



Public Meeting

May 28, 2020

**NH 0018(195)103 - PCN 04FC
US18 in Pine Ridge From 2 Blocks North of SD407 to
East of Indian Health Road**

**P 0407(00)01 - PCN 06N4
SD407 in Pine Ridge from Cherry Hill Court to US18
Oglala Lakota County**

**Urban Grading, Curb and Gutter, ADA
Upgrades, Lighting, Traffic Signals**

**Public Meeting Information @
<https://dot.sd.gov/projects-studies/projects/public-meetings>**



The South Dakota Department of Transportation provides services without regard to race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age or disability, according to the provisions contained in SDCL 20-13, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 and Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, 1994.

Any person who has questions concerning this policy or who believes they have been discriminated against should contact the Department's Civil Rights Office at 605-773-3540.

PUBLIC MEETING

Highway US18 – Urban Grading, Curb & Gutter, Storm Sewer, ADA Upgrades, Roadway Lighting & Traffic signals in Pine Ridge from 2 blocks North of SD407 to East of Indian Health Road
SD407 – ADA Upgrades in Pine Ridge from Cherry Hill Court to US18
Tonya Huber
KLJ Project Manager
May 28, 2020



WHY ARE WE HERE?

- Involve the public in the design process
- Provide a project overview
 - Background Information
 - Proposed Project
 - Proposed Schedule
- Gather public input and comments

HOW IS THE PUBLIC INVOLVED?



PROJECT LOCATION



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- Graded in 1944
- Last Resurfaced in 1995
- Storm Sewer Upgrades
- Sidewalk Upgrades



TRAFFIC

- The amount and type of traffic determines design

- 2016 ADT US18 = 7,474
- 2036 (Projected) = 9,485
- Truck Traffic = 2.3%

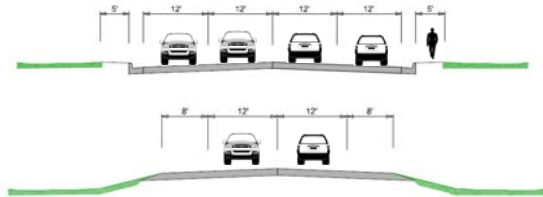


SDDOT 2019 Traffic Volumes

- 2016 ADT SD407 = 4,292
- 2036 (Projected) = 5,447
- Truck Traffic = 1.5%

EXISTING ROADWAY

US18 – East of SD407

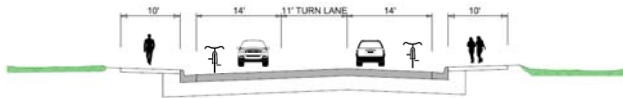


PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

- Traffic signals at SD407, Eastridge, and Indian Health Road
- Wide sidewalks and improved crosswalks
- Wide lanes to accommodate bicycles
- Improved sight distance
- Upgraded drainage collection
- Upgraded roadway lighting
- Access management
- Continual turn lane
- Preserve existing SuAnne Big Crow Trail and lights

PROPOSED ROADWAY

US18 – East of SD407



ACCESS MANAGEMENT (ENTRANCES)

- To provide safe, efficient access along US18
- Limit number of direct accesses
- Improve access locations



RIGHT OF WAY (ROW)

- Existing ROW width varies from 33' to 50' from Centerline
- Purchase additional ROW as needed
 - Storm sewer, signal equipment, sidewalks, and erosion protection
- Temporary Easements
 - Acquired as needed for construction

PUBLIC UTILITIES

- Some utilities may need to be relocated
- Owners may be contacted by utility companies to negotiate easements as needed



PRIVATE UTILITIES?

- Any known private utilities?
 - Drain tile
 - Water lines
 - Underground sewer/power/septic
- Let SDDOT know

LANDOWNER MEETINGS

- The Tribe, Landowners, and Business Owners will be contacted in Summer of 2020 to schedule appointment
- Your opportunity to:
 - Provide input related to your property
 - Driveway Location
 - Drainage
 - Trees
 - Temporary Easements



ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC CONCERNS

- This project is being developed in accordance with applicable State and Federal environmental regulations
- In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, coordination has been initiated with State & Federal resource agencies

ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC CONCERNS

- A cultural resources survey will be conducted
- The project is being reviewed to determine impacts to:
 - Wetland
 - Threatened and Endangered Species
 - Section 4(f) – Parks and Refuges
 - Section 106 – Archaeological and Historic Properties

WHERE WILL TRAFFIC GO DURING CONSTRUCTION?

