

MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF LANCASTER COUNTY VILLAGES
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING, ROOM 113
THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2016
8:30 A.M.

County Commissioners Present: Roma Amundson, Chair; Larry Hudkins, Vice Chair; Deb Schorr; Bill Avery; and Todd Wiltgen

Village Representatives: Don Murray, Chair, Bennet Board of Trustees; Larry Hall and Ron Maas, Bennet Planning Commission; John Juricek, Chair, Denton Board of Trustees; Charlotte TeBrink, Denton Village Clerk; Jill Hoefler, Firth Village Clerk; Vicky Polak, Hallam Village Clerk; Kelly Oelke, Hickman City Clerk; Nadine Link, Malcolm Village Clerk; Nancy Niemann, Raymond Village Clerk; Mike Werner, Waverly Mayor; and Doug Rix, Waverly City Administrator/Clerk

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, County Chief Administrative Officer; Gwen Thorpe, Deputy County Chief Administrative Officer; Pam Dingman, County Engineer; Troy Hawk, Clerk of the District Court; Scott Gaines, Chief Administrative Deputy Assessor/Register of Deeds; Dan Nolte, County Clerk; Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office; and Kevin Abourezk, Lincoln Journal Star Newspaper

Roma Amundson, County Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

1) ELECTRONIC RECORDS MANAGEMENT - Alison Lotto, County Records Administrator

Alison Lotto, County Records Administrator, discussed records and the advantages of storing them in an electronic format i.e., provides structure, ability to search and retrieve records and applies the retention schedule. She stressed it is okay to start out small, explaining that will provide a structure that can be applied to other documents. Any records that are scanned are considered equivalent to the paper record including original signatures. Lotto said the County is willing to make its records management system available to the rural communities, if there is interest, and said she is willing to serve as a resource for any of the communities that need assistance with their records. She can be reached at (402) 441-6308 or alotto@lancaster.ne.gov. Lotto added the County's Records & Information Management Department can also assist the rural counties with scanning projects.

Ron Maas, Bennet Planning Commission, asked the source of information about Lancaster County's towns and cities that is shown on the County's website (<http://www.lancaster.ne.gov/main/govern.aspx>). Gwen Thorpe, Deputy County Chief Administrative Officer, said the webpages were developed years ago by students through a grant. She said it is up to the villages to keep that information up-to-date, noting most of the communities have their own webpages now. Lotto said she is willing to help facilitate updating the information.

Schorr asked the rural representatives how they are managing records. Kelly Oelke, Hickman City Clerk, said they have paper and electronic records. She said the electronic records are stored on a private network drive and they organize the records themselves. Vicky Polak, Hallam Village Clerk, said her office scans documents into a Tagged Image Files (TIF's) format. Lotto recommended they use Portable Document Format (PDF) documents instead, explaining TIF files take up more room and are easily altered. Nancy Niemann, Raymond Village Clerk, said the vast majority of their paper records were stored in their town hall. The building had water damage and many of the records were destroyed. Lotto said it is very easy to back-up electronic records.

A) EAST BELTWAY UPDATE

Pam Dingman, County Engineer, said meetings are being held to discuss highway construction projects being considered by the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) as the State decides how to spend approximately \$1,000,000,000 in earmarked revenue from the gas tax increase the Legislature approved last year and the Build Nebraska Act which assigns one quarter-cent of the State's sales tax to road construction. She felt it was crucial to get the East Beltway project on NDOR's list, noting NDOR is accepting comments until June 29th (see Exhibits A & B). Mike Werner, Waverly Mayor, said he attended one of the meetings and Doug Rix, Waverly City Administrator/Clerk, attended two. He said the importance of funding for the East Beltway was stressed but said the project, which is estimated to cost \$250,000,000 would consume one fourth of the available funding.

