

WELCOME!

US-275 Norfolk – Wisner

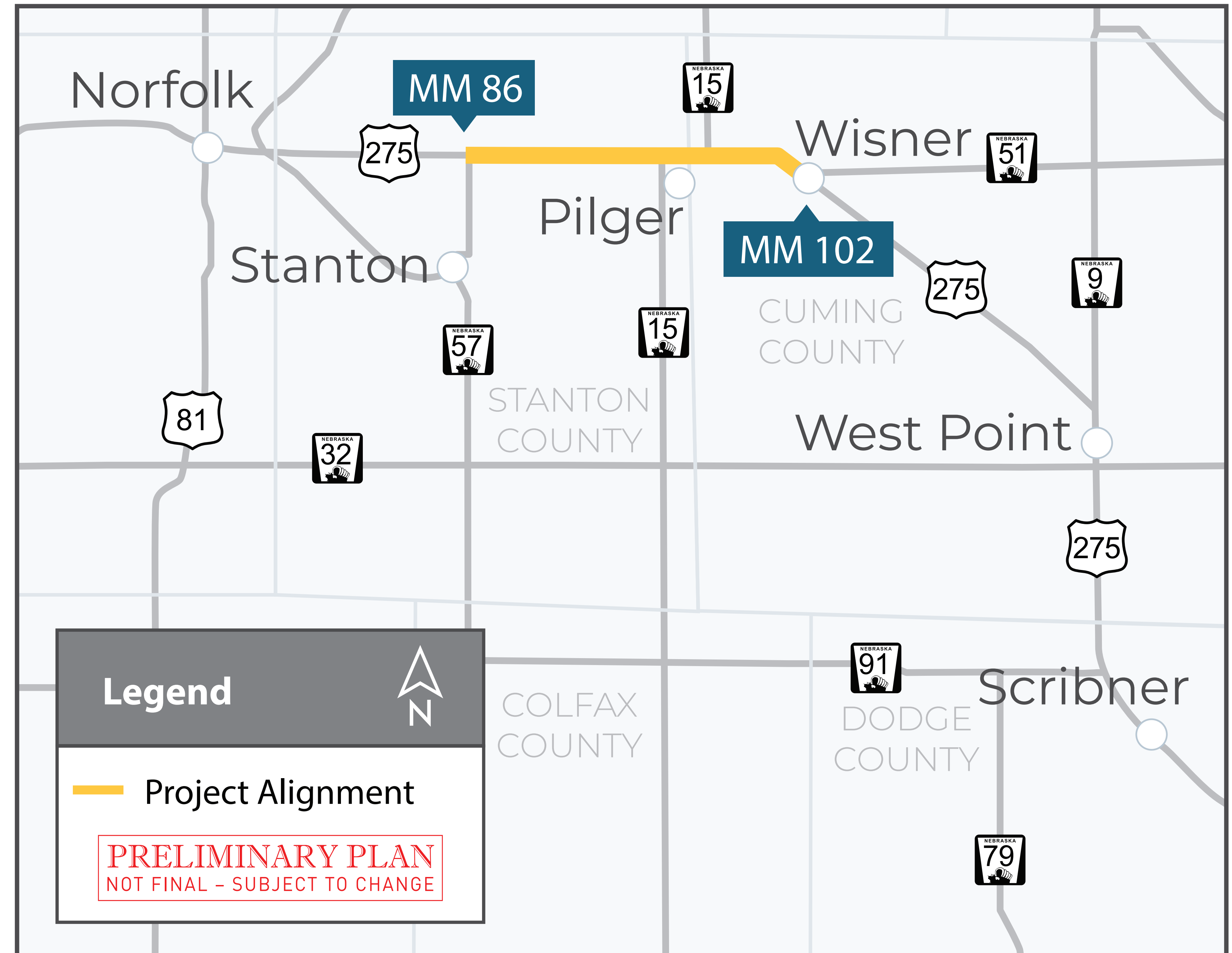
Public Hearing
S-275-6(1052); C.N. 32319

PLEASE SIGN IN

PROJECT DESCRIPTION & LOCATION

The proposed project would expand the existing two-lane highway to a four-lane expressway. The project would begin east of Norfolk, approximately 0.30 mile east of the intersection of US-275 and Nebraska Highway 57 (N-57) at approximately mile marker (MM) 86. It would extend east and south to approximately 17th Street in Wisner near MM 102, where it would tie into the existing US-275 four-lane roadway.

Project grading and construction would begin east of N-57, but the environmental study area extends west of N-57 to capture potential construction transition elements such as lighting, signage, and construction traffic control, as depicted on associated figures and maps.



PROJECT PURPOSE

The purpose of the proposed project is to:

- **Fulfill legislative intent** to continue development of the expressway system identified in the *1988 Nebraska Highway Needs Study*.
- **Improve regional connectivity** for vehicles in northeast Nebraska, including commercial vehicles, by providing important expressway connections with Nebraska Highway 57 (N-57), Nebraska Highway 15 (N-15), and Nebraska Highway 51 (N-51), while maintaining convenient highway access for communities in the area.
- **Maximize use** of existing transportation infrastructure, including connecting highways and existing right-of-way (ROW), **improve the condition** of the existing infrastructure, and **maximize the cost-effectiveness** of the project.

