



GETTING YOU THERE >>>>
COUNCIL BLUFFS INTERSTATE



2017
ANNUAL REPORT

COUNCIL BLUFFS INTERSTATE SYSTEM

The new East System Interchange opened ahead of schedule in October 2017.

Cover page images, counterclockwise from top left:

- » Looking east towards the new East System Interchange.
- » New I-29 southbound flyover ramp from I-80 westbound.
- » Construction progressed steadily throughout the year.
- » New I-80 westbound lanes in the East System Interchange.

Prepared by the



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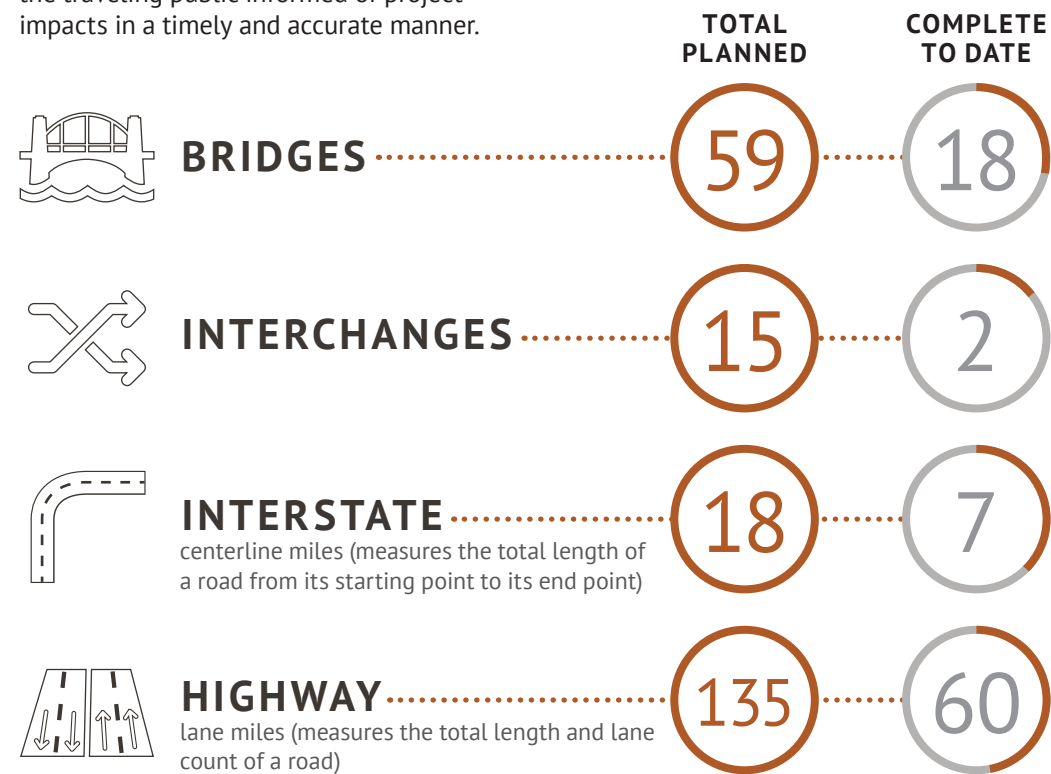
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Iowa Department of Transportation is in the process of reconstructing I-80, I-29 and I-480 in the Council Bluffs/Omaha metropolitan area. This comprehensive interstate redesign, known as the Council Bluffs Interstate System Improvement Program, will modernize the highway system and improve mobility and safety in the area.