2) SOUTH BELTWAY UPDATE - Mike Owen, Roadway Design Engineer/Division Manager, Department of Roads (NDOR); Brendon Schmidt, Assistant Roadway Design Engineer, NDOR

Mike Owen, Roadway Design Engineer/Division Manager, and Brendon Schmidt, Assistant Roadway Design Engineer, Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR), discussed the South Beltway, a four-lane divided highway project which will link Nebraska Highway 2 and U.S. Highway 77 (see Exhibits A and B). The project is funded through the Build Nebraska Act. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2020 and is estimated to take five to seven years to complete. Owen noted there is significant truck volumes passing through Lincoln and said it is estimated that 77% of the trucks will divert to the South Beltway.

In response to a question from Larry Hall, Bennet Planning Commission, Owen said the South Beltway is designed to connect to the future East Beltway.

The County Board Chair exited the meeting at 9:16 a.m. and the County Board Vice Chair assumed direction of the meeting.

Maas noted there has been heavy truck traffic since South 120th Street was paved to Saltillo Road and Saltillo Road was paved to Highway 77 and asked whether NDOR has counted the trucks that have taken that route. Owen said they have not. He thought some trucks might be bypassing Highway 2 because of a closure at night through town. Maas said the problem existed before construction work started on Highway 2.

The County Board Chair returned to the meeting at 9:19 a.m. and resumed direction of the meeting.

Jill Hoefler, Firth Village Clerk, asked whether there has been any discussion of paving South 82nd Street. Owen said that would be a County project.

Avery exited the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Amundson inquired about disruption to the communities south of Lincoln during construction. Owen said the disruption will be at the county roads and said work will be coordinated with County Engineering.

Niemann inquired about the feedback from property owners who will be affected. Owen said the public wants the project and the property owners understand the impacts.

Oelke asked for an estimate of how long South 68th Street will be closed. Owen said he anticipates it will be one season.

NOTE: Additional information about the Lincoln South Beltway Project is available on NDOR's website: <http://www.roads.nebraska.gov/>.

OTHER TOPICS

Gwen Thorpe, Deputy County Chief Administrative Officer, disseminated information on seminars being offered by Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County and the Nebraska Forest Service related to the Emerald Ash Borer (Exhibit E).

Avery returned to the meeting at 9:36 a.m.

3) MY TOWN FEEDBACK - Stacey Groshong Hageman, Planner,
Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Department

Stacey Groshong Hageman, Planner, Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Department, discussed the My Town, Lancaster County Citizens Institute for Rural Design (CIRD) Workshop that was held March 19-21, 2015. **NOTE:** Seven communities participated in the event (Bennet, Denton, Firth, Hallam, Hickman, Panama and Waverly) and shared information and ideas, discussed how they could collaborate, and planned for future projects and activities. Speakers were brought in to discuss community planning, public engagement, leadership, economic development and funding resources. Two of the communities (Bennet and Hallam) participated in Lighter, Quicker, Cheaper Demonstration Projects. She asked rural representatives for their feedback and to give updates on projects or events in their communities.

Polak felt it was a good experience. She shared that Hallam has put out benches and has a heart mural to emphasize it's "The Little Town with a Big Heart" theme. Hallam also plans to put up permanent banners.

Hoefler said Firth has a new splash pad and basketball court and said there are plans to paint a large-scale checkerboard on the floor of the village's gazebo. She said Firth will continue to look for projects that don't require a lot of money.

Rix said construction of a new community sign is nearing completion. Werner said the town plaza was upgraded and the City has applied for a \$1,900,000 grant to construct a walking trail. There are also plans to hold a farmers market during summer months to make Waverly more of a destination spot.

Maas said the Lighter, Quicker, Cheaper Demonstration Project generated community interest. He said Bennet is developing a recreation plan and recently opened a splash pad in the park. Bennet also holds a farmers market on Wednesday evenings and has plans for a nature park.

Oelke noted some of the aspirations for Hickman involved pedestrian traffic trails and economic growth and said the City is currently working with NDOR on a new pedestrian trail. Hickman is also building a new community center/city hall.

