

**South Dakota Department
of Transportation**

Public Meeting

Project Location: S.D. Highway 473 from U.S. Highway 14A
to one mile E of Terry Peak

Project Number: P 0473(11)92

Date: Thursday, March 5, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

Mark Malone
Road Design Engineering Manager

Steve Palmer
Rapid City Engineering 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



Background Information

Grading and structures in 1956



Last Surface Improvements in 2012



Erosion Repair & Guardrail in 2015



Pipe Improvements in 2018

Traffic Data and Information

2024 Average daily traffic (ADT): 1,368

2049 Projected ADT: 2,135

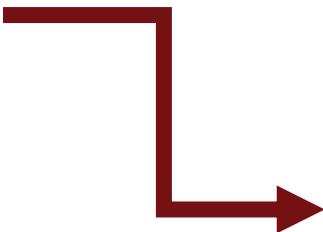
9.1% Average truck traffic

Crash History

15 Reported crashes

(Five-year period from 2020-2024)

- Three (3) fixed objects
- One (1) rear end crashes
- One (1) overturn on road crashes
- Five (5) animal/vehicle crashes
- One (1) SSW
- Two (2) angle-no intersection
- Two (2) other
- Zero (0) fatalities



Rural major collector

- Reported crash rate = 3.59
- Statewide weighted crash rate = 2.52 (crashes per million vehicle miles of travel)

