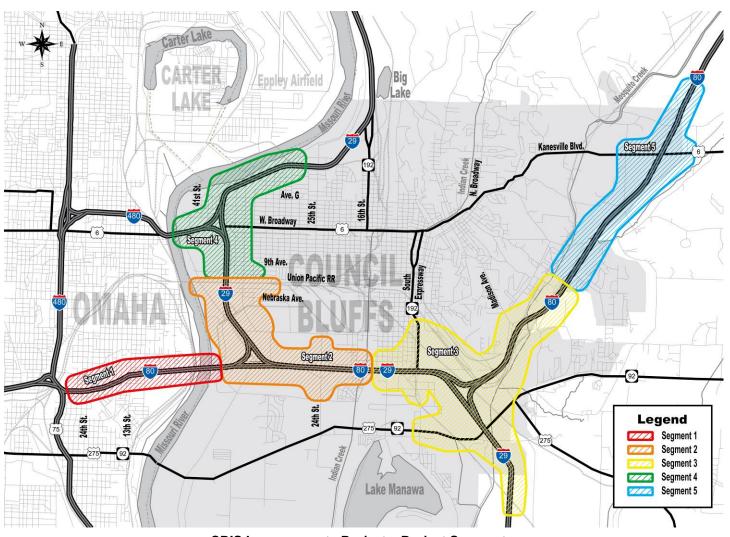
# Council Bluffs Interstate System Improvements Public Information Meeting – June 8, 2010



**Welcome** to the public meeting for the Council Bluffs Interstate System Improvements Project (CBIS Improvements Project) sponsored by the Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT). The CBIS Improvements Project is a major effort focused on improving the Interstate System in the Council Bluffs metropolitan area.

The overall CBIS Improvements Project is divided into 5 segments as shown in the graphic below. The purpose of this meeting is to provide information and gather public input on the proposed improvements and construction phasing for Segment 3 construction projects.



**CBIS Improvements Project – Project Segments** 

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### **CBIS Improvements Developed Using a Multi-Step Process**

Efforts to improve the CBIS began in 1999 when a Needs Study was completed. The Needs Study identified design and operational issues of the CBIS. In August 2005 a Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was approved. The Tier 1 EIS identified an overall Improvement Concept for the CBIS and divided the project into 5 segments (as shown on page 1) for development in Tier 2 of the project.

#### Tier 2 Studies and Reports

Tier 2 efforts completed to date include the Environmental/NEPA Studies for Segments 1 and 2 completed in 2007 and 2008, respectively. It is anticipated that the Segment 3 Environmental/NEPA Studies will be approved in Summer 2011.

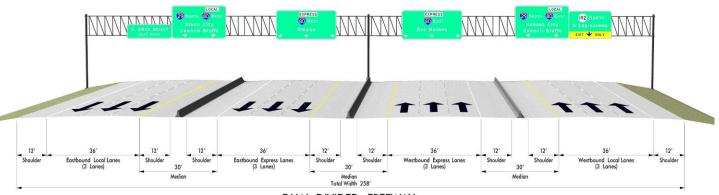
#### **Construction Progress**

- Construction of the 24<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge and roadway was completed in 2009.
- Construction is currently underway for Segment 1 in both Nebraska & Iowa including the new Missouri River Bridge.
- Construction of the West System Interchange Southbound I-29 Bridge will begin this winter (2010).

Iowa DOT is currently designing the remaining improvements in Segment 2. Final design of Segment 3 improvements will begin as soon as the environmental document is complete.

## **Segment 3 Improvements**

The ultimate design for Segment 3 includes construction of a dual divided freeway (providing 3 lanes in each direction for both I-80 and I-29 - 12 lanes total) and complete reconstruction of the East System Interchange, as well as the South Expressway, U.S. 275/IA 92 and Madison Avenue Interchanges.



