

Cozad – Darr, I-80 NH-80-4(155); C.N. 61670

April 2024

LOCATION

Identified as **Cozad – Darr, I-80**, the proposed project would improve approximately 9.30 miles of Interstate 80 (I-80) and approximately 0.42 miles of Nebraska Highway 21 (N-21) in Dawson County. The I-80 portion begins at mile marker (MM) 221.46, approximately 1.0 miles west of the grade separation of I-80 under N-21, and extends east to MM 230.54, approximately 0.58 miles west of the grade separation of I-80 under Nebraska Link 24A (L-24A). The work on N-21 begins at MM 12.67 and extends north to MM 13.09. Construction may begin and/or end approximately 500 feet ahead of or beyond the actual project limits to accommodate transitioning the pavement.

PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of the proposed project is to preserve the transportation asset, improve the reliability of the transportation system and perpetuate the mobility of the traveling public. The need for this project is based on the condition of the existing roadway and bridges.

SCOPE OF WORK

The proposed work on I-80 would reconstruct the mainline roadway as well as the ramps at the Cozad Interchange. The bridges over the Farmers and Merchants Canal (Structure Numbers S080 22225 Lt. & Rt.) would be rehabilitated and the guardrail would be replaced. The bridges over an unnamed drainage ditch (Structure Numbers S080 22527 Lt. & Rt.) would be replaced with a culvert. Improvements to the Cozad eastbound and westbound rest areas would consist of concrete repairs, milling and resurfacing the ramps, and surfacing within the rest areas. The proposed work on N-21 consists of concrete repairs,

joint and crack sealing, and remodeling buttresses. The N-21 bridge over I-80 (Structure Number S080 22249) would be repaired. Crossovers with temporary lighting and temporary pavement to construct slip ramps at the Cozad Interchange would also be included with this project.

TRAFFIC VOLUMES

I-80 (MM 221.46)

Year	2025	2035
Vehicles Per Day	17,245	17,970
% Trucks	40%	40%

N-21 (MM 12.67)

Year	2025	2035
Vehicles Per Day	3,135	3,155
% Trucks	10%	10%

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

Construction could begin as early as spring of 2025 and be completed by fall of 2027.

ACCOMMODATION OF TRAFFIC

The proposed project would be constructed under traffic with lane closures controlled by appropriate traffic control devices and practices; however, the proposed project would require closure of the westbound on-ramp at the Darr interchange with L-24A. Traffic would be detoured eastbound on I-80 to the Lexington Interchange with U.S. Highway 283 (US-283) then westbound on I-80. The eastbound and westbound rest areas would be temporarily closed during mainline I-80 construction.

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RIGHT-OF-WAY

The proposed project would not require the acquisition of additional property rights. Access to adjacent properties would be maintained during construction but may be limited at times due to traffic phasing requirements.

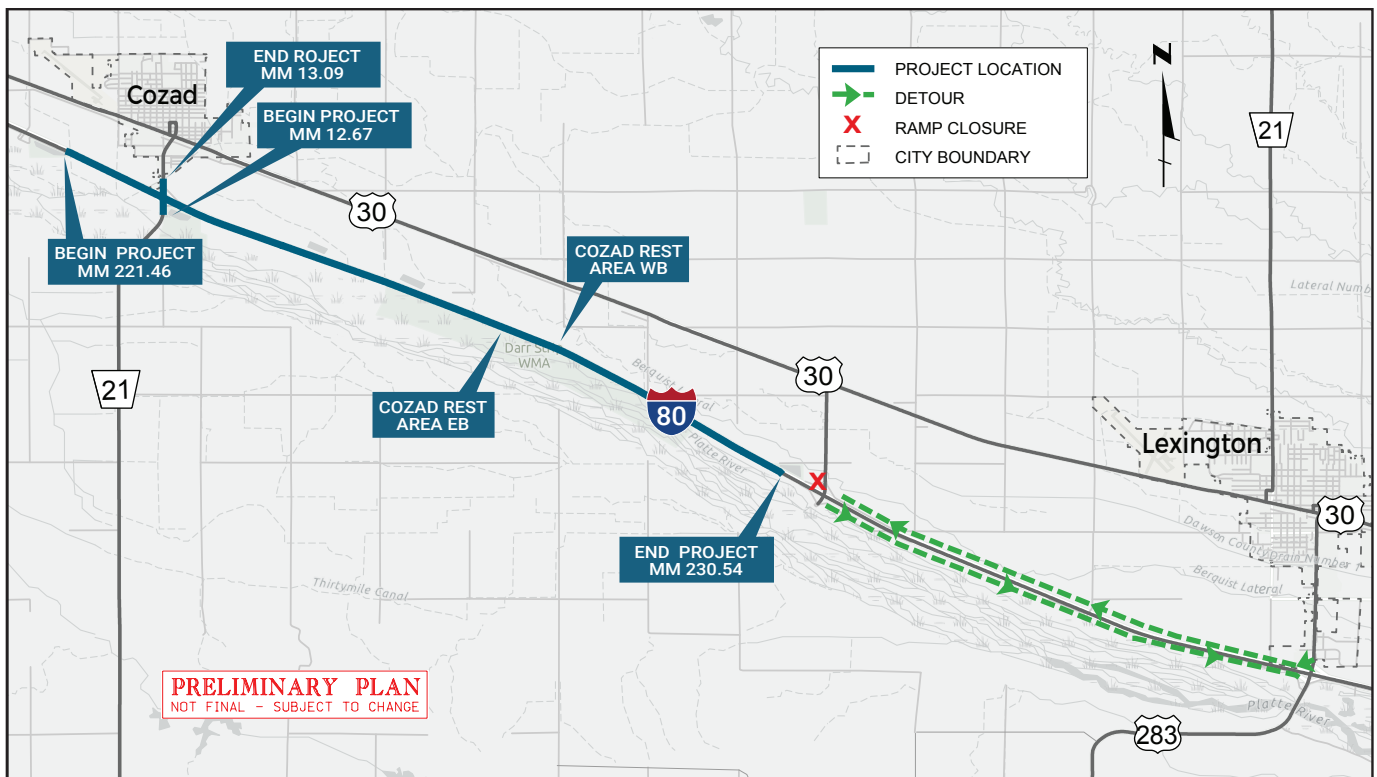
POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Work would be required in the waterway at the unnamed drainage ditch. Wetland and/or other

water resource impacts are anticipated and would be mitigated as necessary. Cozad State Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Darr State WMA, West Cozad WMA, East Cozad WMA, and Darr Strip WMA are in the project area; no impacts are anticipated.

ESTIMATED COST

The estimated cost of this project is approximately \$65 million and would derive from federal and state funding sources.



Comments will be collected through May 5, 2024

Send comments to:
Sarah Fisher
NDOT Public Involvement
sarah.fisher@nebraska.gov
402-479-3832

For more information:
Gary Thayer
NDOT District 6 Engineer
gary.thayer@nebraska.gov
308-535-8031

Additional information about the project can be found at ndot.info/61670.