SCOPE OF WORK

The improvements on this project would:

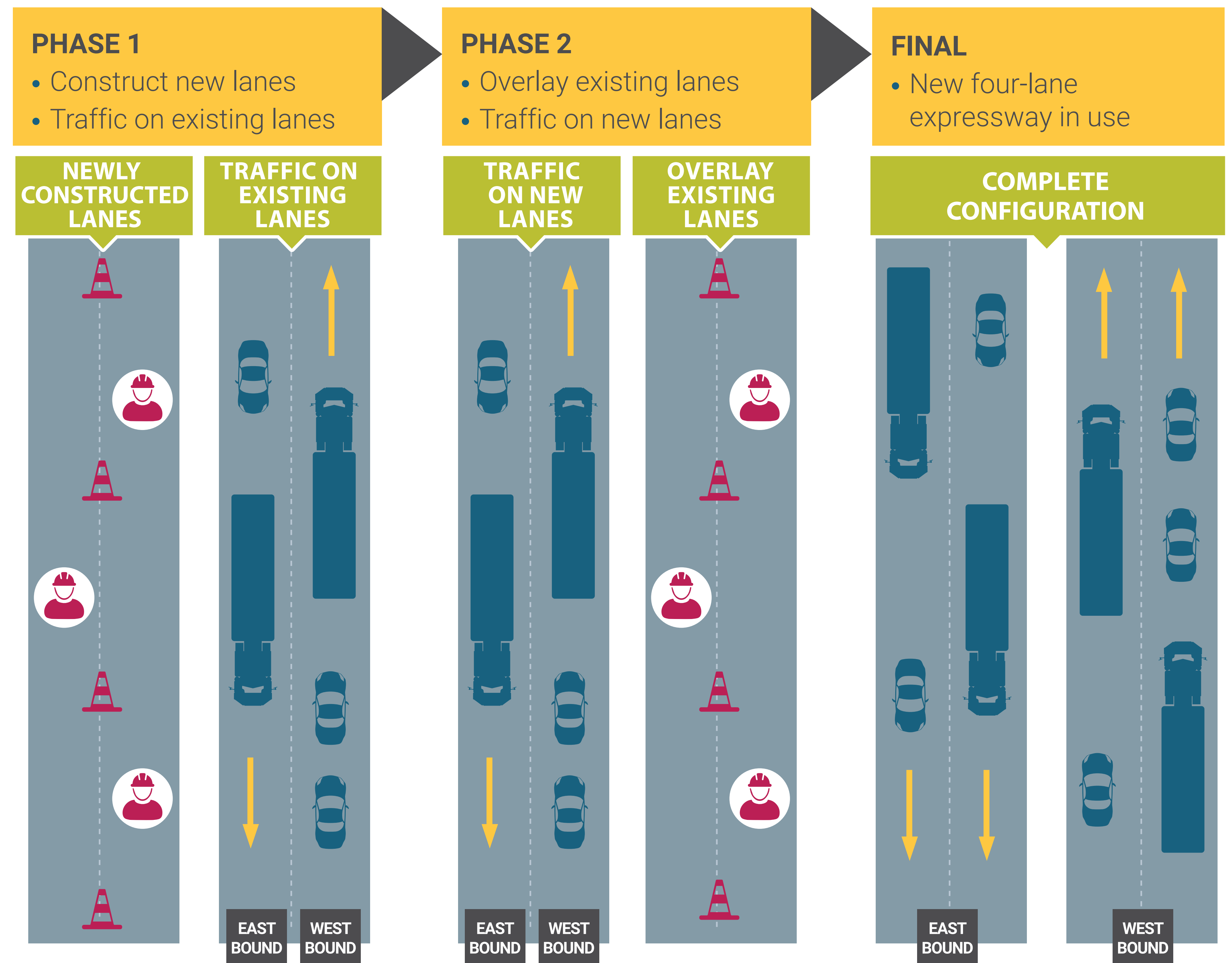
- Expand the existing two-lane highway to a four-lane expressway by constructing a new, parallel two-lane roadway, including drainage structures, adjacent to the existing US-275.
- Resurface the existing two lanes of US-275, and repair or replace bridges and drainage structures as needed.
- In addition to mainline US-275 construction, the project may include improvements at the US-275 intersections with N-57, N-15, and N-51, as well as various county roads.



2 + 2 APPROACH

The 2+2 construction concept would construct two new lanes adjacent to the existing two-lanes of US-275 to create a four-lane corridor. This approach would:

- Minimize traffic disruption
- Maximize the use of existing roadway
- Minimize environmental and community impacts



ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED FROM FURTHER CONSIDERATION



1. Widen North

- This alternative would construct a new, parallel, two-lane roadway north of existing US-275.