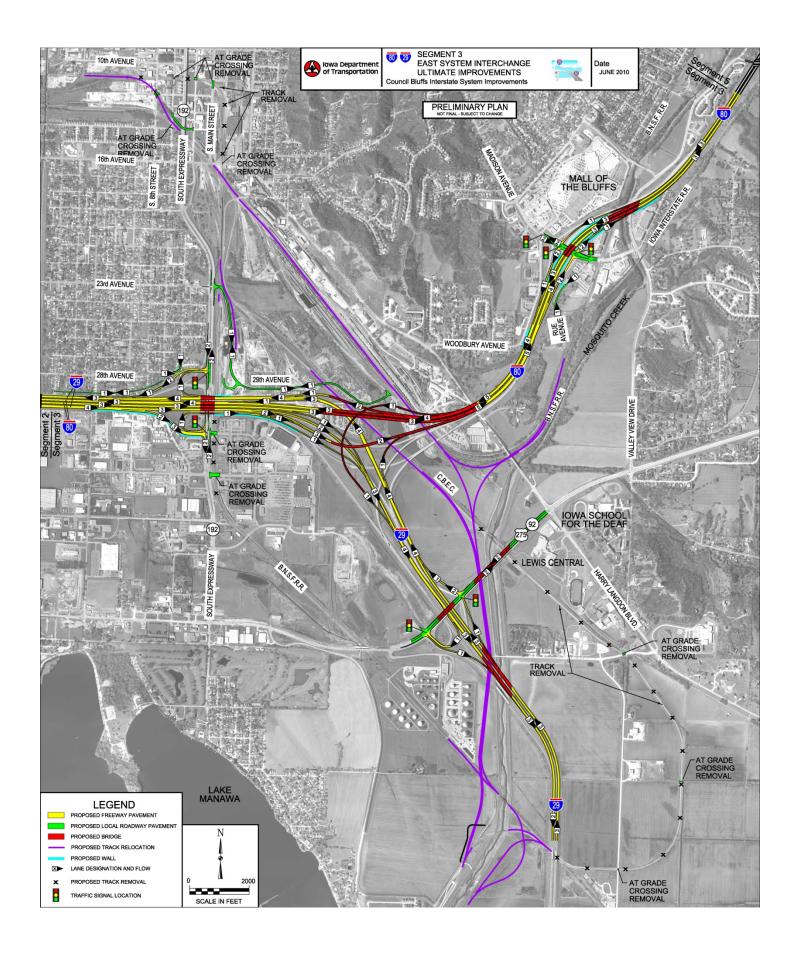
DUAL DIVIDED FREEWAY

Key features of the dual divided freeway include:

- Improves flexibility in operations, maintenance and incident management
- Separates through traffic from local and event traffic
- Provides greater flexibility to maintain traffic during construction
- Satisfies traffic needs in the Year 2030 and has greater capacity for high traffic volumes

The Segment 3 improvements (shown on the next page) provide numerous benefits to the travelling public as well as the City of Council Bluffs:

- Improves safety, traffic flow, train movement efficiency, and traffic operations at South Expressway Interchange ramp intersections
- Reduces traffic congestion and roadway / railroad conflicts (Net reduction of 9 crossings)
- Provides better access to the Power Center
- Eliminates a railroad corridor that bisects Lewis Central High School property



### **Segment 3 Construction Phasing**

Similar to Segment 1, due to funding constraints, the Segment 3 improvements will be constructed in two major phases. The ultimate improvements are being constructed in phases to increase capacity and improve traffic flow as funding allows.