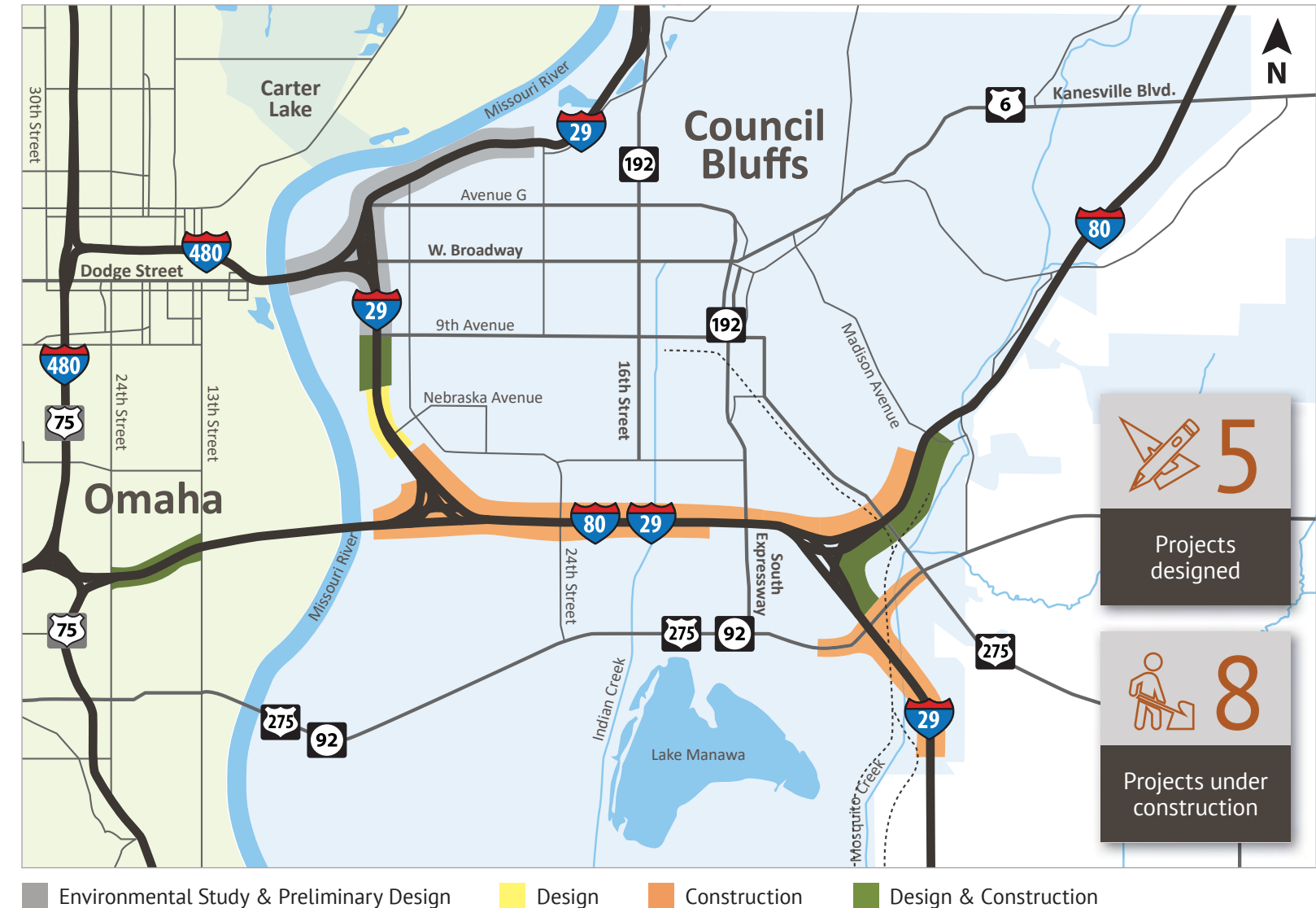
Iowa DOT is committed to completing interstate improvements with minimal inconvenience to the public and keeping the traveling public informed of project impacts in a timely and accurate manner.

PROGRAM GOALS

-  Modernize 18 miles of interstate
-  Accommodate planned development along the corridors
-  Reduce traffic congestion
-  Improve the visual landscape



2017 SNAPSHOT



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Construction projects below were prioritized based on the highest volume of vehicles and benefits to traffic management, improved safety and increased vehicle capacity in the urban areas of the interstate system. Several future projects will be necessary to satisfy overall Program goals.



Map Key: Numbered dots on the map correspond with the tables below.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

1		<p>Project: I-29 & U.S. 275/Iowa 92 Interchange, Phase II</p> <p>Highlights: Completed new I-29 southbound on-ramp and Mosquito Creek levee reconstruction.</p>	<p> Actual Cost: \$81M</p> <p> Completed on time: May 2017</p>
2		<p>Project: West System Interchange, Phase II</p> <p>Highlights: Completed construction.</p>	<p> Actual Cost: \$28M</p> <p> Completed on time: July 2017</p>

2017 PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR DESIGN BY IOWA DOT

Construction Design

Projects	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
I-29 and U.S. 275/Iowa 92 Interchange, Phase II				
West System Interchange, Phase II				
East System Interchange, Phase IIa				
East System Interchange, Phase IIb				
I-80/I-29 Dual, Divided Freeway, Phase II				
Union Pacific Railroad Bridge over I-29				
East System Interchange, Phase III				
Nebraska Avenue Interchange				
I-29/I-480/West Broadway Preliminary/Final Design				

