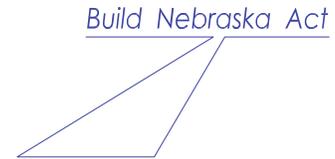




Nebraska Department of Roads
Lincoln South Beltway
DPU-LIN-2-6(120)
CN 12758D
As of January 2016



Location

- Lancaster County south of Lincoln.
- A new, 11-mile segment, beginning on US-77 between Bennett Rd. and Saltillo Rd. and proceeding east, diverging to the northeast at S. 82nd St. towards S. 120th St. and ending at N-2.

Purpose & Need

- Established in the 2002 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); the purpose is to improve east-west connectivity for regional and interstate travel, particularly freight operations, and to reduce conflicts between local and through traffic along existing urban streets.
- This project is needed because:
 - Increased travel demand on Lincoln's transportation network from regional population and traffic growth.
 - Potential impacts of conflicts between local and regional trips along N-2 through Lincoln.
 - Unique challenges presented by trucks passing through but not stopping in Lincoln, particularly when traveling on a facility with multiple signalized intersections and access points.

Scope of Work and Current Estimate

- New four-lane divided freeway.
- Interchanges are proposed at: US-77, Saltillo Rd., S. 27th St., S. 68th St., S. 84th St., and N-2/ S. 120th St.
- Overpass structures are proposed at: S. 25th St., the Homestead Trail, the BNSF Railroad, S. 54th St., Saltillo Rd. (east of S. 98th St.), the OPPD Rail Spur, and S. 134th St.
- Acquisition of additional permanent property rights will be required.
- The roadway engineering would be to State Expressway standards with access at interchanges only (freeway).
- The estimated cost for the South Beltway is approximately \$200 million, and would come from federal, state, and local funding.
- Primary funding source would be Build Nebraska Act funds.
- The city of Lincoln's share is 20% of the total project cost.

History of the Project Development

- The FHWA approved the Final EIS for the south and east beltway in 2002.
- The NDOR conducted Value Engineering (VE) studies on the South Beltway in 2003 and 2004.
- The NDOR presented a modified highway plan including an updated US-77 interchange at a public hearing in 2005.
- The NDOR presented an updated N-2 interchange at a public hearing in 2007.
- The project was shelved in 2009 due to lack of funding.
- The NDOR now has a state funding source with Build Nebraska Act funds, coupled with federal aid and local funds. With funds obligated for the South Beltway, the project development resumed in the beginning of 2013.

Status of the Project

- A Project Team, comprised of a cross section of NDOR and Consulting Professionals, has been established to complete an Environmental Assessment (EA).
- Engineering and environmental work continue on this important and complex project. The Lincoln South Beltway project team continues to make progress and a substantial amount of engineering and environmental fieldwork has been completed. A Nebraska Department of Roads "Plan in Hand Meeting" was held in late November to review the highway design and verify features in the field. Residents in the area might have noticed staking and flags placed ahead of the field verification.

A plan-in-hand meeting and field inspection is required on all capital improvement projects. This inspection typically takes place when plans reach development milestones. This inspection identifies substantive design issues and serves as a check of progress. Issues that are discussed and examined include additional survey needs, roadway

alignment, environmental resources, right-of-way impacts, utility issues, traffic maintenance and phasing, constructability issues, surfacing types and specific design questions. Following the plan-in-hand meeting, a report is prepared to document the review and update construction timing, funding, cost estimates and other project milestones.

- Environmental impacts continue to be evaluated. The team is working alongside environmental regulatory agencies to finalize wetland delineations, receive concurrence on alternatives evaluated and begin permitting. A revised schedule of project milestones will be shared in the coming months.

Next Steps

- Completion of the Draft EA in the summer of 2016.
- Prepare and hold a public meeting to update the community on the project and receive comments on the Draft EA in the fall of 2016.
- The project is on target for the next phases to begin, including final design and the right-of-way acquisition process in approximately 2017 and 2018, followed by construction starting as early as 2020.

Construction

- Construction is scheduled to begin between 2020 and 2023, and could take five to seven years to complete.
- Funding has been identified through the first phase of the Build Nebraska Act.

Location Map

