIVE |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| CONSIDERATIONS | | |
| RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL RELOCATIONS | TOTAL RELOCATIONS: 26 | TOTAL RELOCATIONS: 49 |
| | Houses: 13 | Houses: 19 |
| | Major Outbuildings: 8 | Major Outbuildings: 11 |
| | Minor Outbuildings: 5 | Minor Outbuildings: 19 |
| UTILITIES | SIMILAR LEVEL OF IMPACT | |
| IRRIGATION CANAL IMPACTS (LF.)* | 700 | 1,200 |
| IRRIGATION CONVEYANCE (LF.)** | 15,000 | 18,000 |
| ESTIMATED COST (\$ MILLIONS) | \$76.7 | \$81.4 |
| FARMLAND (AC.) | 220 | 230 |
| WETLANDS (AC.) | 15 | 12 |
| STREAMS (LF.) | 3,400 | 3,000 |
| HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (Petroleum Contamination) | MEDIUM POTENTIAL TO ENCOUNTER | LOW POTENTIAL TO ENCOUNTER |
| 4 (F) PROPERTIES*** | NO PARKS OR RECREATION FEATURES AFFECTED, HISTORIC RESOURCES TBD | |

LF = Linear Feet and AC. = Acres

* Irrigation Canal Impacts include distribution canals.

** Irrigation Conveyance includes any laterals, drains, ditches, and other components.

*** The above assumptions are contingent on FHWA determinations of eligibility, as well as determination of effects. Archaeological survey is ongoing.

Note: The acreages, linear feet, and other measurements are preliminary.

Although it does not meet the Purpose and Need, the No-Build Alternative has been and will be considered in the Environmental Assessment, in accordance with FHWA's NEPA guidelines.

Timeline