ACTIVE PROJECTS

3		<p>Project: East System Interchange, Phase IIa</p> <p>Highlights: Graded and paved future I-80 westbound lanes and completed bridge construction. A traffic shift occurred in October.</p>	<p> Cost: \$107M Spent-to-Date: \$106M</p> <p> Time: 2 years, 6 months Time Spent-to-Date: 2 years, 1 month</p>
4		<p>Project: East System Interchange, Phase IIb</p> <p>Highlights: Completed construction of 23rd Ave and South Expressway intersection and I-80/I-29 bridge construction over South Expressway. A traffic shift occurred in October.</p>	<p> Cost: \$24M Spent-to-Date: \$23M</p> <p> Time: 2 years Time Spent-to-Date: 1 year, 7 months</p>
5		<p>Project: I-80/I-29 Dual, Divided Freeway, Phase II</p> <p>Highlights: Began construction. Graded and paved the future I-80 eastbound express lanes and I-80/I-29 local lanes. Began bridge construction over Indian Creek and in the West System Interchange.</p>	<p> Cost: \$42M Spent-to-Date: \$31M</p> <p> Time: 2 years, 6 months Time Spent-to-Date: 1 year, 1 month</p>
6		<p>Project: Union Pacific Railroad Bridge</p> <p>Highlights: Began construction and demolished the northern half of the existing bridge.</p>	<p> Cost: \$18M Spent-to-Date: \$5M</p> <p> Time: 2 years, 6 months Time Spent-to-Date: 5 months</p>
7		<p>Project: East System Interchange, Phase III</p> <p>Highlights: Mobilized to site and began construction activities.</p>	<p> Cost: \$104M Spent-to-Date: \$2M</p> <p> Time: 2 years, 7 months Time Spent-to-Date: 2 months</p>
8		<p>Project: Nebraska Department of Roads, 13th Street to I-480</p> <p>Highlights: Mobilized to site and began construction activities.</p> <p>This project was designed and let by Nebraska DOT (NDOT) and is being constructed under a NDOT contract.</p>	<p> Cost: \$19M Spent-to-Date: \$3M</p> <p> Time: 1 year, 10 months Time Spent-to-Date: 5 months</p>

2017 PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

East System Interchange

After nearly two years of construction, Phase II of the East System Interchange was substantially completed in fall 2017, ahead of schedule. Construction crews were able to accomplish early completion through an accelerated schedule and collaboration between multiple contractors and Program staff.

Construction of this interchange, which began in late 2015, had many complexities and required coordination with the City, railroads, businesses, residents, motorists and other stakeholders. The project included five bridges totaling over 8,800 feet in length and opened to traffic in October 2017. The new interchange design improves safety and alleviates congestion.

Program staff kept the public informed about construction impacts and partnered with local schools, churches and businesses to share information about detours and closures.

The new East System Interchange features right hand exits and has reduced congestion.



RELATED WORK

SMARTER ROADWAYS

Iowa DOT is not only improving roads and bridges around Council Bluffs, but is also adding technology to improve traffic flow, respond quickly to changing traffic conditions and improve customer satisfaction.

Over the next six years, this technology will be added to the interstate system to allow Iowa DOT to monitor traffic conditions and deploy timely traffic information to the traveling public.



14 new dynamic message signs



35 cameras



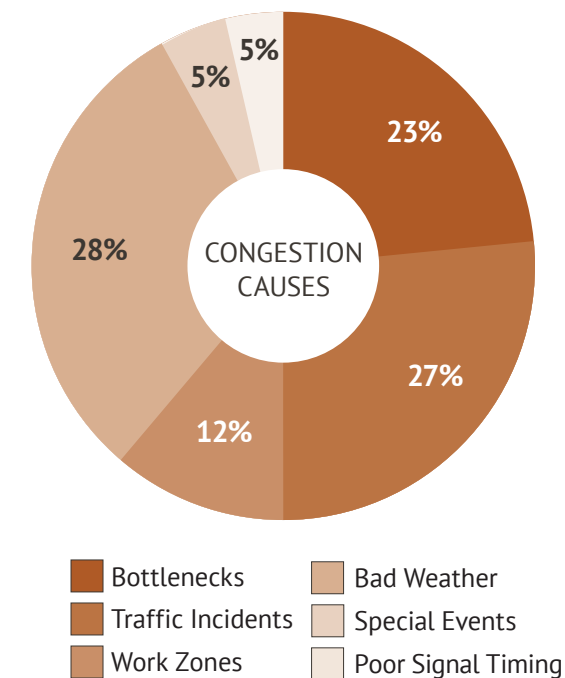
Nearly **6** miles of fiber optic cable



45 sensors



WHAT CAUSES CONGESTION IN IOWA?