Maas asked whether there are plans to hold a "My Town" workshop again. Groshong Hageman said she isn't sure and suggested the communities think about county-wide outcomes and ways they can collaborate on projects.

4) OTHER TOPICS:
A) EAST BELTWAY UPDATE

Item was moved forward on the agenda.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Each town gave an update on issues affecting their community or upcoming events:

- Bennet - Ice cream social will be held August 14th; New housing development
- Firth - Comprehensive Plan update; Proposed housing development; Overhaul of sewer lift station and lagoon
- Denton - Work on trail segment that would connect Denton with the Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center and Pioneers Park in Lincoln; Paving of West Denton Road; Hillside Events Center has brought additional traffic into town
- Hallam - Hallam Fest will be held August 20th; Monolith Materials' plans to build a carbon black plant adjacent to the Nebraska Public Power District's (NPPD's) Sheldon Station plant; New subdivision is being developed south of town
- Hickman - Hickman Hay Day Celebration will be held July 30th; New "quiet zone" (a railroad grade crossing at which trains are prohibited from sounding their horns in order to decrease the noise level for nearby residential communities); New pedestrian trail; New residential development
- Malcolm - Malcolm Auto Show and Antique Tractor Show will be held August 21st; Continued efforts to reopen the Branched Oak Inn
- Raymond - Town hall was demolished because of mold issues and meetings are now held at the Raymond Fire Hall
- Waverly - Annual Camp Creek Antique Machinery & Threshing Show will be held July 16th & 17th; Lawson Park (sports complex) has hosted sports tournaments; Paving improvements; Two new housing developments; Bidding construction of a dry dam that will slow drainage through the town

5) ADJOURNMENT

By direction of the County Board Chair, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

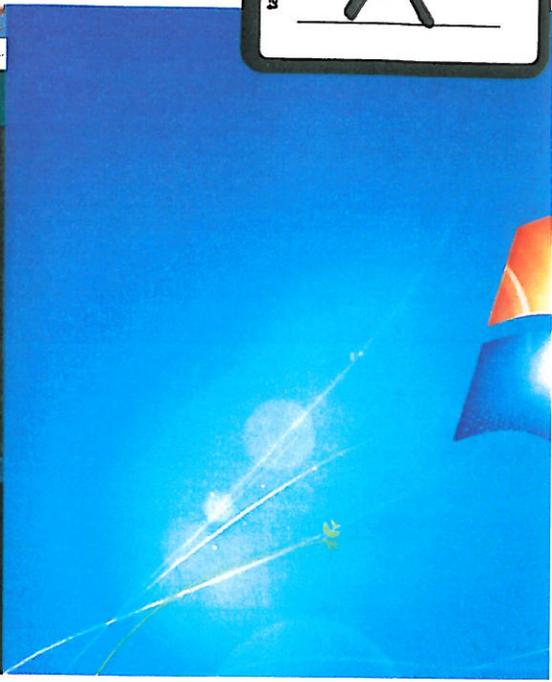
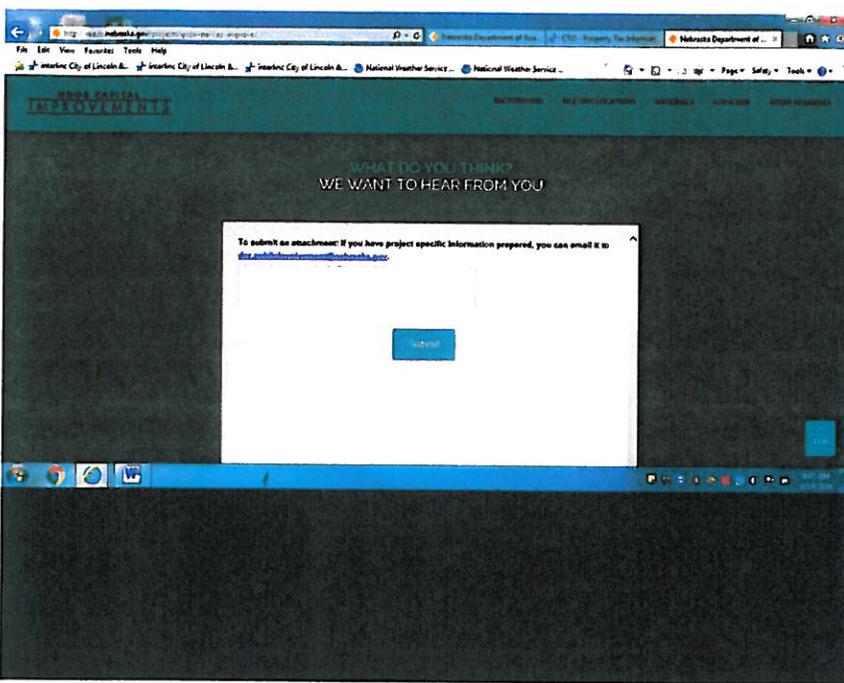
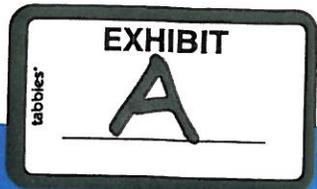


