



Public Information

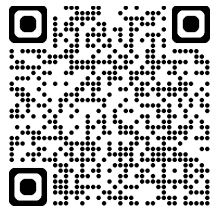
Project Number: NH 0081(115) 94, Lake County, PCN 077K

Project Location: U.S. Highway 81 – From S.D. Highway 34 to north of northwest 9th Street in Madison

Project Description: Grading, Surfacing, Curb & Gutter, Sidewalk & Lighting

Public Meeting Information @

<https://dot.sd.gov/projects-studies/projects/public-meetings/#madison-077K>



Individuals needing assistance, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), should contact the SDDOT ADA Coordinator (605-773-3540) two business days prior to the meeting in order to ensure accommodations are available. For any in-person meeting, notice is further given to individuals with disabilities that the meeting is being held in a physically accessible location.



PUBLIC MEETING

Project Location: U.S. Highway 81 in Madison

Project Number: NH 0081(115)94 PCN 077K

Date: Thursday, Aug. 7, 2025, 5:30 PM

Harry Johnston, SDDOT Sioux Falls Area Engineer

Dan Sitorius, Consultant Project Manager

MISSION

**To efficiently provide a safe and effective
public transportation system.**

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

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

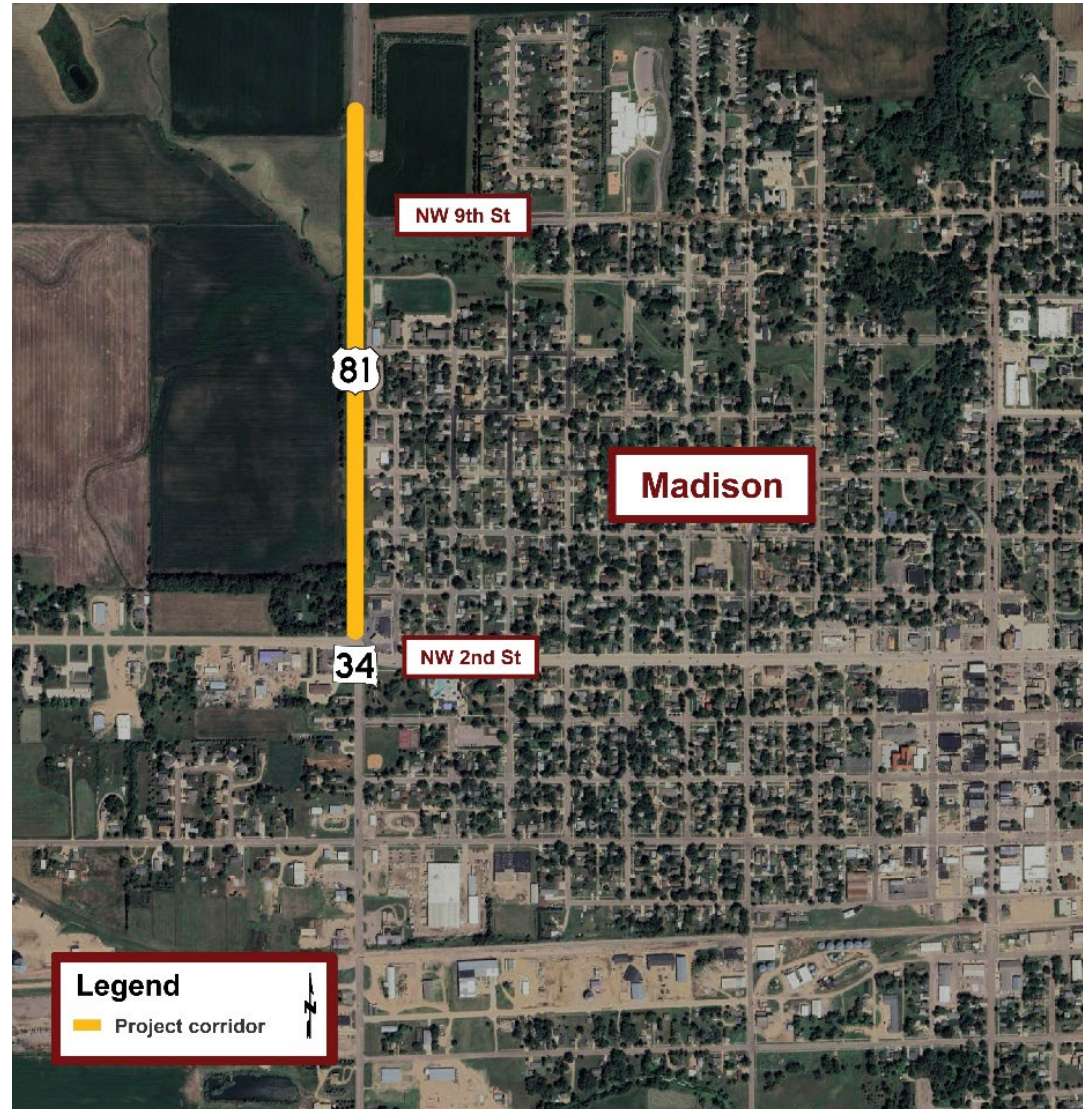
Involve the public in the
planning and design
process

