



**South Dakota Department  
of Transportation**

# **U.S. Highway 12 Structure Replacement Public Meeting**

Project Location: U.S. Highway 12

Project Number: 08M3

Date: April 20, 2026

Presenter Name: Scott Middaugh

Presenter Job Title: Project Manager

# Mission Statement

**We provide a safe and efficient public transportation system.**

<https://dot.sd.gov/>

# Purpose of the Meeting

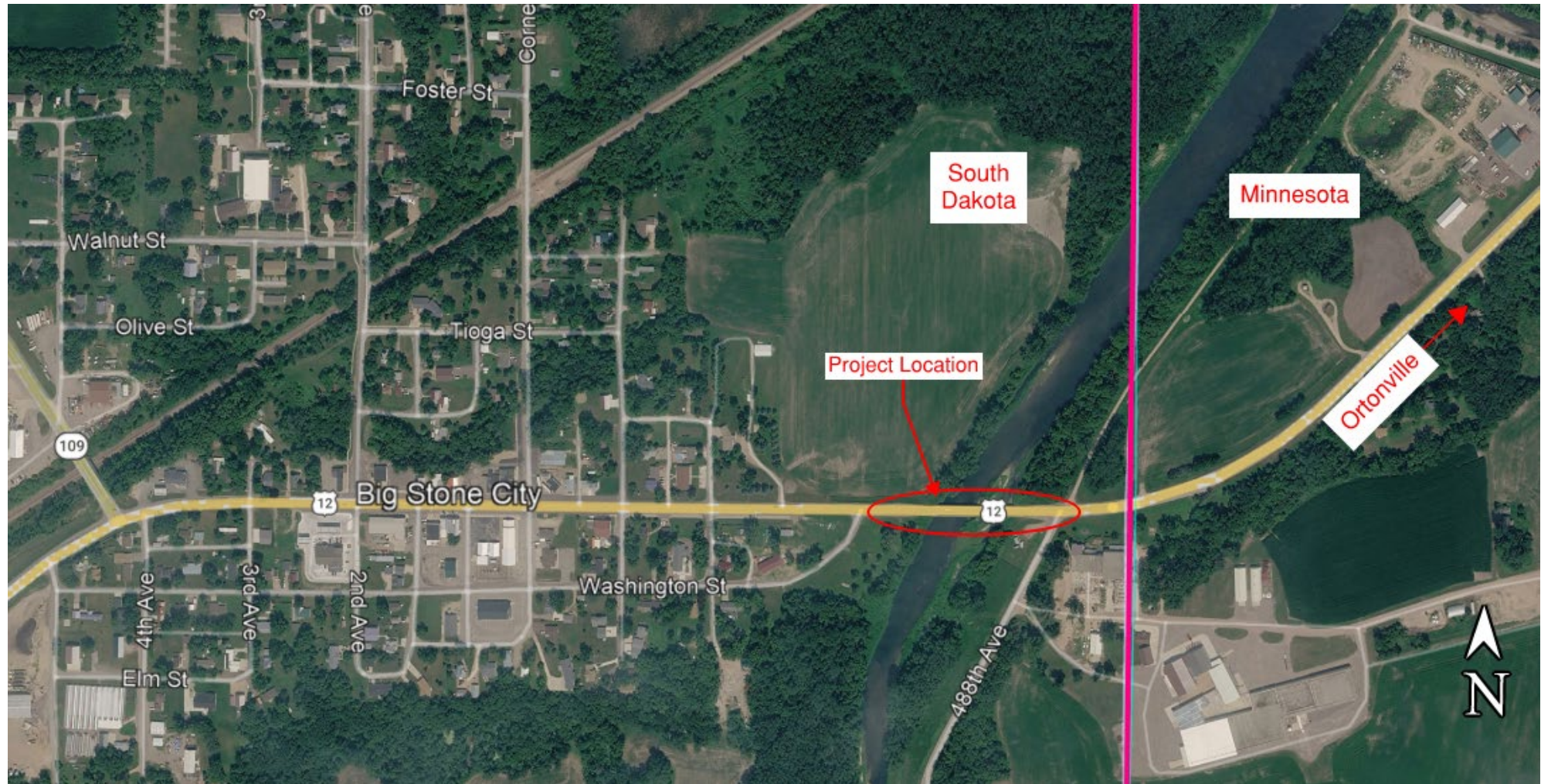
Involve the public in the  
planning and design  
process

