NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Public Open House
Thursday, November 19, 2026; 5:00 – 7:00 PM
Beatrice Senior Center, 101 N 25th Street, Beatrice, NE 68310

NH-77-1(138) US-77, In Beatrice; CN 13569

The Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) will hold a public open house regarding proposed improvements to U.S. Highway 77 (US-77) within the city of Beatrice in Gage County. The open house will be held at the Beatrice Senior Center, 101 N 25th Street, in Beatrice on Thursday, November 19, 2026, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM.

Identified as ***US-77, In Beatrice***, the proposed project would improve approximately 3.4 miles of US-77, beginning just north of the southern city limit and extending north to just beyond the intersection of Industrial Row and US-77. Construction may begin and/or end approximately 500 feet ahead of or beyond the project limits to accommodate pavement transitions.

The purpose of the proposed project is to repair the aging roadway and provide reliable travel for the community. The need for this project is based on the age and condition of the roadway pavement and bridge structures, as well as crash history along portions of the corridor. Improvements are needed to preserve road conditions and reduce the potential for vehicle conflicts.

The proposed improvements on this project include reconfiguring the existing four-lane roadway south of Lincoln Street, replacing the Big Blue River Bridge, and repairing the viaduct over the BNSF Railway and the bridge over Indian Creek. Additional improvements include asphalt pavement resurfacing, concrete repairs, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant pedestrian upgrades, guardrail and lighting replacements.

The proposed project would require additional property rights, which could include new right-of-way (ROW), permanent easements (PE), and/or temporary easements (TE). If your property is impacted by this project, you will be contacted by an NDOT representative in the future once the design footprint has been established. Access to adjacent properties will be maintained during construction but may be limited at times due to phasing requirements.

Veterans Memorial Park, Chautauqua Park, Beatrice Big Blue Pet Park, Charles Park, Veterans Memorial Trail, Big Blue Trail, Pioneer Trail, Homestead Trail, and Chief Standing Bear Trail are in the vicinity of the proposed improvements; minor ROW impacts are anticipated. The parks would remain open throughout construction. Historic properties have been identified along the alignment, and project effects are under consideration. No wetland and/or water resource impacts are anticipated.

Construction could begin as early as spring 2028, with completion anticipated by winter 2029. The project would be built under traffic, with no highway detour. Lane closures would be controlled by appropriate traffic control devices and practices. Phasing requirements would temporarily impact

access to local intersections and driveways. Phasing requirements for the bridge replacement over the Big Blue River would temporarily impact access to nearby intersections and driveways.

Local traffic may be detoured onto adjacent roadways during construction. Additional details will be available online and at the information open house.

This public open house is being held to provide information regarding the project, currently in the design phase, and to receive the public's input. All interested persons are invited to attend and present relevant comments and questions. Design information will be displayed, and personnel from NDOT will be present to answer questions and receive comments. The open house format allows the public to come at any time during the advertised hours, gather project information, speak one-on-one with project personnel, and leave as they wish. No formal presentation is planned. A pre-recorded video providing an overview of the proposed project will be available to view throughout the open house.

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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 **November 10, 2026**. The public is being encouraged to make suggestions or express concerns regarding this proposed project. Comments will be collected through **December 4, 2026**. Written comments or requests should be submitted to: Brian Beach, NDOT Public Involvement, Nebraska Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 94759, Lincoln, NE 68509-4759; brian.beach@nebraska.gov; voice telephone 402-479-4994; fax 402-479-3989.

Information regarding the proposed project will be made available on the NDOT website at ndot.info/13569. For those without internet access, information may be obtained through the contact above or at NDOT Headquarters, 1500 Nebraska Parkway, Lincoln, NE 68502. For further information, contact Brandon Varilek, NDOT District 1 Engineer in Lincoln at: brandon.varilek@nebraska.gov or voice telephone 402-471-0850.