

NIOBRARA EAST AND WEST HIGHWAY N-12

PUBLIC INFORMATION OPEN HOUSE MEETING

Niobrara High School - Gymnasium, 247 North Highway 12, Niobrara, NE
Wednesday, August 3, 2016; 5:00 – 7:00 P.M.

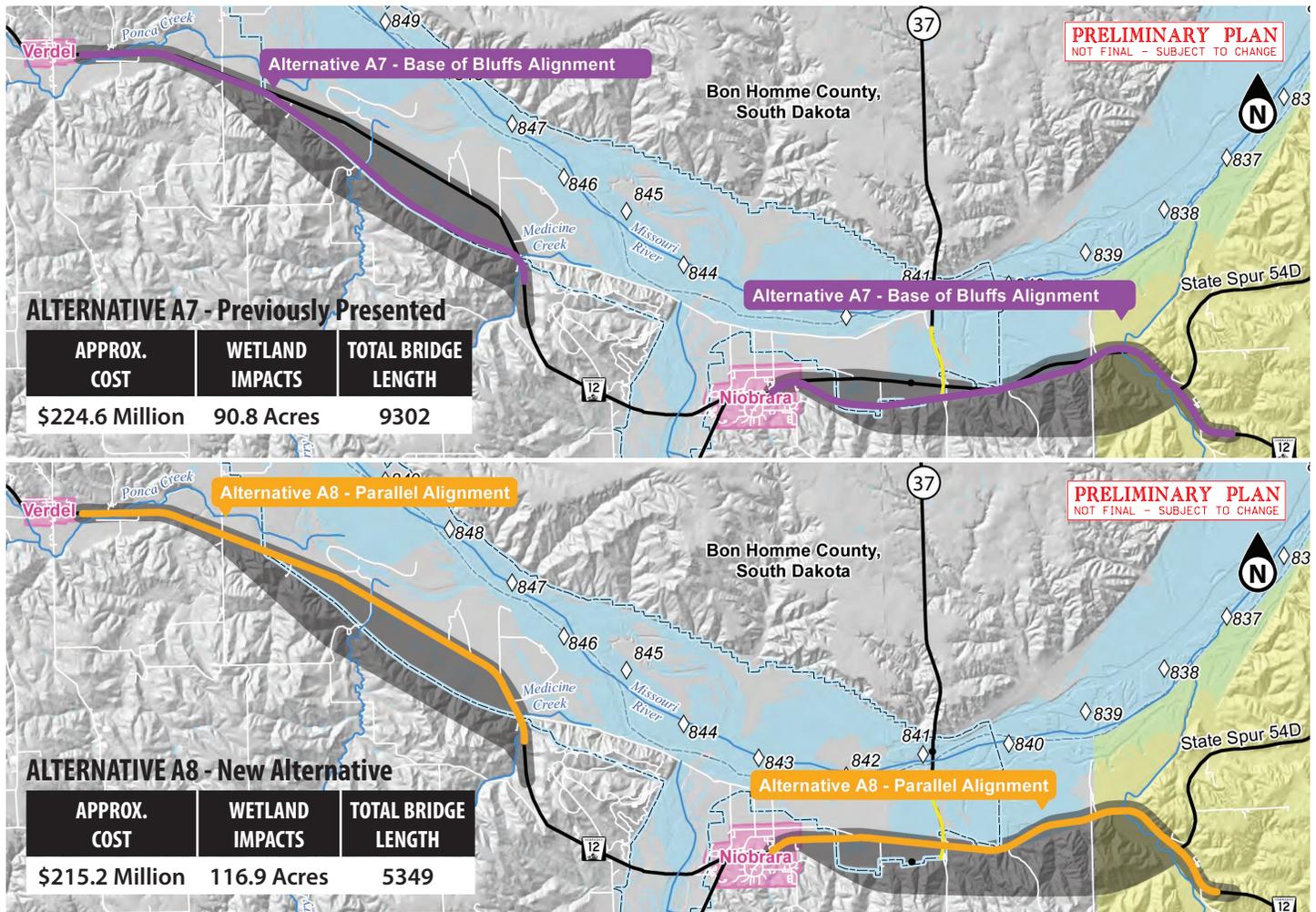
S-12-5(1011) NIOBRARA EAST & WEST; C.N. 31674

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Receive public input on alternative A8 to gauge acceptance prior to NDOR making permitting decisions.

LOCATION AND SCOPE

The proposed project includes two segments of the existing Nebraska Highway 12 (N-12) roadway east and west of the Village of Niobrara, in Knox County, Nebraska. The highway experiences flooding and damage due to high water levels associated with the Missouri River. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and NDOR are proposing to improve N-12 to eliminate damage caused by flooding and provide a reliable, stable and safe roadway for the region.



PROJECT UPDATE

NDOR applied for a Section 404 of the Clean Water Act permit from the Corps in September of 2015. As part of the permit process, the Corps held a public hearing on November 9, 2015. At that time, the public had concerns with Alternative A7, and recommended that another solution be sought. The public cited hardships on landowners, farms and ranching operations. Concerns were also expressed regarding icing and snow removal challenges on a roadway adjacent to the bluffs. In a letter to the Corps, NDOR requested that the permit application for alternative A7 be withdrawn. Since then, NDOR has been working to find an alternative solution that responds to public concern.

