NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

NH-281-4(124) E Jct US-20 South In O'Neill; C.N. 80864

Information Open House Public Meeting

Thursday, December 5, 2019; 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. CST O'Neill Public Library, 601 E Douglas St., O'Neill, NE 68763

The Nebraska Department of Transportation will hold a public information open house meeting regarding proposed reconstruction of US Highway 281 (US-281) in the City of O'Neill, Holt County. The meeting will be held at the O'Neill Public Library, 601 E Douglas St., O'Neill, NE 68763 on Thursday, December 5, 2019; 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. CST.

Identified as *E Jct US-20 South In O'Neill*, the proposed project would reconstruct approximately 0.50 miles of the existing pavement on US-281 beginning at approximately mile marker (MM) 182.81, 0.35 miles north of the bridge over the Elkhorn River, and extending north to MM 183.31, the junction of US-281 with US Highway 20 (US-20) and US Highway 275 (US-275).

The purpose of the proposed project is to preserve the US-281 transportation asset, improve the reliability of the transportation system, and ensure the mobility of the traveling public. The need for the proposed project is based on existing roadway conditions.

The improvements on this project consist of reconstructing the concrete pavement, shoulders, curb and gutter. The project would also construct new sidewalk and curb ramps, as well as remove and replace existing street lighting, traffic signals, and the railroad crossing signals at MM 183.05. Additional work would include storm sewer improvements.

Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin as early as spring 2021 and be completed by fall 2021. The improvements on US-281 would be constructed under traffic with lane closures controlled by appropriate traffic control devices and practices. Access to adjacent properties would be maintained during construction but may be limited at times due to phasing requirements.

This project would require the acquisition of additional property rights, which could include new right-of-way (ROW), control of access (CA), permanent easements (PE), and/or temporary easements (TE) for the construction of curb ramps. If your property is impacted by this project, you will be contacted by a representative once the design footprint has been established.

Minimal wetland impacts are anticipated; no mitigation is anticipated.

The Cowboy Trail and Carney Park are located within the project vicinity; right-of-way acquisitions may be needed from these properties and impacts are likely. Impacts to historic properties are being considered, and comment related to historic properties would be taken at this meeting.

This public open house meeting is being held to provide information regarding the projects 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 information "open house" format allows the public to come at any time during the advertised hours, gather pertinent information about the projects, speak one-on-one with project personnel, and leave as they wish. No formal presentations are planned for this meeting.

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 27, 2019.

The public is being encouraged to make suggestions or express concerns regarding this proposed project. Comments will be collected through December 20, 2019. Written comments or requests should be submitted to: Sarah Soula, Public Involvement Manager, Nebraska Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 94759, Lincoln, NE 68509-4759; sarah.soula@nebraska.gov; voice telephone (402) 479-4871; fax (402) 479-3989.

Information regarding the proposed project will be made available on the NDOT website at https://dot.nebraska.gov/projects/future-projects/ by clicking on the "E Jct. US-20 South In O'Neill" link. For those without internet access, information may be obtained through the contact above or at NDOT Headquarters, 1500 Hwy 2, Lincoln, NE. For further information, contact Mark Kovar, NDOT District 8 Engineer, Nebraska Department of Transportation, mark.kovar@nebraska.gov; voice telephone (402) 387-2471.