Why This Project is Needed

Improved Safety

No Shoulders

Pavement Condition

Drainage Issues



Proposed Improvements

Add Shoulders

New drainage pipes

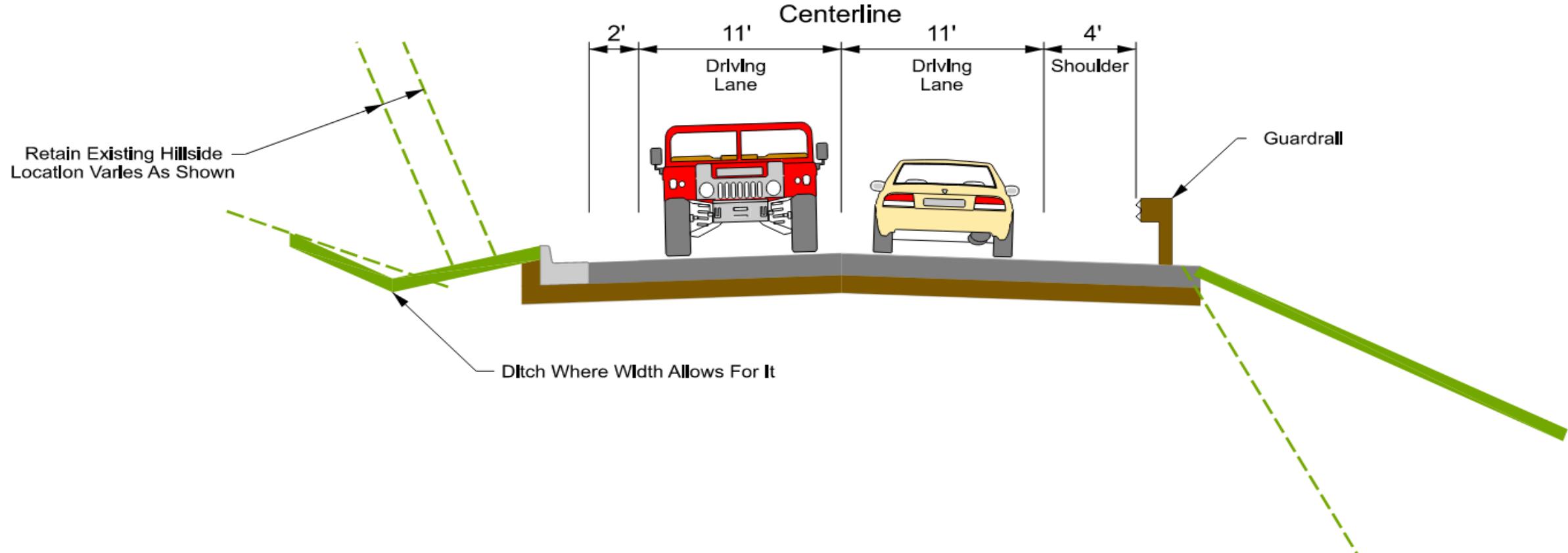
New Surfacing

New Guardrail

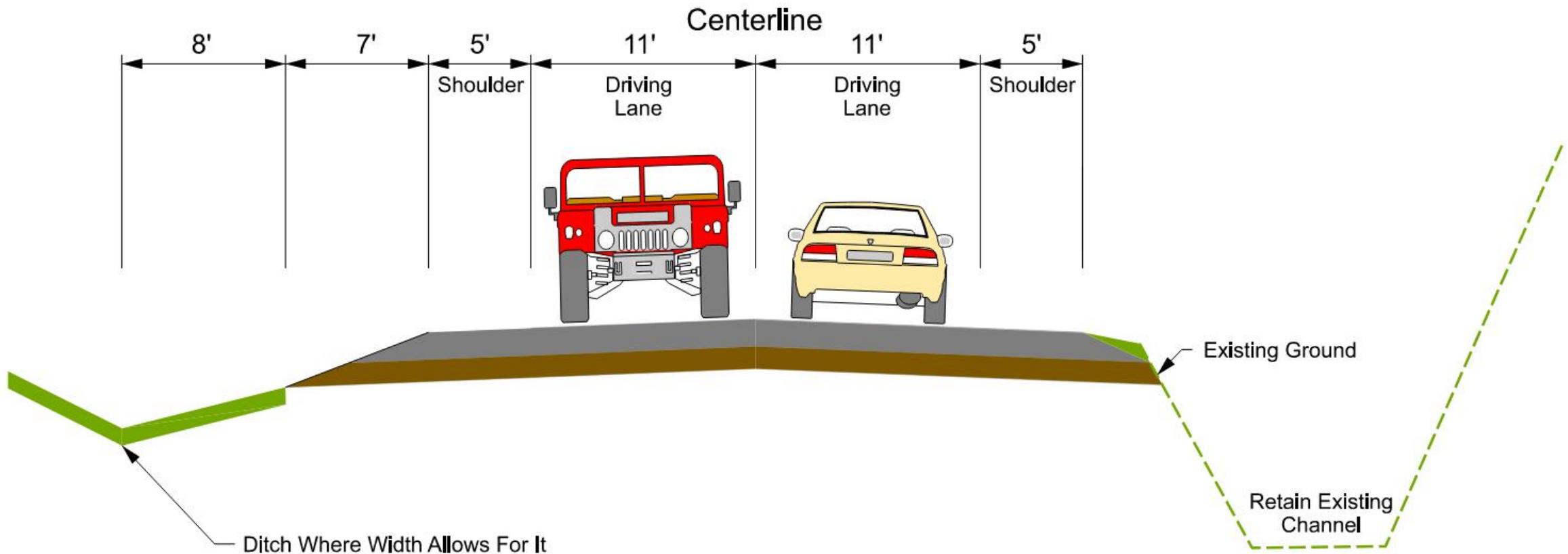
Improve Alignment



Proposed Typical Section



Proposed 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 varies 66 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
Rapid City Area Office.

See handout

Utility Coordination

Some utilities may need
to be relocated.



Utility companies
negotiate easements
with landowners.



- Black Hills Energy
- Lumen Technologies
- Midcontinent Communications
- Montana-Dakota Utilities
- SDN Communications
- Blue Peak Communications

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.), including the Nevada Gulch School.

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: Terry Peak Ski Area, the Black Hills Snowmobile Trails and BLM lands adjacent to the project.