Dan Nolte
Lancaster County Clerk



Below is the link for input to the NDOR Build Nebraska Act Materials; Please scoll down to the bottom of this page to give input on the project list. The East Beltway is project listed as project number 18 for our area. Please let NDOR know how important this project is to you.

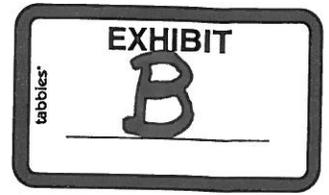
<http://roads.nebraska.gov/projects/grow-ne/cap-improve/>





WE WANT TO HEAR FROM

You 



The Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) is updating and expanding its project prioritization process for capital improvement projects. The key elements include engineering performance, better consideration of economic impacts and more stakeholder input.

The focus of today's meeting is to provide an update on our project prioritization process, share information on the analysis of the candidate project list and, most importantly, hear from you about your priorities for transportation investments in the region.

Please share any comments you have about today's meeting, the project prioritization process, or your priorities for transportation investments in the region. We especially want to hear which projects are your top priority and why.

Lined area for handwritten comments.

Please submit your comments no later than July 29, 2016 to Sarah Kugler, Public Involvement Manager, Nebraska Department of Roads, sarah.kugler@nebraska.gov; P.O. Box 94759, Lincoln, NE 68509-4759.

BUILD NEBRASKA ACT
THE NEXT 10 YEARS

NEBRASKA
Good Life. Great Journey.
DEPARTMENT OF ROADS

TRANSPORTATION
INNOVATION ACT

LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD MEETING



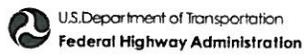
LINCOLN

South Beltway
environmental assessment
and preliminary engineering

Mike Owen, Engineer VII

Brendon Schmidt, Engineer V

Thursday July 14th, 2016



PROJECT HISTORY



Initial concept of a beltway around the City of Lincoln

Funding for south and east beltway study

NDOR conducts Value Engineering study on south beltway middle segment

Presented modified west system interchange design and middle segment at public hearing

Beltway put on hold due to funding

Beltway project reopened



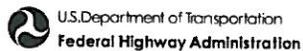
Identified west, south and east corridors

FHWA approves Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision for south and east beltways