#### Phase 1 Improvements

The first phase improvements for Segment 3 will include several construction projects over multiple years with the following key features:

- Construct Dual Divided Freeway (West of East System Interchange)
  - 3 lanes in each direction on I-80
  - 3 lanes in each direction on I-29
- Reconstruct interchange at South Expressway (excluding the I-29 southbound entrance ramp)
- Reconstruct interchange at U.S. 275/IA 92
- Consolidate railroad corridors in the vicinity of the East System Interchange and the U.S. 275/IA 92 Interchange
- Reconstruct key ramps for the East System Interchange
- Maintain existing 2 lanes in each direction on I-80 (east of Madison Avenue)
- Maintain existing interchange at Madison Avenue
- Construct interim freeway pavement between the new construction and existing pavement in the East System Interchange and east of Madison Avenue

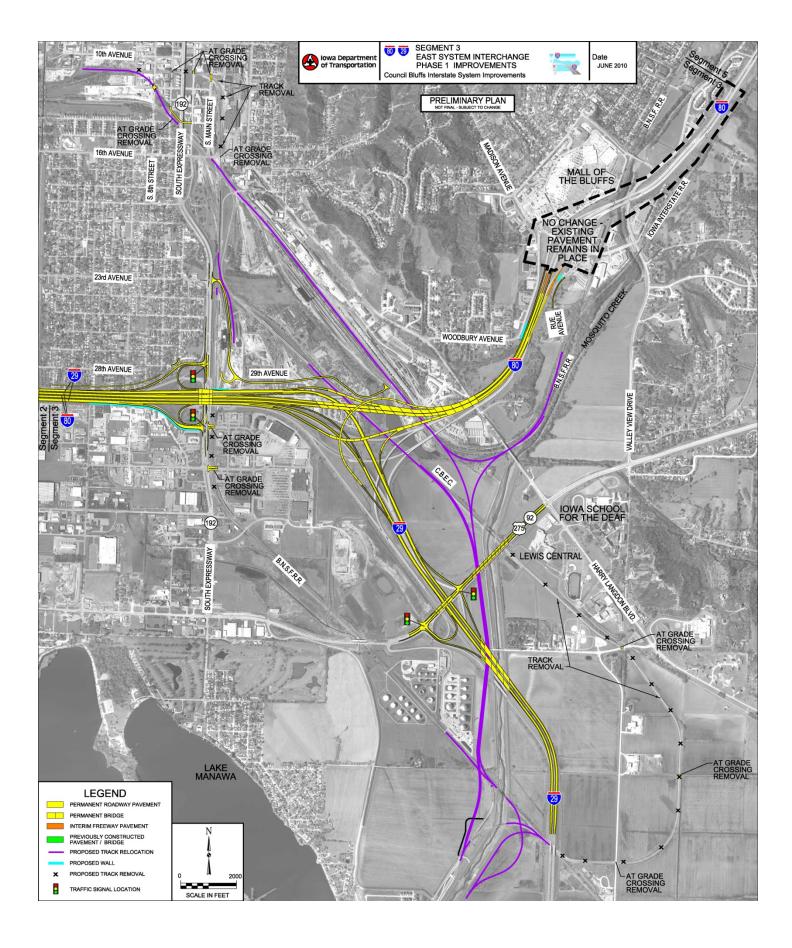
The phase 1 improvements would add capacity and improve traffic flow along the I-29/I-80 overlap section and would provide full access to South Expressway and I-80 from I-29. However, there would be some restrictions for I-80 traffic on the interior lanes of the dual divided section. The phase 1 improvements for Segment 3 will be coordinated with the phase 1 improvements for Segment 2 as previously presented.