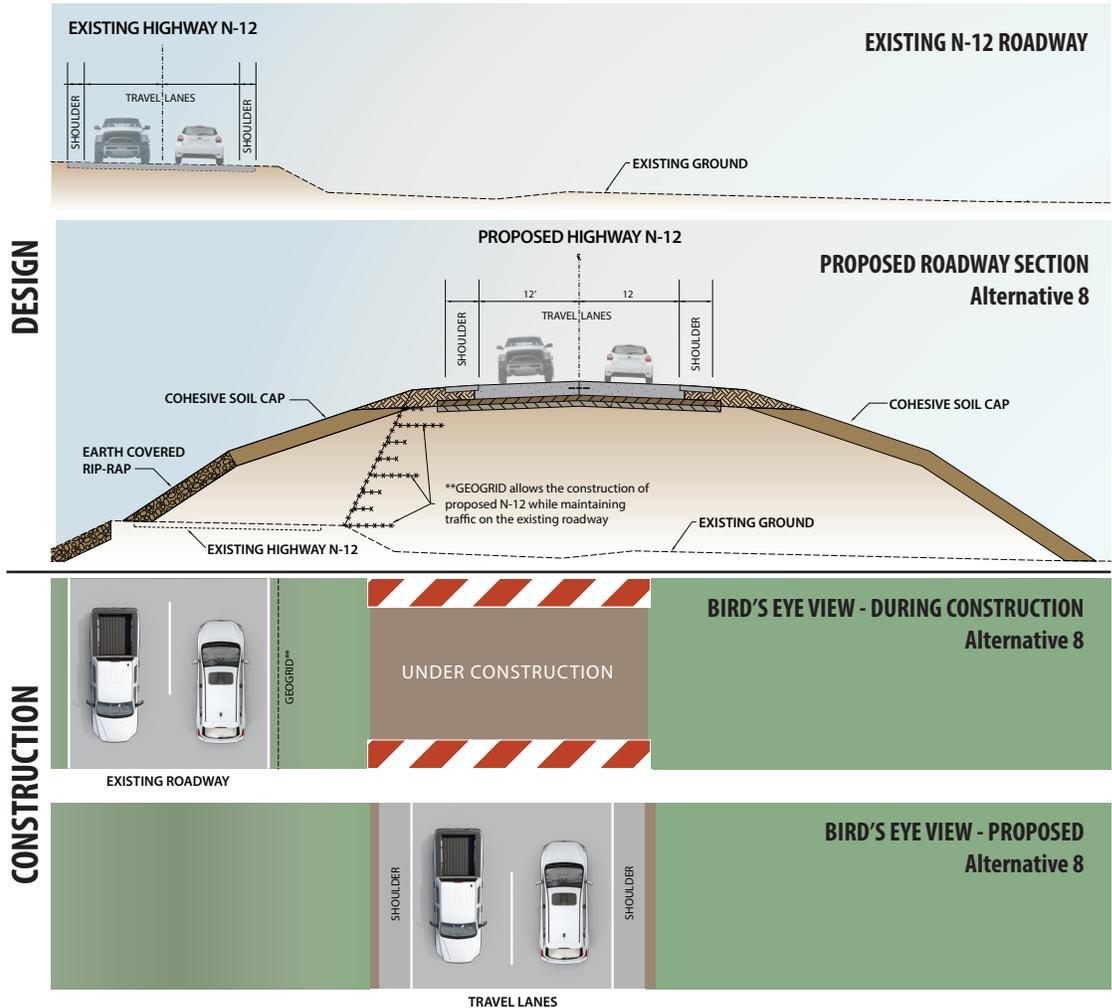
NDOR has developed a new alternative that would provide a long term transportation solution for N-12. The new alternative A8 is adjacent to the existing highway. NDOR has hosted meetings with the Corps, Environmental Protection Agency, and National Park Service to evaluate this alternative and its potential impacts to environmental resources.

PURPOSE & NEED SUMMARY

The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a reliable roadway that safely accommodates current and future traffic levels and maintains regional transportation connectivity. This project is needed due to ongoing flooding, unreliable operations, safety concerns and interruptions to regional traffic connectivity.

A8 TYPICAL SECTION

This illustrates how Alternative A8 would be constructed adjacent to the existing roadway using specialized construction techniques. While the new roadway is being constructed, traffic would remain on the existing roadway. After the new road is open to traffic, the old roadway would be removed and additional fill would be placed to complete roadway construction.



PRELIMINARY PLAN
NOT FINAL - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

NEXT STEPS

- 01** NDOR: Receive public meeting comments on new alternative A8 by August 18, 2016.
- 02** NDOR: Determine next permitting actions and notify the Corps and public of our decisions
- 03** NDOR: Prior to new permit application, continue coordinating with the Corps, National Parks Service and other environmental agencies
- 04** NDOR: Finalize and submit Section 404 of the Clean Water Act permit application to the Omaha District of the Corps
- 05** CORPS: Update the Environmental Impact Statement with the applied for alternative
- 06** CORPS: Potentially conduct a public hearing to inform the public of the environmental impacts of the applied for alternative

PROJECT CONTACTS

DIRECT COMMENTS TO:

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www.roads.nebraska.gov/projects/future-projects/
Click on the Niobrara East & West link