Environmental, Social, and Economic Concerns (Slide 3)

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

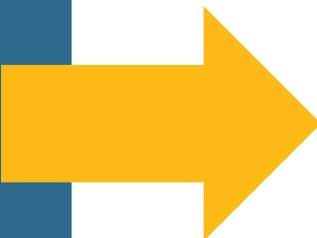
- The project will be coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to determine effects to the following species that are known to occur in Lawrence County:
 - Northern Long-eared Bat, Tricolored Bat, Rufa Red Knot, Monarch Butterfly, Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee and Western Regal Fritillary
 - Efforts are proceeding to ensure this undertaking will not adversely affect listed species in Lawrence County.

- **Contaminated Materials**

- Project undertaking will take into account contaminated soils with relation to existing aboveground and underground storage tanks within or adjacent to project's area of potential effect.

Construction Traffic Control

Open to traffic
phased construction



Flaggers with delays

Landowner Meetings

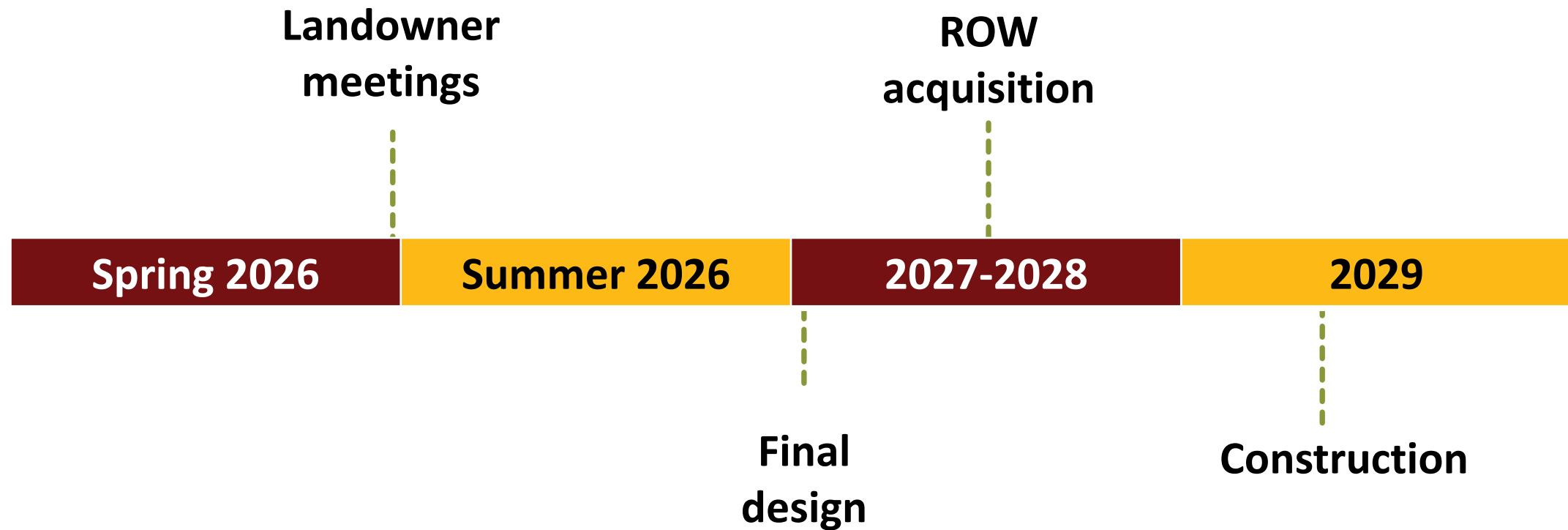
Discussion Items

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

Tentative Project Schedule

Dependent on federal funding

Estimated cost: \$10.5 million



Questions or Comments

- Deadline: Friday, March 20, 2026
- Submit To:
 - Mark Malone
 - South Dakota Department of Transportation
 - 700 E. Broadway Ave., Pierre, SD 57501
 - mark.malone@state.sd.us
- Website <https://dot.sd.gov/projects-studies/projects/public-meetings/#Nevada-Gulch-Rd>