NDOR Conducts value engineering study on the two system interchanges

Presented modified east system interchange design at public hearing

Build Nebraska Act allocates funding for Lincoln South Beltway



PURPOSE AND NEED

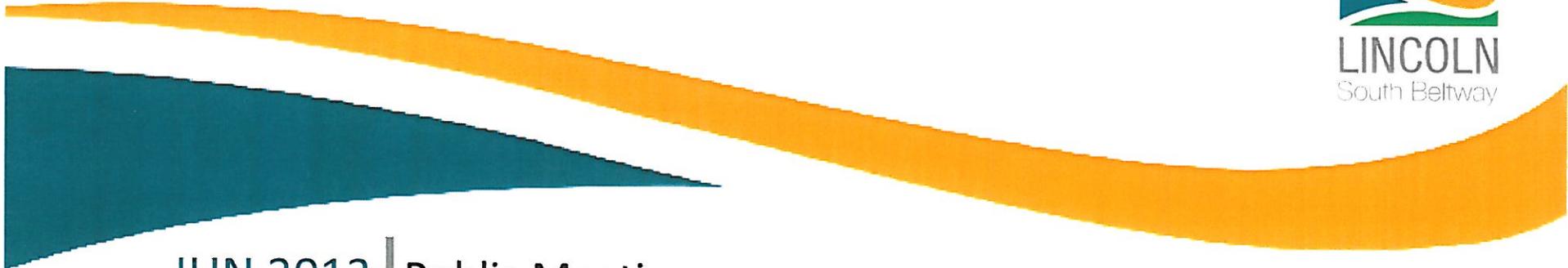


Project Need:

- Projected demands on Lincoln’s transportation network
- Conflicts between local trips and regional trips along N-2 through Lincoln.
- Significant truck volumes passing through but not stopping in Lincoln, particularly when traveling on a facility with multiple signalized intersections and access points.



PROJECT SCHEDULE



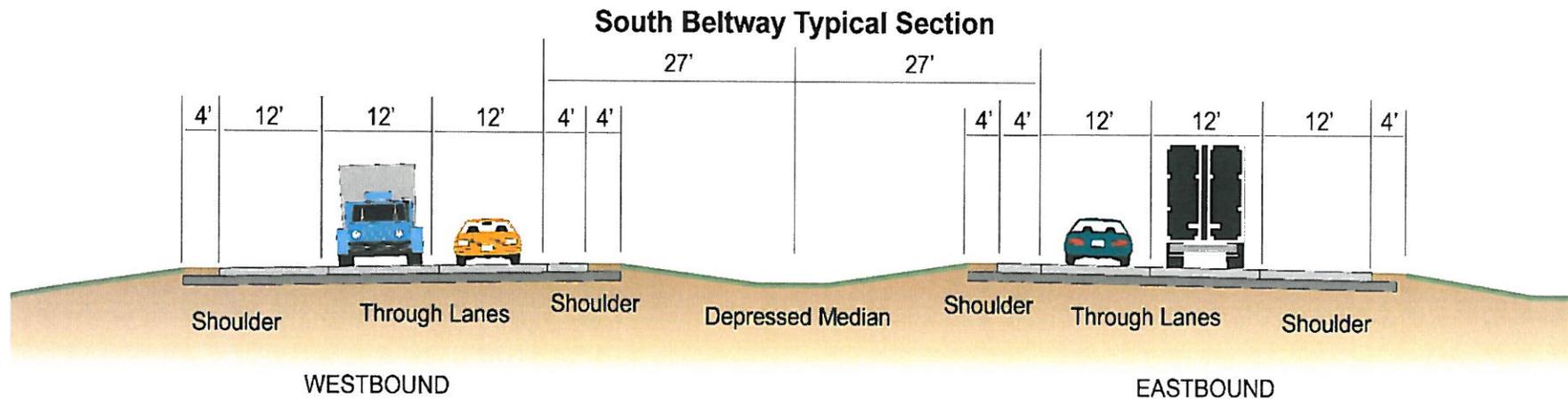
JUN 2013	Public Meeting
JAN 2016	Received Concurrence from COE on Selected Alignment Finishing Environmental Studies, Refining the Design and Meeting with Project Stakeholders
EARLY 2017	Planned Public Hearing
SUMMER 2017	Anticipated Final EA
2017-2019	Anticipated ROW Design and Acquisition
2020	Anticipated Construction Start