Provide a project
overview

Gather input and
comments

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

PROJECT LIMITS



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Grading, Paving, Storm Sewer in 1954

Last Surface Improvements in 2010

Chip Seal in 2013

TRAFFIC

2020 Average daily traffic (ADT): 3,432

2040 Projected ADT: 4,246

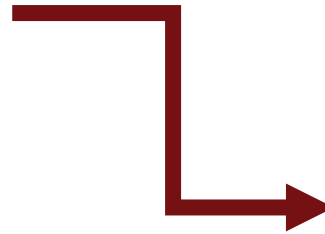
2.7% Average truck traffic

CRASH HISTORY

8 Reported crashes

(Five-year period from 2020-2024)

- **Five (5)** rear end, **One (1)** angle
- **Two (2)** animal related
- **Zero (0)** fatalities



Urban principal arterial

- Reported crash rate = **1.89**
- Statewide weighted crash rate = **1.92** (crashes per million vehicle miles of travel)

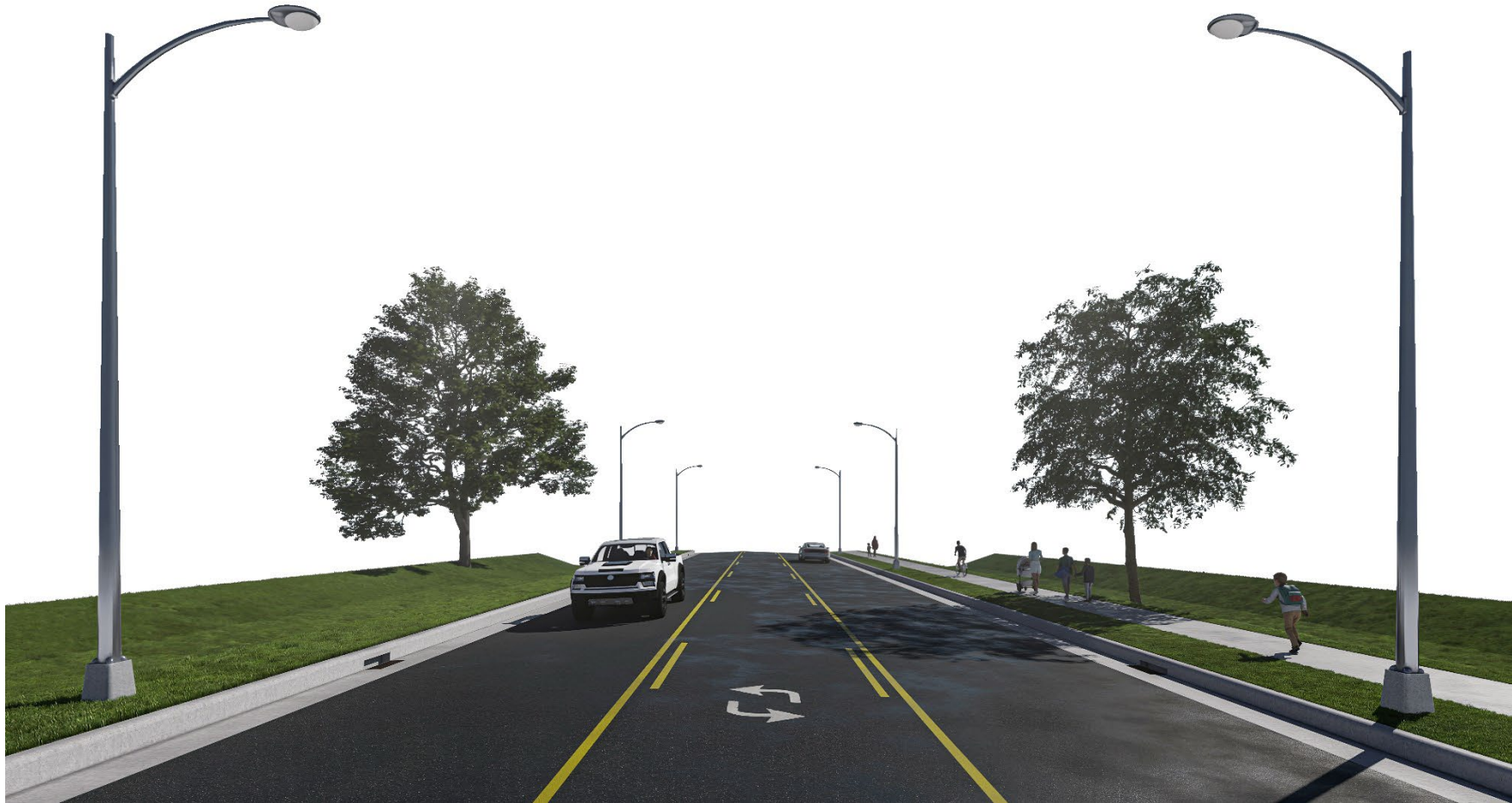
WHY WE ARE RECONSTRUCTING



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS



PROPOSED TYPICAL SECTION



THREE-LANE ROADWAY ADVANTAGES

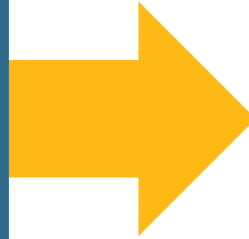
- Traffic analysis – greatest benefit/cost ratio
- Capable of safely and efficiently handling 20,000+ vehicles/day
- Provides safe storage for left turning vehicles
- Reduces the number of conflict points for left turning vehicles and for vehicles entering the roadway
- Reduces the speed differential between vehicles
- Reduces crossing width for pedestrians

PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES



ROADWAY LIGHTING

Add
Continuous
LED
Lighting



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 150 feet



Purchase additional ROW as needed



Temporary easements as needed

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 Sioux Falls
Area Office.**

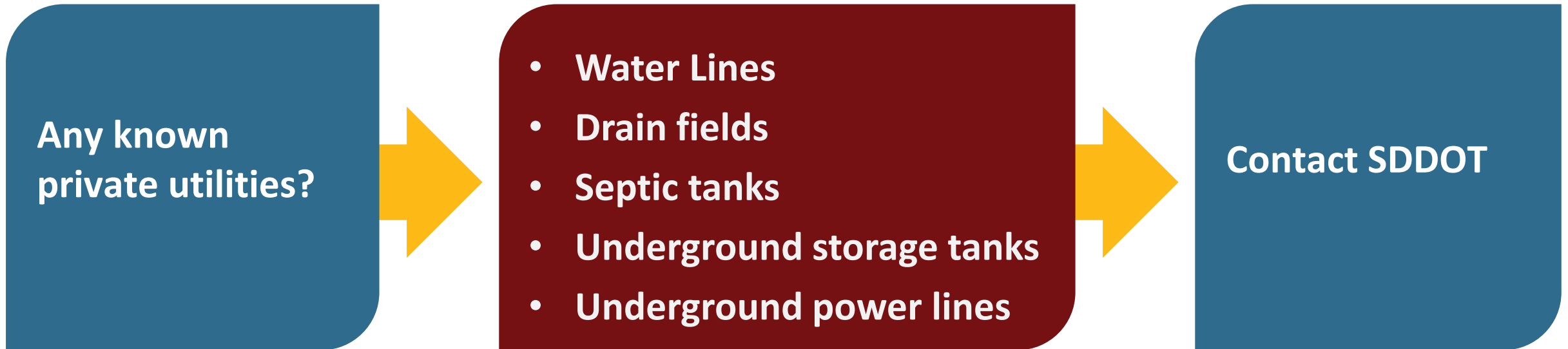
UTILITY COORDINATION

Some utilities may need to be relocated.

Utility companies negotiate easements with landowners.

- City of Madison
- CenturyLink
- Midcontinent Communications Investors LLC
- SDN Communications
- Bluepeak
- NorthWestern Energy
- East River Electric Power Cooperative, Inc.
- Northern Natural Gas Company

UTILITY COORDINATION



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 project is located outside the Madison Historic District.

The public is invited to provide information on any culturally or archaeologically known site(s) in the project area.

ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC CONCERNS

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

The Project is being reviewed to determine avoidance, minimization, and possible mitigation of impacts to wetlands. 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 action will include all possible planning to avoid and minimize harm to publicly owned parks, recreational areas, wildlife & waterfowl refuges, or public & private historical sites.

ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC CONCERNS

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

According to the USFWS, the following species are known to occur in Lake County:

- **Birds:** Rufa Red Knot
- **Mammals:** Northern Long-Eared Bat
- **Fish:** Pallid Sturgeon
- **Insects:** Dakota Skipper, Monarch Butterfly, Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee, Western Regal Fritillary
- **Plants:** Western Prairie Fringed Orchid.