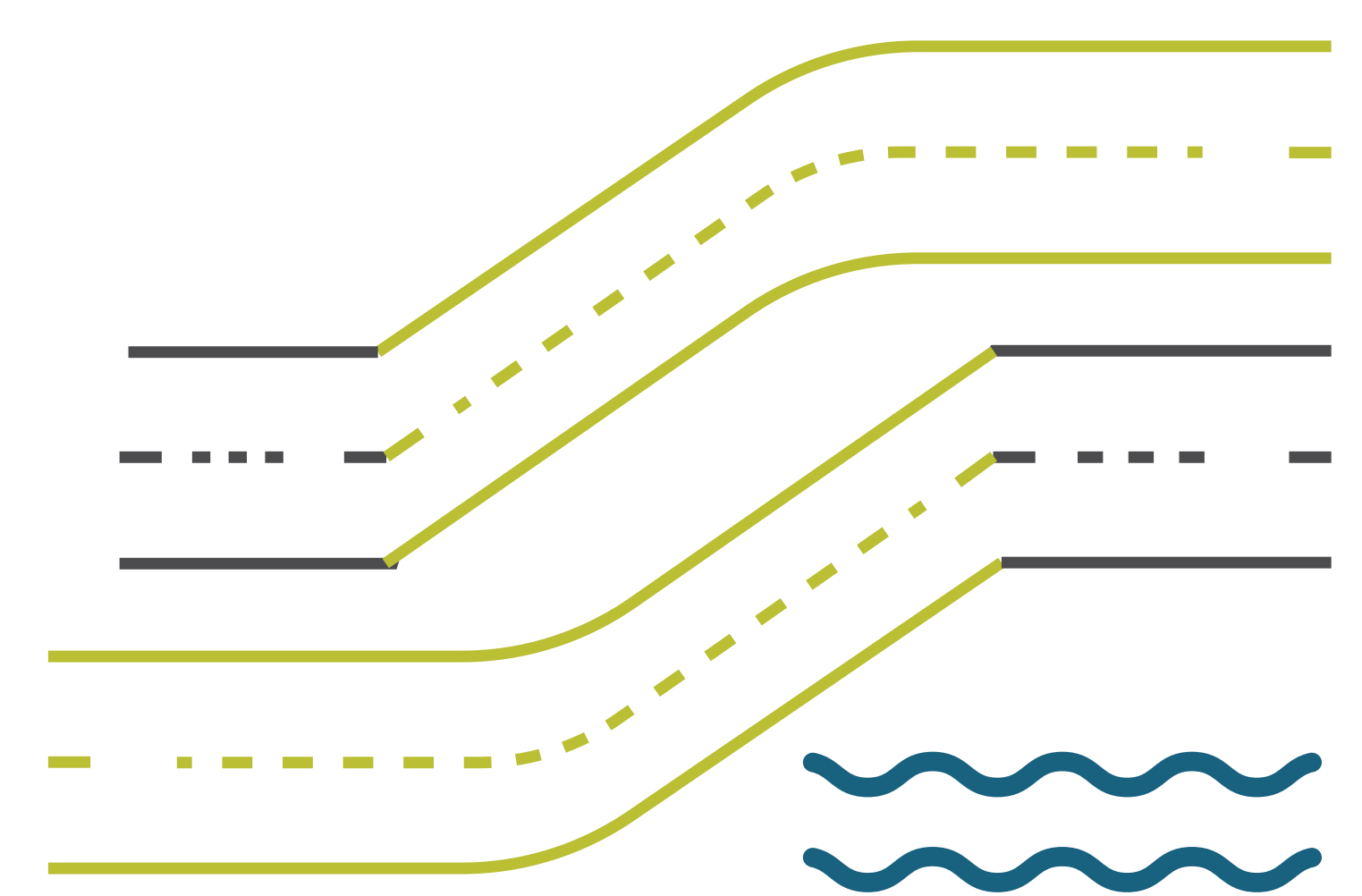
2. Widen South

- All aspects of this alternative would be the same as the Widen North alternative, except the new roadway would be to the south.