Provide a project  
overview

Gather input and  
comments

- ✓ Background information
- ✓ Proposed project
- ✓ Project schedule

# Project Limits



# Structure Number: 26-379-024

Grading and Bridge in 1955



Bridge Reconstructed in 1977



Bridge Repairs in 2018/2019



Last Surface Improvements in 2021

# Traffic Data and Information

**2022 Average daily traffic (ADT): 3,638**



**2042 Projected ADT: 5,569**

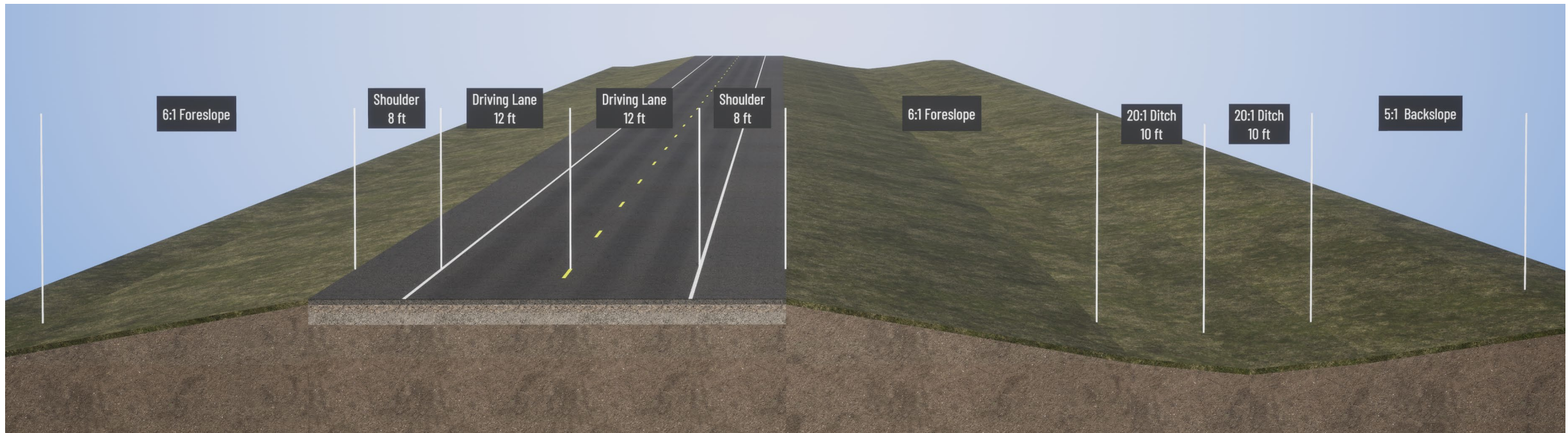


**16.8% Average truck traffic**

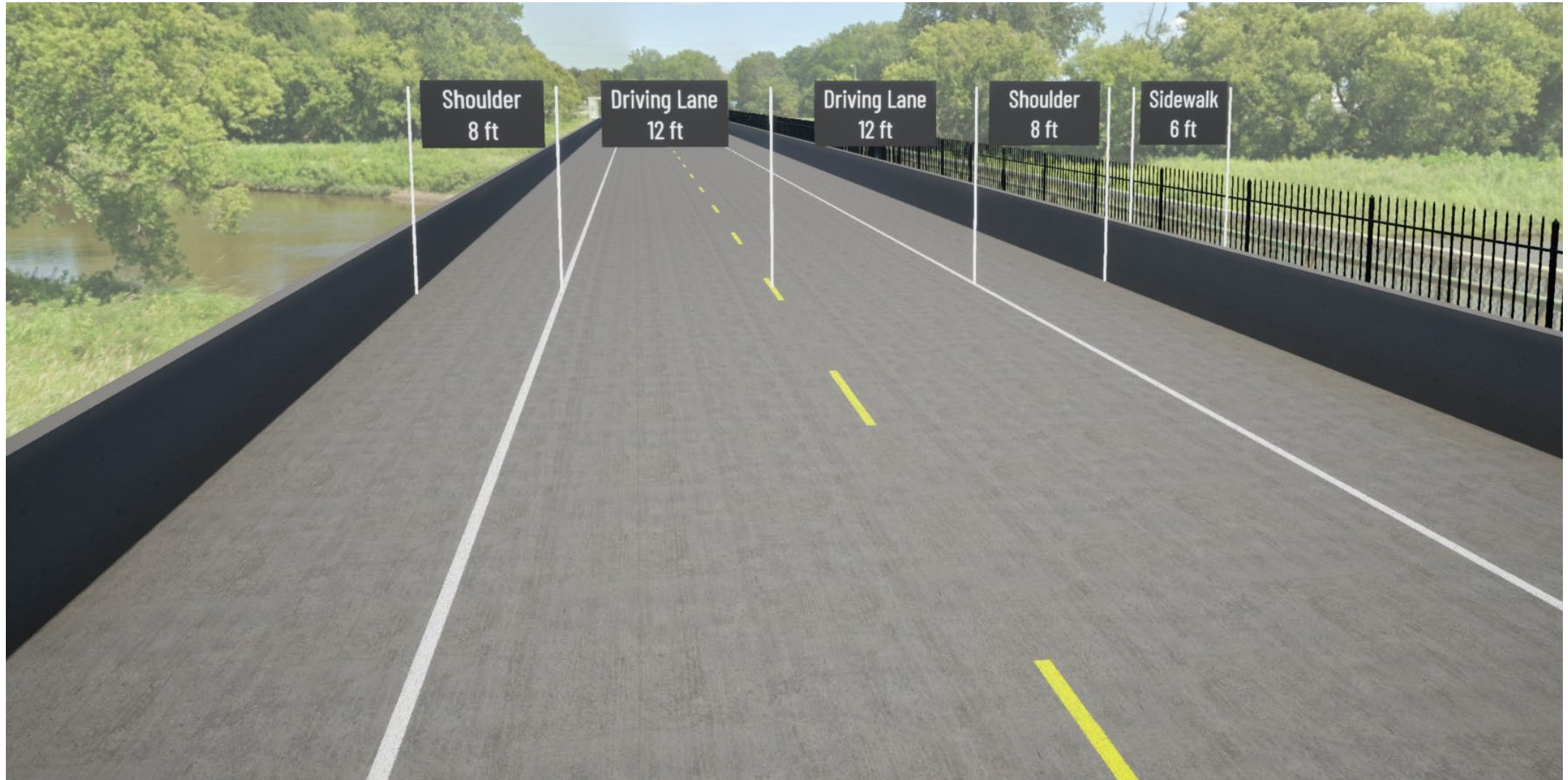
# Why This Project is Needed

- Structure at end of useful life
- Replacing with new bridge structure

# Proposed Roadway Typical Section



# Proposed Bridge Typical Section



# Access Management

**Manage location and number of access points.**

Provide safe, efficient access to streets and highways by relocating, combining, and eliminating access points.



✓ See handout

# Right of Way (ROW)

Existing width is 100 feet



```
graph TD; A[Existing width is 100 feet] --> B[Purchase additional ROW as needed]; B --> C[Temporary easements as needed];
```

Purchase additional ROW as needed

Temporary easements as needed

See handout

# Encroachments

## Private property in public ROW

Federal highway regulations for safety

## Examples

- Signs
- Private use (parking)
- Landscaping

## Notification

Owners of encroachments will be notified by the Aberdeen Area Office.