- > Traffic maintained throughout project with various lane drops
- > Anticipated slower traffic – expect delays



TENTATIVE PROJECT SCHEDULE

- > Landowner meetings July 2020
- > Complete design November 2020
- > ROW acquisition 2021
- > Construction 2023



QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

- > Please Submit Questions or Comments by July 3, 2020 to:
 - > SDDOT online form at <https://dot.sd.gov/projects-studies/projects/public-meetings>
 - > Call SDDOT at 605-773-4434 to provide verbal comments
 - > Call, mail, or Email: Tonya Huber, PE
KLJ
330 Knollwood Drive
Rapid City, SD 57701
605-721-5553
Tonya.Huber@kljeng.com





Access Management

South Dakota's Commitment to Safety and Smart Investment Decisions in Transportation

What is Access Management?

Access Management is the process of providing highway entrances only at locations where they can be provided safely and efficiently.

Consider that each access point added to an undivided highway in an urban or suburban area increases the annual accident rate by 11 to 18 percent on that highway segment. In rural areas, each added access point increases the annual accident rate by 7 percent. Overall, driveway-access accidents alone cost South Dakota approximately \$36.5 million each year.

Each additional access point also contributes to congestion. The more driveways on a street the more places where people are slowing, changing lanes and turning. A five-lane street can quickly become a parking lot when there are many driveways in each block. When that happens, our valuable transportation investments are wasted and access to adjacent businesses is restricted.

Controlled access facilities are segments of highway where either no access or only limited access to the highway is allowed. Interstate highways are an example of controlled access facilities where no access to the highway is allowed.

Good access depends on the following:

- Limiting the number of conflict points (places where there is a potential for crashes)
- Separating conflict areas
- Reducing interference with through traffic
- Providing good on-site circulation and storage
- Properly spaced traffic signals

How does Access Management affect businesses?

Studies have shown that access management can provide three benefits to businesses adjacent to highways:

- Making sure that drivers can get in and out of businesses without being blocked by other traffic
- Making the highway more attractive by reducing congestion
- Extending the business' effective service area by reducing travel times

These benefits come not from having many driveways, but by having well-planned, well-located, high-capacity access points on the highway.

Even skeptical business owners have found that proper access management results in an improved business climate, as customers can easily get in and out of their business establishment.

For more information on Access Management, contact:

Stacy Bartlett, SDDOT Access Management Engineer, 104 S Garfield Building A, Pierre, SD 57501; Phone: 605-773-2268 E-Mail: Stacy.Bartlett@state.sd.us



Right of Way Information

Individual Landowner Meetings: During the early stages of the project's design, SDDOT will schedule a meeting with individual landowners having property adjacent to the project. See the following page for an explanation of the landowner meeting.

Property Acquisition Offer: After the project construction plans have been prepared and the right of way limits have been established, you will be contacted by an appraiser or negotiations agent to visit with you for that portion of your property that is needed for construction of the project. Your property will be valued and a written offer presented to you by a negotiating agent who will contact you for an appointment to make the written offer.

Relocation Assistance Program: This program provides a variety of services and payments to owners and tenants who have personal property affected by the right of way being acquired for the project.

Relocation payments are in addition to payments made for the real property being acquired. To preserve your eligibility for payments, do not move property until you have received a written relocation offer or have contacted John Keyes of the SDDOT Right of Way Program in Pierre. His phone number is 605-773-3746. Anyone not satisfied with the relocation offer made to them may appeal using the procedures described in the Relocation Brochure.

The landowner may be reimbursed for various fair and reasonable incidental expenses that may be incurred during the transfer of property to the State depending on impacts to personal property and qualifications.

Right of Way Information Brochures: Two brochures "Better Roads Brochure" and "Relocation Assistance Brochure" have been prepared which explain the SDDOT's Right of Way process. They provide information on your rights regarding the acquisition of your property and the benefits available to you with regard to the Relocation Assistance Program. These brochures are available at this meeting on the "Sign-in" table. Please feel free to take a copy of each with you. These brochures are available at the following SDDOT website:
<https://dot.sd.gov/inside-sddot/forms-publications/brochures>



Individual Landowner Meetings

The purpose of this meeting is to provide you with an opportunity to comment on various issues pertaining to the design of this highway project as it relates to your property.