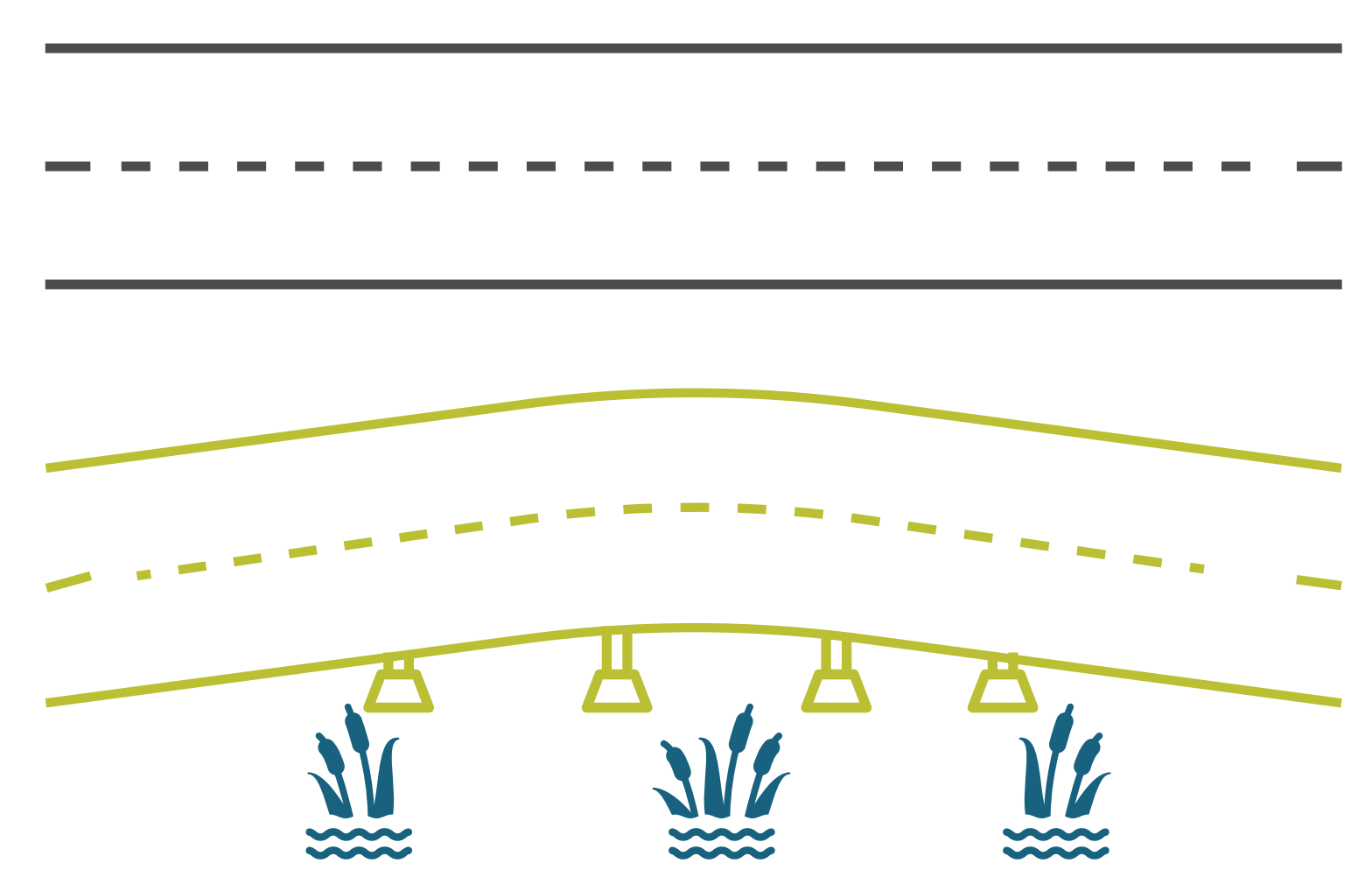
3. Combined

- This alternative would be a combination of the Widen North and Widen South alternatives.
- It was developed to avoid an intermittent channel feature in the south ditch of the existing roadway.
- It would involve the new lanes being placed south of US-275 for a majority of the corridor but would flip to the north side between 575th Avenue in Stanton County and 4th Road in Cuming County.



4. On-Structure

- This alternative would use bridges to avoid and minimize wetland impacts.
- It could be built with construction of new lanes on either side of the existing lanes.
- A preliminary review indicates that approximately 12 new bridges (2.5 miles total length) would be required.



PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

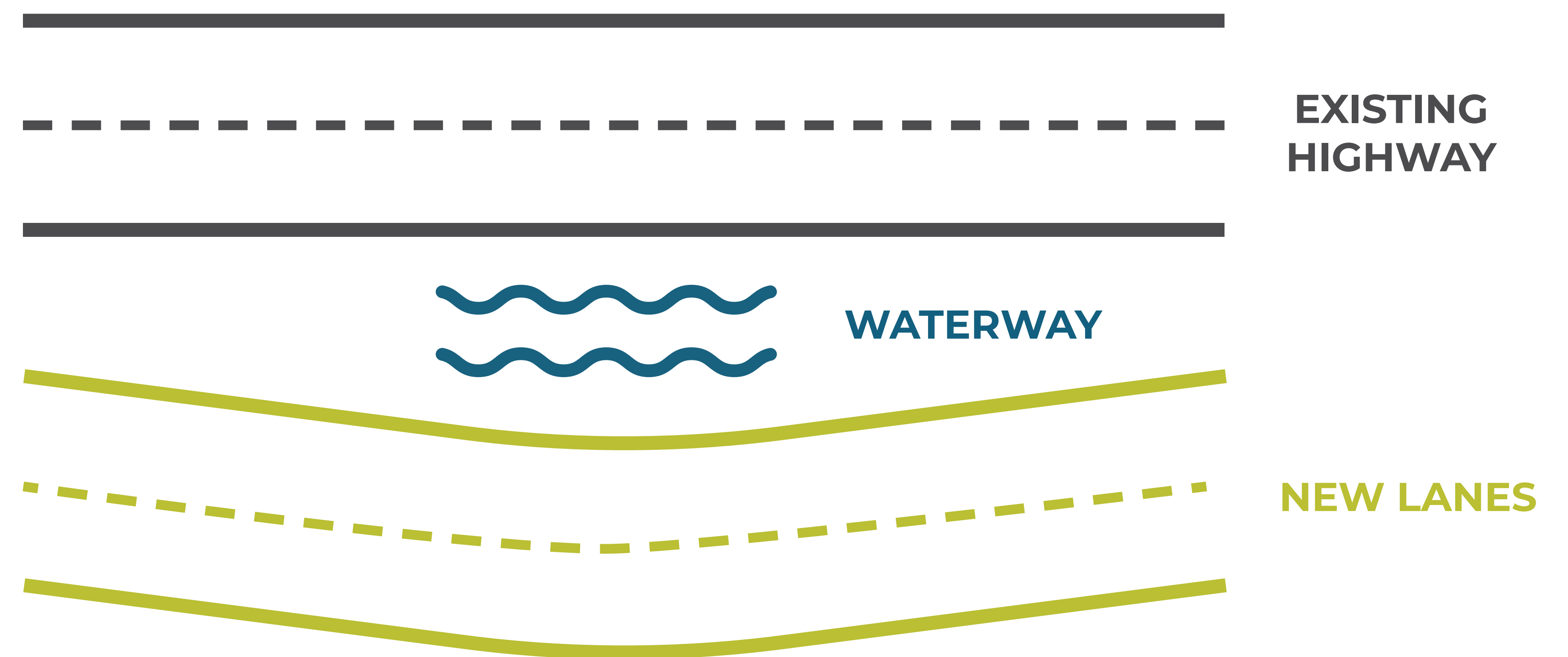


WIDEN SOUTH + SHIFT

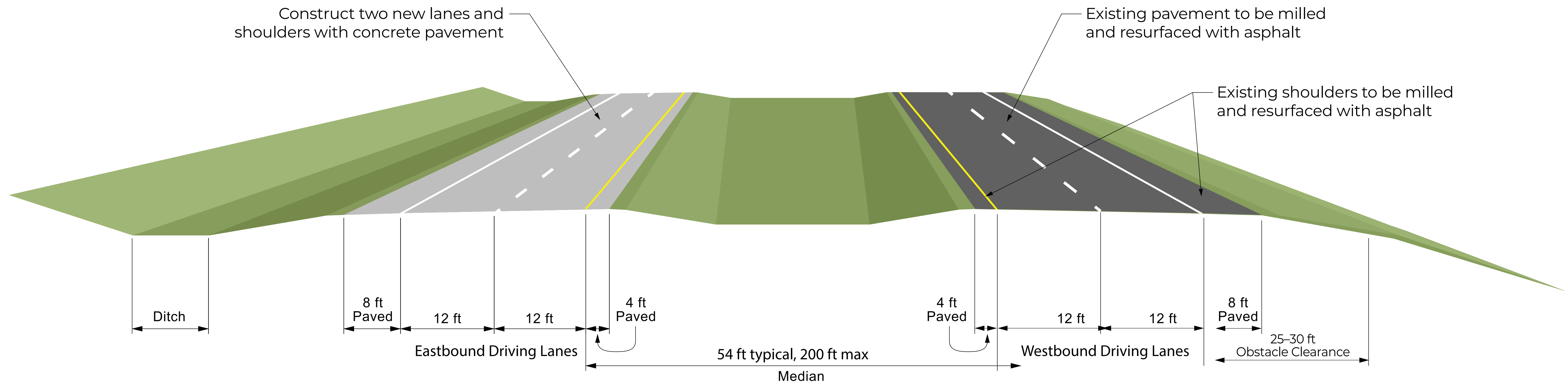
- This alternative would construct two new lanes on the south side on US-275, except between 575th Avenue in Stanton County and 2nd Road in Cuming County.
- In that section, the eastbound lanes would shift approximately 150 feet to the south to avoid an intermittent channel feature in the south ditch of the existing roadway.

This option was selected as the preferred alternative because it:

- Meets the project purpose and need
- Balances the broader goals of infrastructure improvement
- Minimizes environmental and community impacts



PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE TYPICAL SECTION



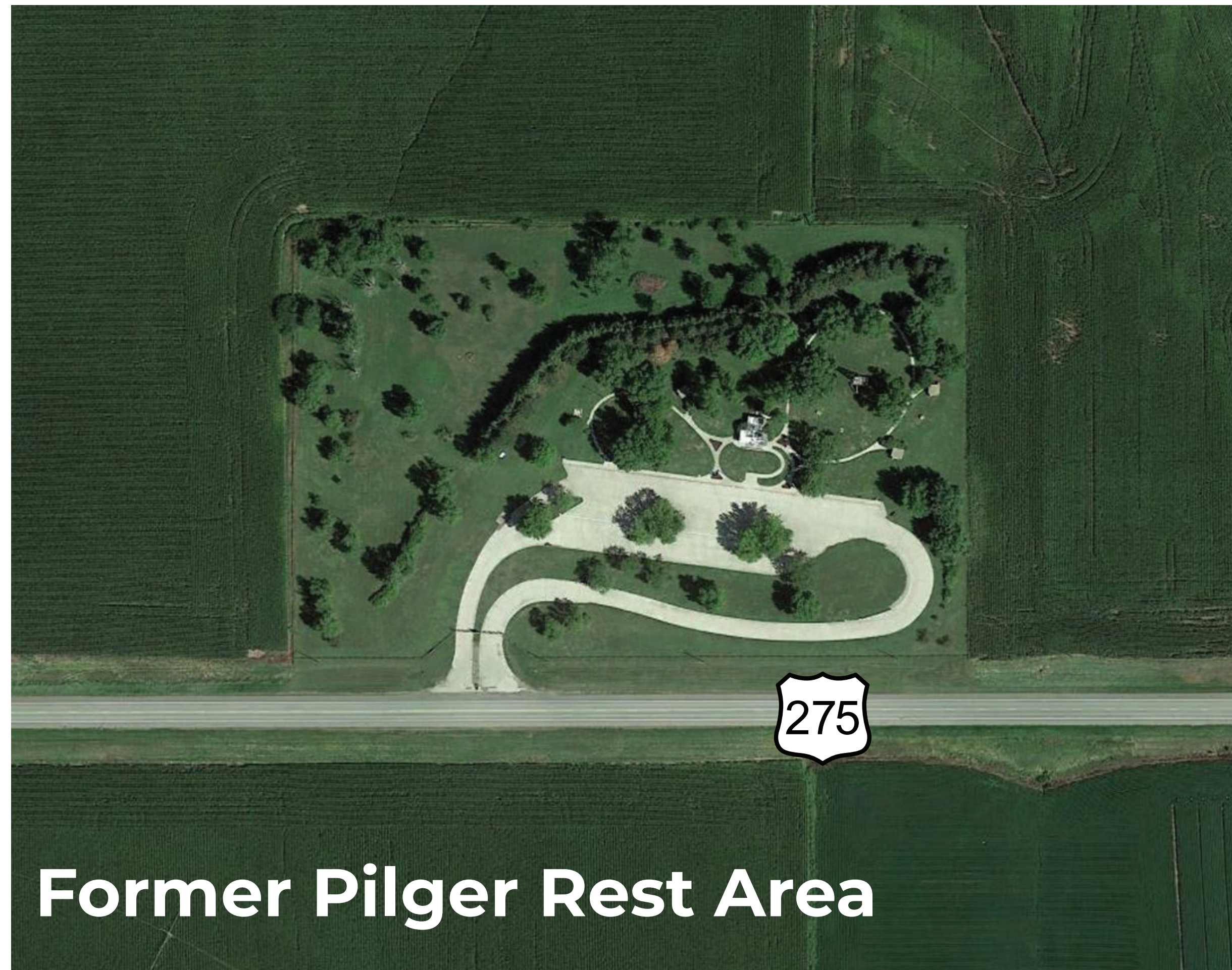
Expressway Section

PRELIMINARY PLAN
NOT FINAL - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