See handout

# Utility Coordination

Some utilities may need to be relocated.

Utility companies negotiate easements with landowners.

- Northwest Energy Corporation
- Midco
- Otter Tail Power
- Interstate Telecommunications
- Cities of Big Stone/Ortonville

See handout

# Environmental, Social, and Economic Concerns

**This project is being developed in accordance with applicable State and Federal environmental regulations.**

- **National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended.**
- **Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act**

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires Federal actions to take into account the effects of project undertakings on historic properties. The public is invited to provide information on any known historic properties (archaeological sites, historic buildings, historic bridges, etc.).

# Environmental, Social, and Economic Concerns (Slide 2)

- **Section 404 of the Clean Water Act**

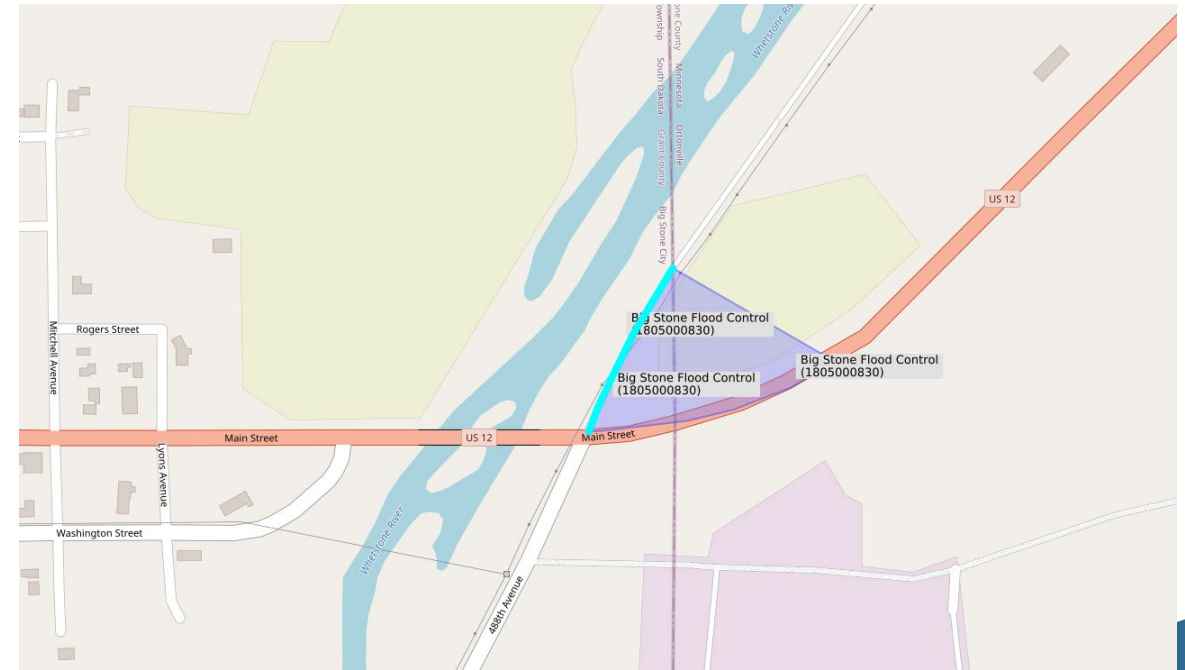
Federal regulations require that unavoidable wetland impacts caused by highway construction be avoided, minimized, or mitigated. If you are interested in creating or restoring wetlands on your property, please complete the Wetland Mitigation Registry Form in the handouts.

- **Section 4(f) of the USDOT Transportation Act of 1966**

Project development will include all possible planning to avoid and minimize harm to publicly owned parks, recreational areas, wildlife & waterfowl refuges, or public & private historical sites. The public is invited to review and comment on the possible effects on the activities, features, and attributes to Veterans Memorial Park. Minor amounts of temporary or permanent may be necessary for the project.