The following topics will be discussed at the meetings. Please note that not all topics will apply to every property owner.

1. Permanent purchase and/or temporary use of your property.
2. Locations and widths of entrances to your property: The standard South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) entrance-width for rural highways is 24 feet. Note: In general, existing entrance widths along rural State Highways are 24 feet or smaller. A maximum width of 40 feet is allowed at locations where it is deemed appropriate and necessary. Entrances in urban areas can vary from 16 feet to 40 feet.

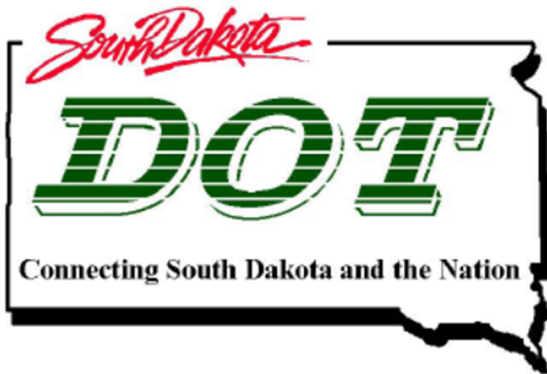
The goal of the SDDOT is to provide property owners located adjacent to the project with the access they need, and at the same time, enhance highway safety and reduce project costs. In some instances, the SDDOT may seek to combine duplicate entrances. For example, if your property has two or three entrances to the same property that are located close to each other, we would ask you to assess your current entrance needs and consider one entrance location that will meet those needs.

3. Permanent fencing adjacent to the highway: SDDOT's fencing policy allows for the replacement of all disturbed fence with like-kind fence.

Two fence types are typically installed: **Type 2:** 4-strand barbed wire with 8-inch wire spacing, and **Type 6:** 32-inch woven wire with 1 strand of barbed wire on the bottom and 2 strands of barbed wire on the top. Page 12 of the "Better Roads Brochure" contains added discussion of your permanent fencing options. This brochure will be available at the meeting.

4. Temporary fencing adjacent to the highway: Do you anticipate having livestock in pastures located adjacent to the proposed project during highway construction activities?
5. Are you aware of any waterlines, drainfields, septic tanks, underground storage tanks, underground power lines, etc. that are located adjacent to the project and may be impacted by construction activities? If you have drain tile, do you have a tile map?
6. Are there any highway-related drainage or flooding problems located along your property or elsewhere along this section of highway?
7. Possible sites for gravel and additional fill material: Are you aware of potential material available for construction that might be located adjacent to the highway?
8. Temporary access during construction activities.

Please review your property and be prepared to discuss the above issues, as well as any other issues that you feel are unique to your property. No offers to acquire property will be made at these meetings since revisions to the plans may occur from your input.



Encroachments in ROW

Federal Regulations (CFR 23.1) require that the State Highway Department (SD DOT) shall be responsible for preserving such ROW free of all public and private installation, facilities, and encroachments.

No improvements shall be allowed to remain in the ROW unless they are deemed in the best interest of the public and will not impair the highway or interfere with the free and safe flow of traffic.

Encroachments are any private property or improvement in the public ROW that is not approved by permit such as:

- Landscaping Items
- Fence
- Signs
- Buildings
- Etc.

SDDOT Staff will survey the project limits to identify all encroachments. Prior to the project being let to contract, landowners will be contacted by the SDDOT or City Government regarding how each encroachment will be addressed or handled. If it is determined that the removal of an encroachment is required, it will be the landowner's responsibility to remove the encroachment.