PROJECT OVERVIEW

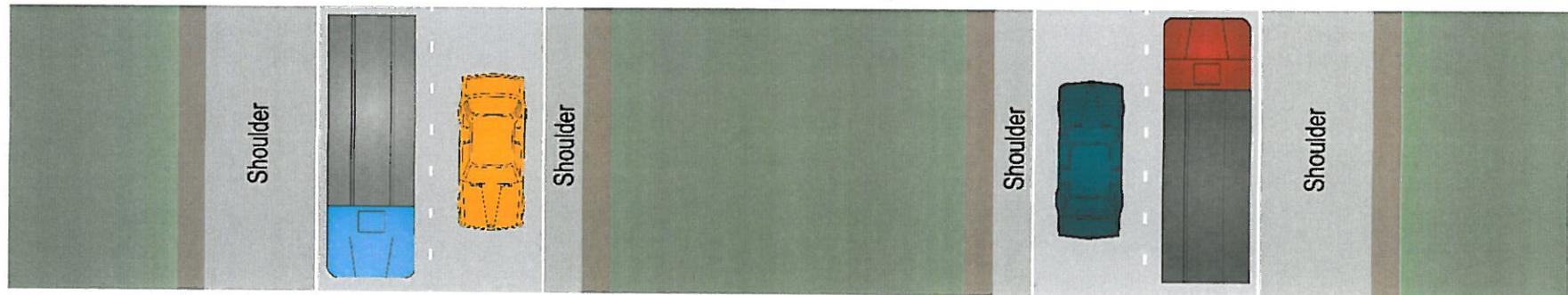


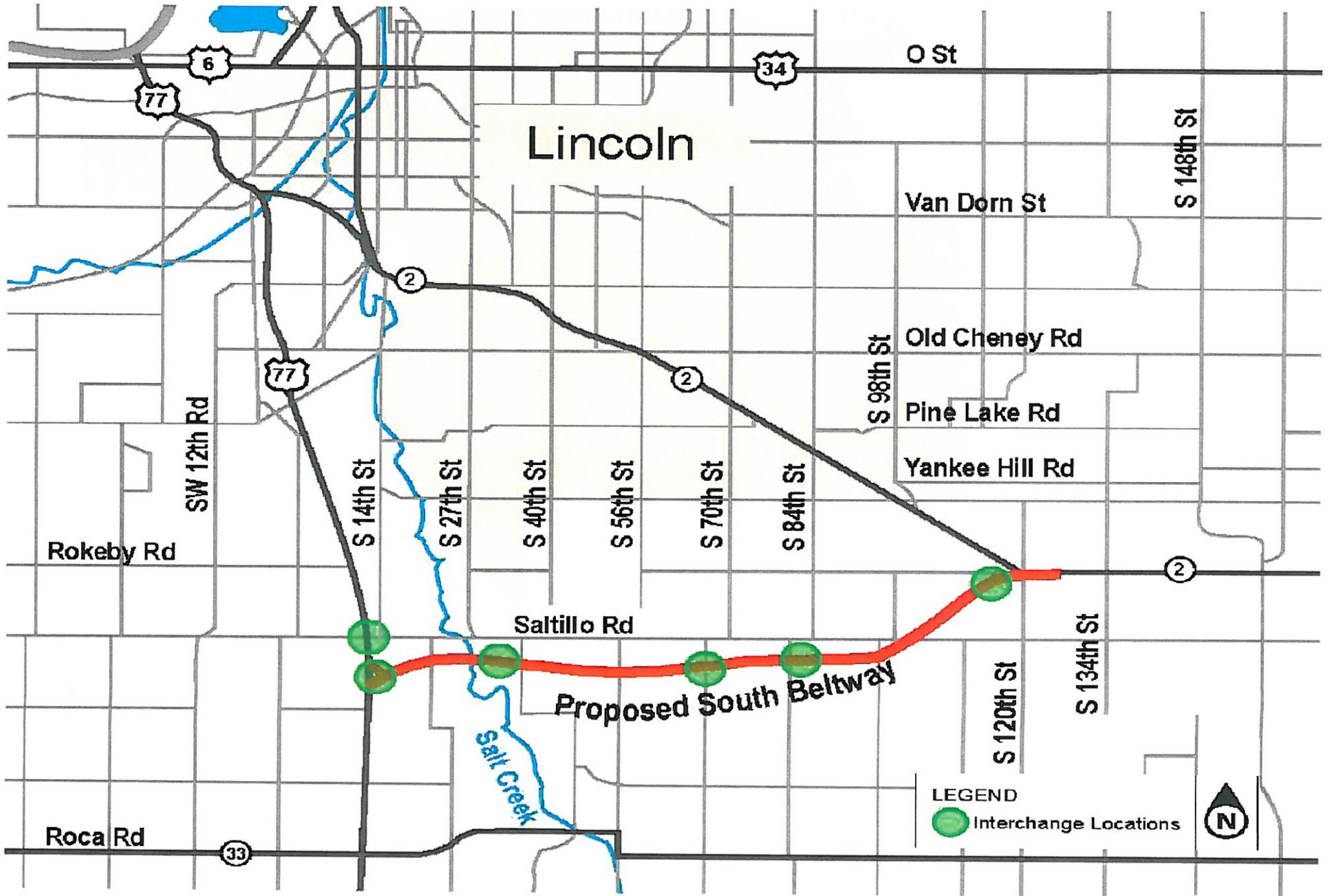
- South side of Lincoln (~Half mile south of Saltillo Rd) connecting US-77 and N-2
- 4-lane divided freeway with full access control
- 54' depressed grass median (accounts for future 6-lane divided segment with barrier wall)
- Interchanges at: Saltillo, US-77, 27th, 68th, 84th, 120th/N-2
- Build Nebraska Act, Tier 3 (2020 – 2023 time frame)
- ~\$200 million construction cost
 - 80% State/Federal funds, 20% City funds