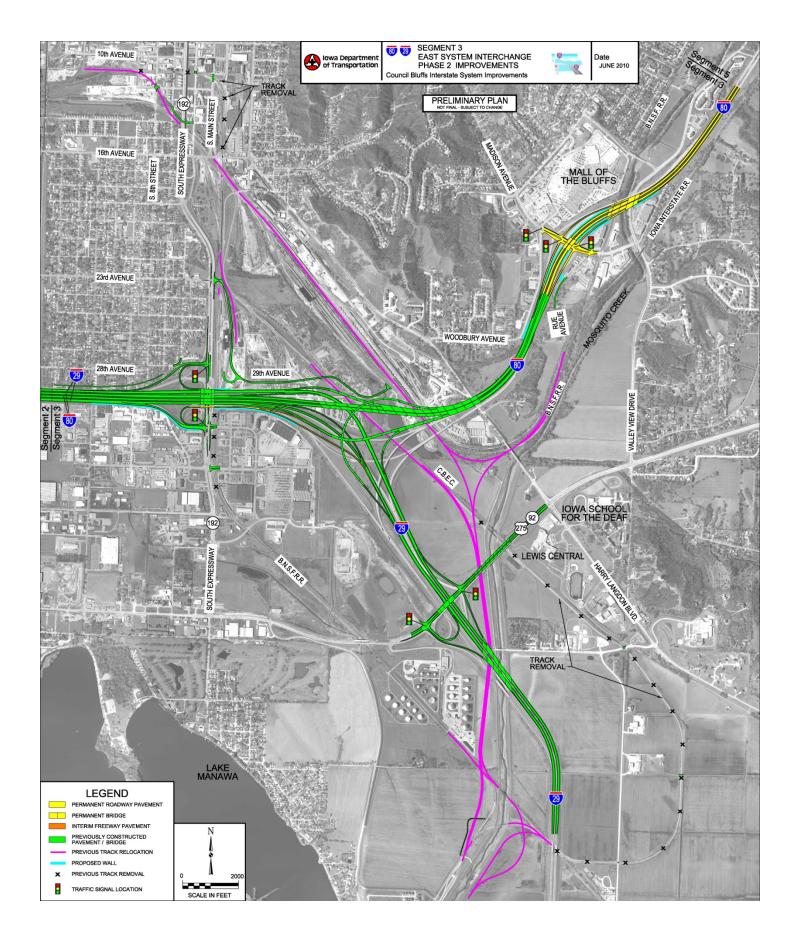
#### Phase 2 Improvements

The second phase improvements for Segment 3 will also include several construction projects over multiple years. Depending on funding, the second phase of construction may not begin for 5 years or more after the first phase is complete and includes the following key features:

- Reconstruct interchange at Madison Avenue
- Construct separate I-29 southbound and I-80 eastbound entrance ramp and frontage road from South Expressway
- Construct 3 lanes in each direction on I-80 east of the Madison Avenue Interchange.

Phase 1 and 2 improvements are shown graphically on the following pages.





# **Project Schedule**

Due to the size, complexity, and estimated construction cost of the overall improvements for the CBIS, construction of the CBIS segments will be completed over several years. Several construction projects for Segments 1, 2 and 3 are currently scheduled in the Iowa Transportation Improvement Program.

Segment 1 improvements, currently under construction will be completed by 2012 and the final construction projects for Segment 1 will be completed in 2014-2015. The first construction projects for Segments 2 and 3 will begin in 2011 and 2012, respectively; however, completion of all improvements for Segments 2 and 3 is uncertain due to funding uncertainty beyond the current Iowa Transportation Improvement Program.

The graphic below shows the current construction schedule as included in the Iowa Transportation Improvement Program and the Nebraska Surface Transportation Program Book.

Construction Project	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Segment 1 Missouri River Bridge I-80 West of Missouri River (Nebraska)				I			
Segment 2 West System Interchange I-29 / I-80 Overlap				ı		2015 & I	Beyond
Segment 3 U.S. 275 / Iowa 92 Interchange I-29 / I-80 Overlap East System Interchange						2015 & I	Beyond

It is the DOT's goal to have projects completed according to established schedules; however, dates may change due to funding availability, agency input or public input.

#### **Contact Us**

If you have a comment, question, or concern regarding the CBIS Improvements Project or would like to be added to the project mailing list, please forward this information on the attached self addressed Citizen Comment form or contact John Carns (information at right).

Additional information regarding the CBIS Improvements Project is available on the project website at: www.iowadot.gov/cbinterstate