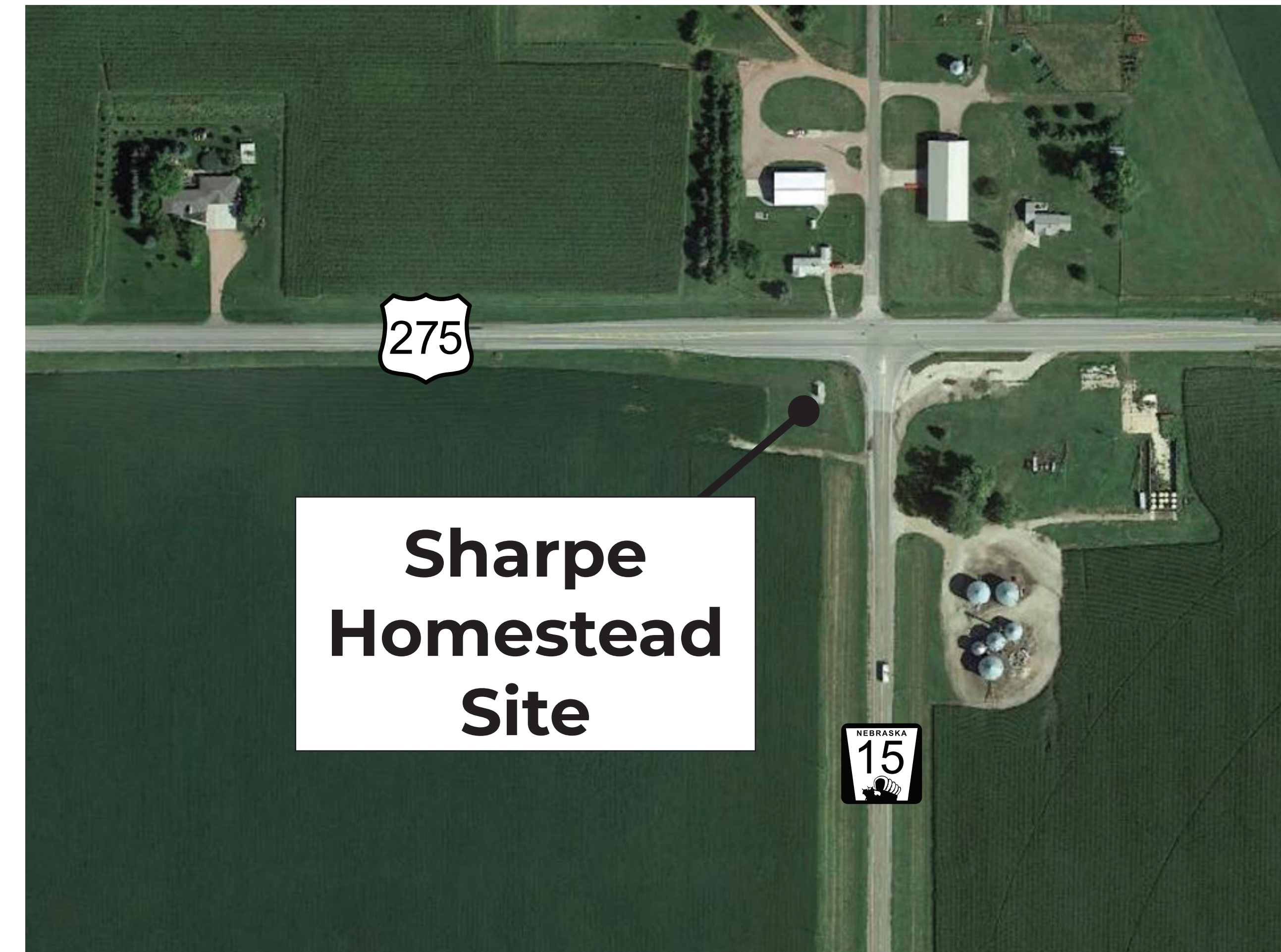
POTENTIAL IMPACTS

- Wetland impacts are anticipated and would be mitigated at appropriate sites.
- If the proposed project is constructed, the acquisition of additional property rights would be required from the north and south sides of US-275, which could include new right-of-way (ROW), control of access (CA), permanent easements (PE), and/or temporary easements (TE).
 - If your property is impacted by this project, you would be contacted by a representative once the design footprint has been established.
- The project would impact the Wisner-Pilger Public Schools track and practice fields.
 - TE and a small amount of ROW would be needed.
- The project may impact existing center pivot irrigation systems.
 - Owners would be compensated for impacts during ROW acquisition.
- The project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the endangered northern long-eared bat.
- A noise study has been prepared and is available for review today.
 - It identified impacts on some properties but did not warrant any mitigation.