PROPOSED TYPICAL SECTION



South Beltway Bird's Eye View





PROJECT DETAILS



- [Project website](#)
- Preliminary Project Mosaic Review

News Release – July 12, 2016

Emerald Ash Borer Seminars Offered in July and August

Early June brought the news Nebraska foresters and horticulturists have been anticipating for several years — confirmation of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) within the state. On June 8, Nebraska Department of Agriculture confirmed an EAB infestation in Pulaski Park, in southeastern Omaha. A second confirmation from Cass County came the following week.

Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County and the Nebraska Forest Service are presenting three seminars about Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) to provide homeowners with the information they need to make good decisions about the care of their ash trees.

- Wednesday, July 27, 7–9 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln
- Thursday Aug. 18, 7–9 p.m. at Nebraska Extension in Saunders County, 1071 CR G, Ithaca
- Saturday Aug. 27, 9–11 a.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln

Registration is required by calling 402-441-7180 three days prior to each seminar. Cost \$15 per person/couple for one set of educational materials. Pay at the door, making checks payable to Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County.

Concern about this invasive insect and its impact on our community trees is high. Many homeowners have questions about their trees and potential treatment options available to them. All ash species — including the popular cultivars Autumn Purple, Marshall's Seedless, Patmore, Skyline and Summit — will be at risk from this insect, along with all wild ash trees.

Learn how to identify ash trees. If you are unsure if a tree in your landscape is an ash, bring small branch samples or pictures for identification. Learn how to determine which of your trees are the best candidates for treatment. Many homeowners will decide to let some trees die, particularly low-vigor trees, those in poor locations or with existing problems. Finally, learn about the available treatment methods, their advantages and disadvantages and when they should be applied. Note: treatment is NOT recommended until EAB has been confirmed within 15 miles of your location.

Seminar presenters include Sarah Browning, Nebraska Extension Horticulture Educator; Jody Green, Nebraska Extension Entomology Educator and Laurie Stepanek, Nebraska Forest Service – Forest Health Specialist.

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Contacts: Sarah Browning or Jody Green, 402-441-7180