➤ For additional information please contact:

Rich Zacher, Area Engineer
SDDOT Custer Area Office
115 Centennial Drive
Custer, SD 57730
Phone: (605) 673-4948; E-Mail: Rich.Zacher@state.sd.us



Advanced Utility Coordination

Advanced Utility Coordination

- Highway projects may require adjustments or relocation of existing utilities located along or crossing the highway project. The SDDOT has an "Advanced Utility Coordinating Process" in place that addresses all existing utility involvement. This process involves meeting with the utility owner and project designers to **review** any conflicts and determine the most cost effective option of changing the design to avoid the existing utility or adjusting the utility. If the utility is required to relocate, all replacement utility easement acquisition and relocation work will be addressed and coordinated between the landowner and the utility company.
- For additional information please contact:

Bronson Blow, Utility Coordinator
SDDOT Road Design Office
700 E. Broadway Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone 605-773-4097; E-Mail: Bronson.Blow@state.sd.us



Environmental, Social & Economic Impacts

Environmental, Social & Economic Impacts

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) requires that federally funded projects be reviewed to determine the social, economic, and environmental consequences of the action. Public involvement is beneficial to the implementation of a project's NEPA process. This project is being developed in accordance with applicable State & Federal environmental regulations. Your input on the following will aid in the project's development and NEPA review:

➤ **Section 4(f) Property**

Section 4(f) refers to the original section within the USDOT of 1966 which established the requirement for consideration of park and recreational lands, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, and historic sites in transportation project development. **At this juncture, the identification of any private historical sites that may be impacted by project will be of the most benefit to the local landowner.**

➤ **Section 106 - Archaeological and Historic Properties**

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires Federal actions to take into account the effects of project undertakings on historic properties, which will include districts, sites, structures, and objects of historic & archaeological significance. This will also include tribes that may attach religious or cultural importance to them. A cultural resources survey will be completed to ensure that historical landmarks will be preserved. Any information regarding the location of archaeological sites would be helpful. **The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will make a Section 106 determination for this project.**

➤ **Threatened & Endangered Species**

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service will review the project to determine if it will impact the threatened and endangered species that are known to occur in Oglala Lakota County:

- Mammals: Northern Long-eared bat
- Birds: Least Tern, Red Knot, Whooping Crane

➤ **Contaminated Materials**

No contaminated materials have been identified along the project, to date. If you have information on contaminated materials, or underground/above ground storage tanks that could be encountered during construction, please let us know.

➤ **Wetlands**

Federal regulations require that unavoidable wetland impacts caused by highway construction be mitigated. **Wetlands may be impacted by these projects.** If you are interested in creating or restoring wetlands on your property, please complete the Wetland Mitigation Registry Form in the handouts.



Environmental, Social & Economic Impacts

The project will comply with all state and federal environmental regulations

- No splitting of neighborhoods will occur as a result of this project
- Coordination has been initiated with the following state and federal agencies:
 - SD Dept. of Environment & Natural Resources
 - SD Dept. of Game, Fish & Parks
 - US Fish & Wildlife Service
 - Archeological Research Center
 - State Historic Preservation Office
 - Tribal Entities

- For additional information, please contact :

Joanne Hight, Engineer Supervisor
SDDOT Office of Administration
700 E. Broadway Ave.
Pierre SD 57501
Phone: 605-773-3180; E-Mail: Joanne.Hight@state.sd.us



Wetland Mitigation Registry Form

When we fill in or impact a wetland, Federal regulations require that we create an equal or greater amount of wetlands to replace those impacted by constructed. This means that we create a new wetland, restore a wetland that was previously drained, or add onto or enhance existing wetlands to make them more productive.

The South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) may share in the cost of wetland creation/restoration, if the wetland can be used to replace or recreate wetlands impacted by highway construction.

SDDOT will avoid wetland impacts when possible, but since we are widening the roadway by adding shoulders for safety we definitely will be impacting wetlands along this road. In order to make this road safer for you, we need your help in identifying and enhancing wetlands. Wetland issues can hold up a project for many years until suitable replacement sites are found.

If you are interested in creating or restoring wetlands on your property, please complete the attached form and mail to: Joanne Hight, Engineer Supervisor - SDDOT Office of Administration 700 E. Broadway Ave. Pierre, SD 57501 . Your name will be added to the SDDOT Wetland Mitigation Registry and a SDDOT representative will contact you.

Yes, I am interested in assisting the SDDOT to mitigate wetland impacts by creating or restoring wetlands on my property.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Legal Description of property: _____ 1/4 of Section _____
Township _____, **Range** _____, **County** _____

Please note: Completion of this form does not commit either you or the SDDOT to a mitigation project. It is a statement of intent only.