# Environmental, Social, and Economic Concerns (Slide 3)

- **Floodplains & Levees** – the project will occur in a FEMA floodway adjacent USACE levee. The public is invited to comment on alternatives which contain encroachments to the floodway.



# Environmental, Social, and Economic Concerns (Slide 4)

- **Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act**

The project will be coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to determine effects to the following species that are known to occur in Grant County:

- The known T&E Species the project is inside the range of include:
- Mammals: Northern Long-Eared Bat
- Birds: Rufa Red Knot
- Insects: Dakota Skipper, Monarch Butterfly, Western Regal Fritillary, Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee

Efforts are proceeding to ensure this undertaking will not adversely affect listed species in Grant County.

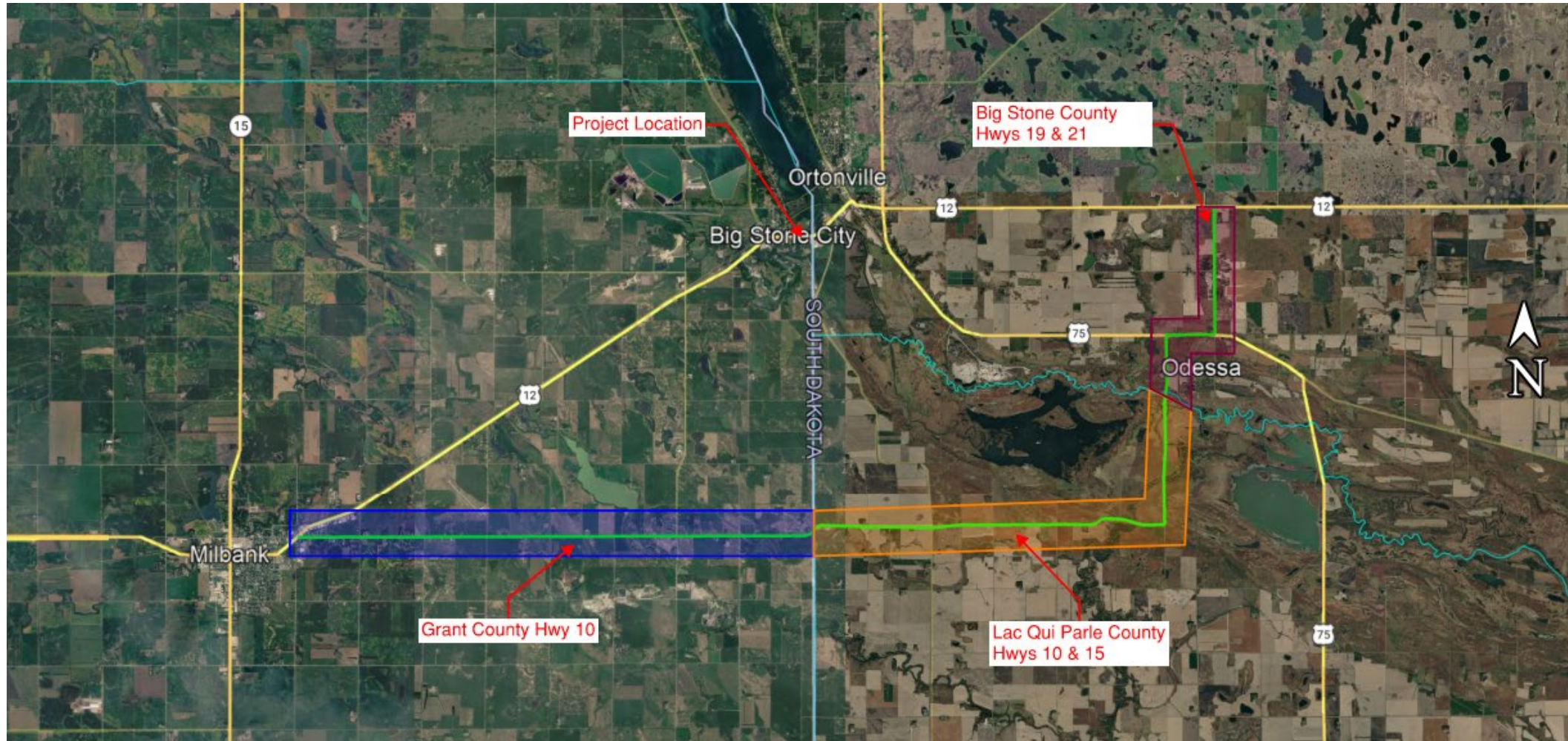
# Construction Traffic Control

One Construction Season



Local and Regional  
Detours

# Construction Traffic Control – Truck Detour



# Construction Traffic Control – Local Detour



# Landowner Meetings

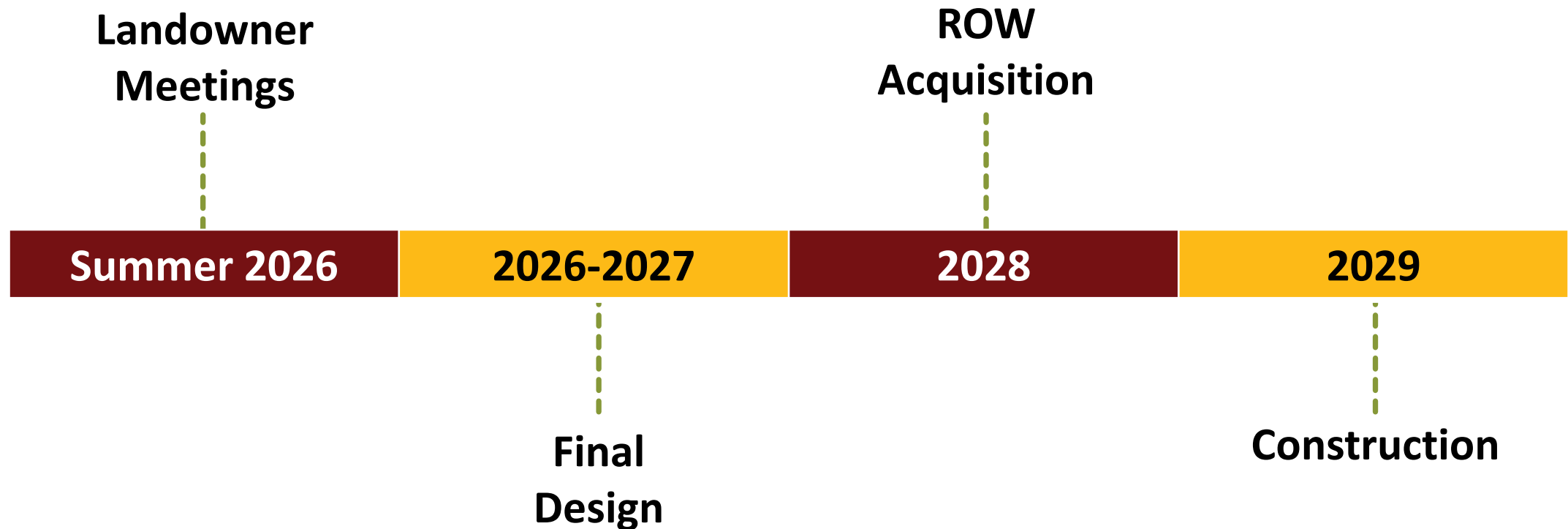
## Discussion Items

- Driveway locations/widths
- Fences
- Drainage
- Trees
- Temporary easements or ROW acquisition

# Tentative Project Schedule

Dependent on federal funding

Estimated cost: \$9 million



# Questions or Comments

- Deadline: Monday, May 4, 2026

- Submit To:

David Burwitz, PE

5316 W. 60th St N.

Sioux Falls, SD 57107-6464

[David.Burwitz@state.sd.us](mailto:David.Burwitz@state.sd.us)

- Website

<https://dot.sd.gov/projects-studies/projects/public-meetings/#08M3>