HISTORIC PROPERTIES



- Constructed in mid-1960s
- Now privately-owned
- No anticipated impacts

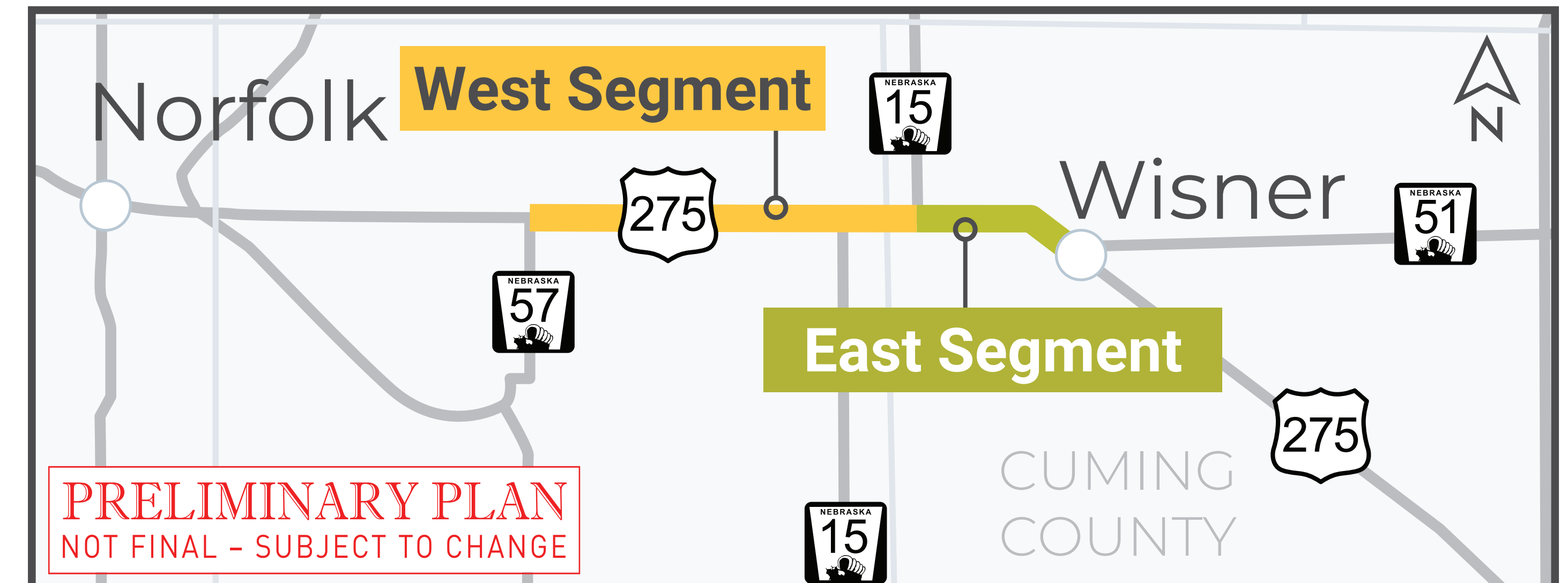


- Archeological site believed to be the location of the first homestead in Stanton County
- Dates to 1865
- Adverse effects would be handled in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act

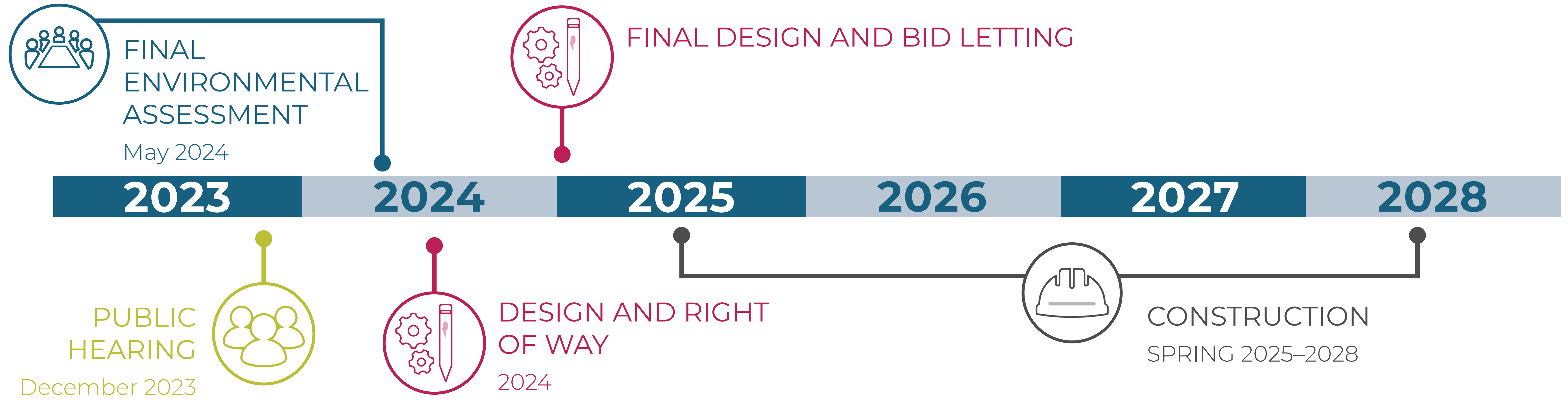
TRAFFIC ACCOMMODATIONS

The project would be constructed in two segments along US-275: N-57 to the N-15 east junction and the N-15 east junction to Wisner.

- The project would be constructed under traffic, with lane closures controlled by appropriate traffic control devices and practices.
 - Temporary surfacing may be required to accommodate phased construction.
- Short detours for county roads may be needed to construct intersections but adjacent county roads would not be closed at the same time.
- Access to adjacent properties would be maintained during construction but may be limited at times due to traffic phasing requirements.