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

CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC CONTROL

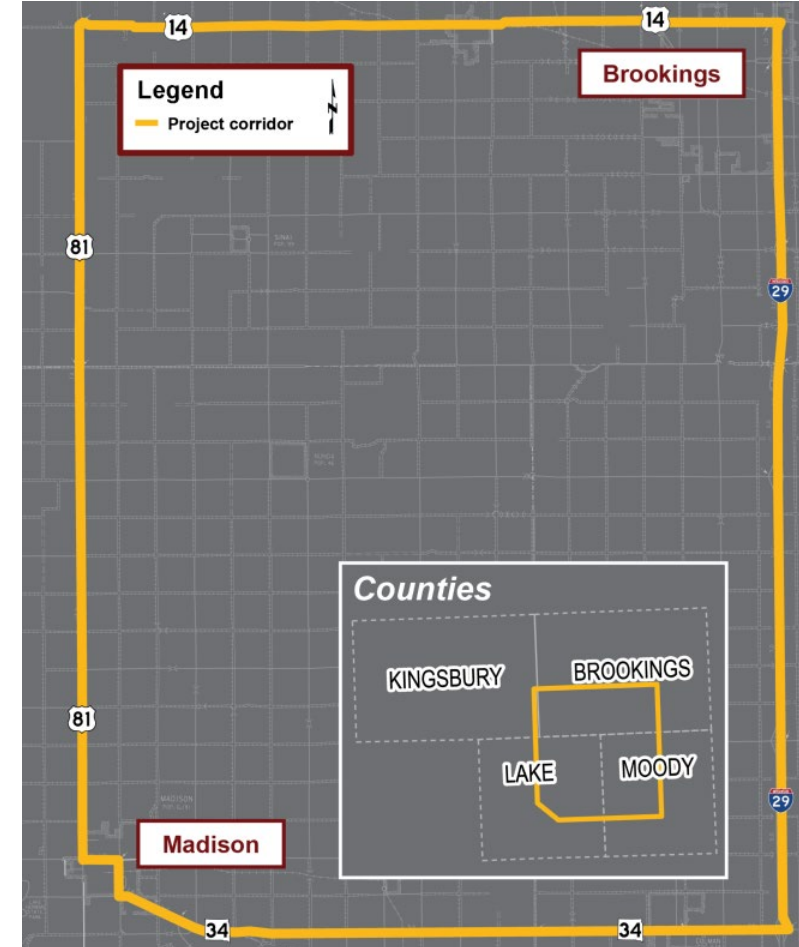
One-year plan



Closed to traffic
with posted
detours

CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC CONTROL

Detour routes
for U.S.
Highway 81
traffic during
construction



LANDOWNER MEETINGS

Fall 2025