SCHEDULE & COST

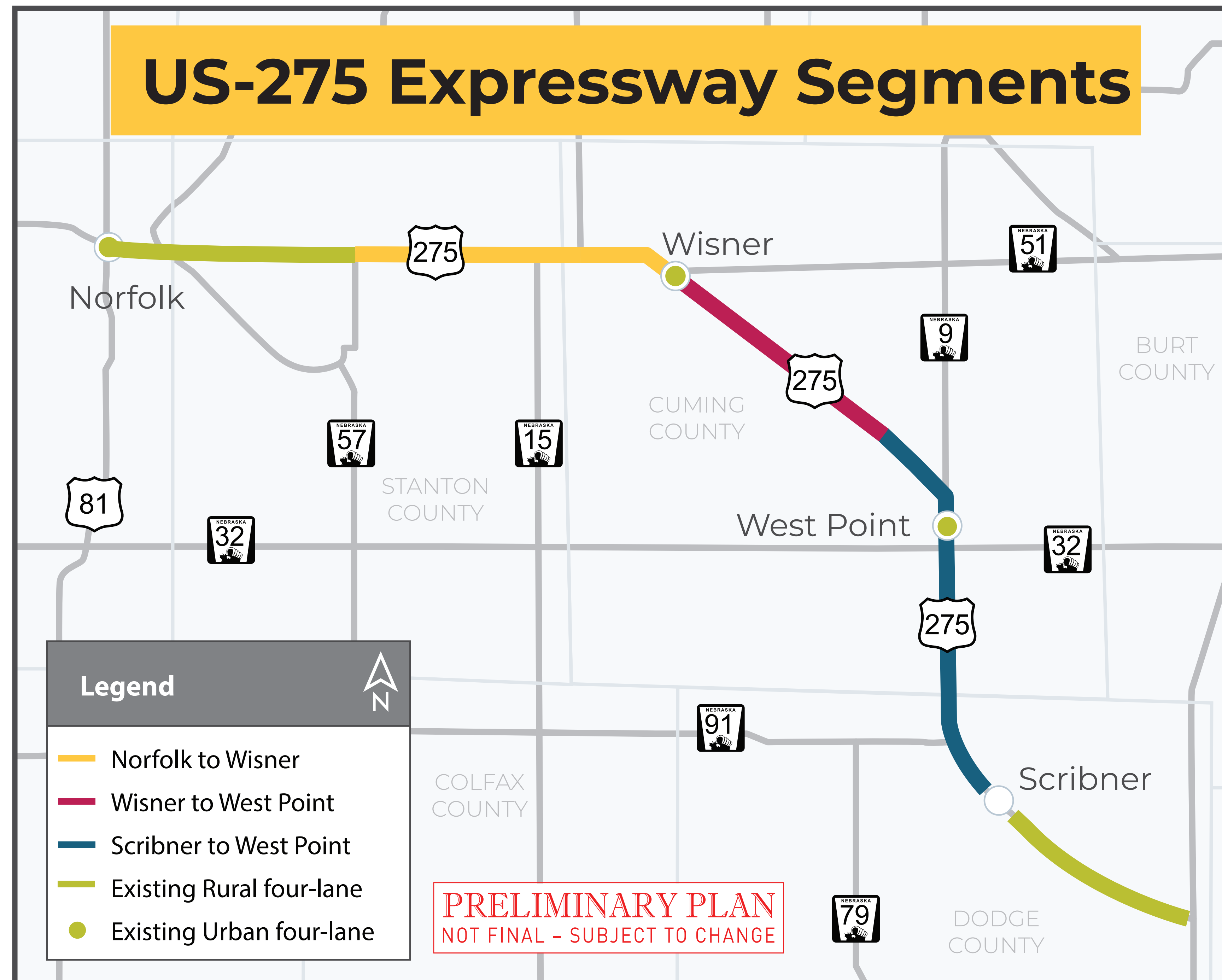


PRELIMINARY PLAN
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\$ ESTIMATED COST: \$104 MILLION*

*Funding comes from federal and state sources.

US-275 EXPRESSWAY OVERVIEW



Norfolk to Wisner

- Cost: \$104 million
- Phase: In design
- Funding Source: Federal and State
- Anticipated Construction Timeframe: 2025-2028

Wisner to West Point

- Cost: \$90 million
- Phase: In design
- Funding Source: State (not federal aid eligible)
- Anticipated Construction Timeframe: 2026-2029

Scribner to West Point

- Cost: \$90 million
- Phase: In construction
- Funding Source: State
- Anticipated Construction Timeframe: 2021-2024

FEEDBACK

Information regarding the proposed project, including the Draft Environmental Assessment, is available at ndot.info/32319. The Draft Environmental Assessment is also available for review at:

- NDOT District 3 Headquarters (408 N. 13th Street, Norfolk, NE)
- Wisner Public Library (1015 Avenue E, Wisner, NE)
- Pilger Public Library (120 N. Main Street, Pilger, NE)
- NDOT Headquarters (1500 Nebraska Parkway, Lincoln, NE)
- FHWA Nebraska Division (100 Centennial Mall N., Lincoln, NE)

Comments will be collected through **January 22, 2024**, and should be submitted to:

Lucas Nelsen

NDOT Public Involvement
P.O. Box 94759
Lincoln, NE 68509-4759

lucas.nelsen@nebraska.gov
402-479-3890

For those without internet access, information may be obtained at:

NDOT Headquarters
1500 Nebraska
Parkway
Lincoln, NE 68502

Or by contacting:
Kevin Domogalla
NDOT District 3
Engineer
kevin.domogalla@
nebraska.gov
402-370-3470



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