Landowners adjacent to the project will be contacted individually by SDDOT to schedule a meeting.

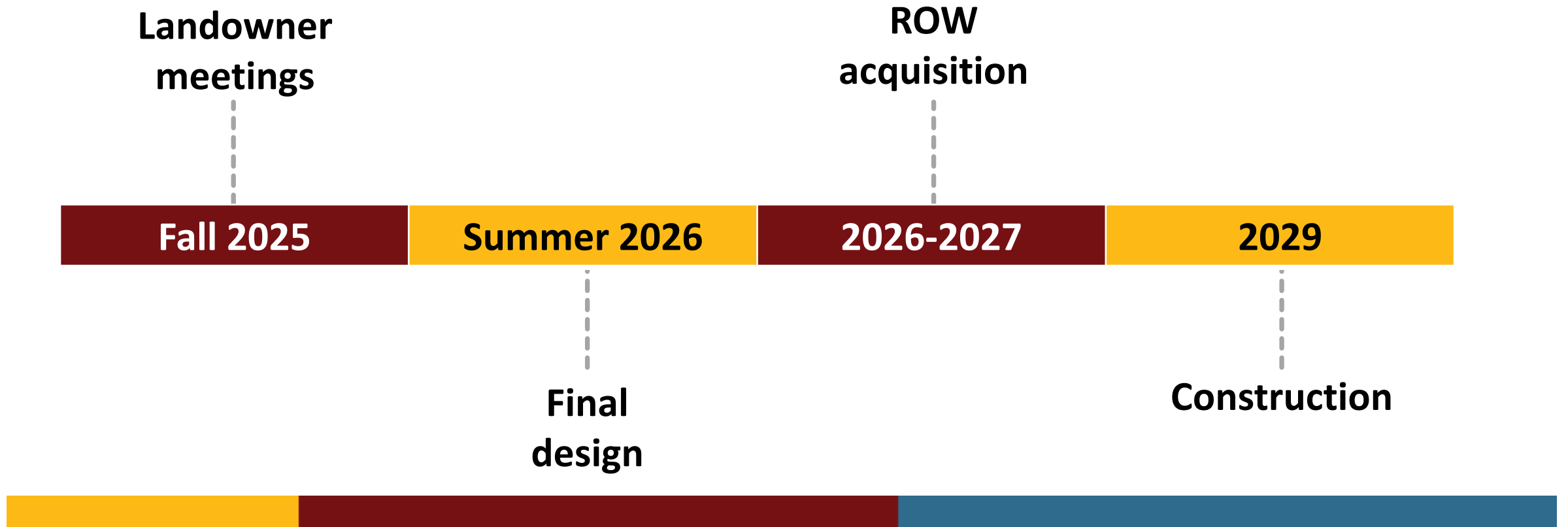
Discussion Items

- Driveway locations/widths
- Sidewalk and curb ramps
- Fences
- Drainage
- Trees
- Temporary easements or ROW acquisition

See handout

TENTATIVE PROJECT SCHEDULE

Estimated cost: \$6.73 Mil



QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

THANK YOU

DEADLINE:

Friday, Aug. 22, 2025

SUBMIT TO:

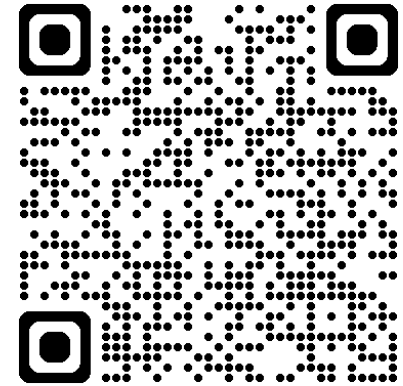
Dan Sitorius – Consultant Project Manager

JEO Consulting Group

11212 Davenport St., Suite 200

Omaha, NE 68154

dsitorius@jeo.com



SCAN ME

WEBSITE:

Online comments can also be submitted through the project website

<https://dot.sd.gov/projects-studies/projects/public-meetings/#madison-077K>



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 crash rate by 11 to 18 percent on that highway segment. In rural areas, each added access point increases the annual crash rate by 7 percent. Overall, driveway-access crashes 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, please contact:

Joseph Sestak
Access Management Engineer
1306 West 31st Street
Yankton, South Dakota 57008
Phone: (C) 605-661-2255 (O) 605-668-2929 Ext. 1302007
E-Mail: Joseph.Sestak@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 may 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.

- Permanent purchase and/or temporary use of your property.
- 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.

- 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.

- Temporary fencing adjacent to the highway: Do you anticipate having livestock in pastures located adjacent to the proposed project during highway construction activities?
- 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?
- Are there any highway-related drainage or flooding problems located along your property or elsewhere along this section of highway?
- 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?
- 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 (SDDOT) will 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:

Brad Letcher
Area Engineer
SDDOT Huron Area Office
901 Dakota Ave N
Huron, SD 57350
Phone: 605.353.7140
E-Mail: Brad.Letcher@state.sd.us



Environmental, Social & Economic Impacts and Advanced Utility Coordination

Environmental, Social & Economic Impacts

- Project will comply with all state and federal environmental regulations.
- No splitting of neighborhoods will occur because of this project.
- Project will be coordinated with the following state and federal agencies:
 - SD Dept. of Environment & Natural Resources
 - SD Dept. of Game, Fish & Parks
 - US Fish & Wildlife Service
 - State Historic Preservation Office
 - US Forest Service
- For additional information, please contact:

Chad Babcock
Environmental Engineer Manager
SDDOT Office of Administration
700 E. Broadway Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605.773.3721
E-Mail: Chad.Babcock@state.sd.us

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:

Waylon Blasius
Road Designer
Banner Associates, Inc.
409 22nd Ave S
Brookings, SD 57006
Phone: 605.692.6342
E-Mail Address: waylonb@bannerassociates.com



Wetland Mitigation Registry Form

Federal regulations require that unavoidable wetland impacts caused by highway construction be mitigated. Examples of acceptable wetland mitigation include:

- Wetland creation
- Wetland restoration – plugging an existing, drained wetland
- Wetland enhancement - adding buffer around an existing wetland.

The South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) may participate in the cost of wetland creation/restoration/enhancement, if the wetland can be used to mitigate wetland impacts caused by highway construction.

If you are interested in creating, restoring, or enhancing wetlands on your property, please complete the attached form and mail to:

Chad Babcock
Environmental Engineer Manager
SDDOT Office of Administration
700 E. Broadway Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605.773.3721
E-Mail: Chad.Babcock@state.sd.us

Your name will be added to the SDDOT Wetland Mitigation Registry and a SDDOT representative will contact you with additional information.

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ **Email:** _____

Location 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 interest only.



NH 0081 (115) 94, Lake County
PCN 077K

U.S. Highway 81 from S.D. Highway 34 to north
of NW 9th Street in Madison

[illegible]

Telephone #: _____ and/or Cell #: _____

Please submit comments by **Friday, Aug. 22, 2025**, to:

Dan Sitorius
Consultant Project Manager
11213 Davenport St., Ste 200
Omaha, NE 68154
E-Mail Address: dsitorius@jeo.com