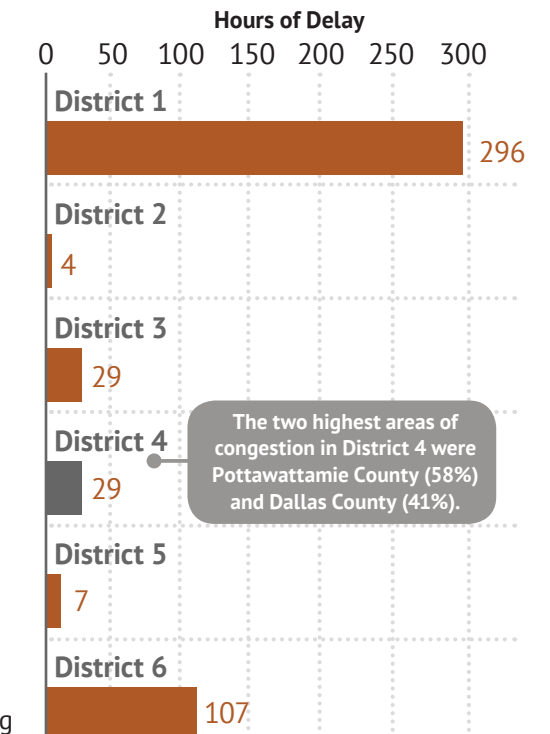


Source: Iowa DOT Traffic Management Center 2016 Annual Report

CONGESTION MITIGATION

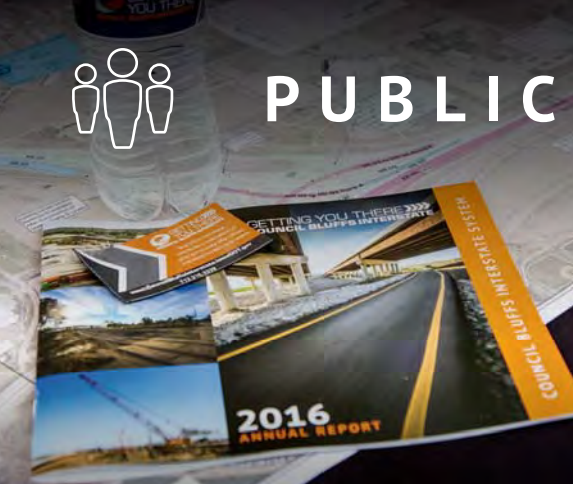
A key goal of the Council Bluffs Interstate System Improvement Program is to reduce traffic congestion on the interstate in the Council Bluffs/Omaha area. I-80 westbound and I-29 southbound previously experienced congestion almost daily during morning and afternoon commutes. Opening the new East System Interchange has added capacity and reduced congestion and delays during peak travel times.

SLOW TRAFFIC

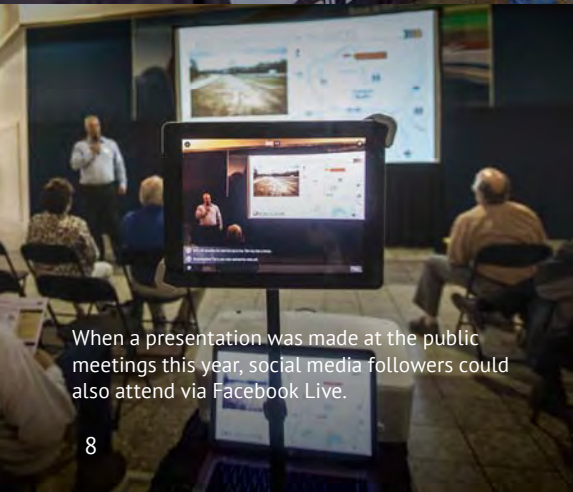




PUBLIC OUTREACH



As part of the Program's community outreach, staff attended Celebrate CB at Bayliss Park in May.



When a presentation was made at the public meetings this year, social media followers could also attend via Facebook Live.

4 STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS



Program meetings were held with elected officials, local businesses, stakeholders, and the general public during 2017. This included a pre-construction season meeting held in April, a public hearing on the I-29/I-480/West Broadway Interchange in August and a right-of-way public meeting in November.



3 BUSINESS OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES



Because the Program has had multiple exit ramp impacts and traffic shifts, expanded outreach efforts notified businesses near impacted areas well in advance of changes. Iowa DOT strives to minimize construction impacts on travel and businesses.

2017 ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

WEBSITE 	37,407 Pageviews	12,908 Visitors
ONLINE MEETING 	652 Views	
FACEBOOK 	356 New Followers in 2017	722 Total Followers
		293,472 Impressions
TWITTER 	135 New Followers in 2017	495 Total Followers
		119,845 Impressions
MAILING LISTS 	513 Members	6% Growth in 2017
ALERTS 	36 Traffic Alert Emails Sent to Emergency Responders	



VIRTUAL RIBBON CUTTING

Iowa DOT celebrated the opening of the I-80 westbound and I-29 southbound ramps on Oct. 20, 2017. The team put together a short video as an alternative to a formal presentation and ribbon cutting that was used on social media to announce the opening and demonstrate new traffic movements. Video was captured by a vehicle-mounted GoPro camera and drone footage from the Council Bluffs Police Department was also incorporated. When possible, the Council Bluffs Interstate System Improvement Program celebrates Program success and demonstrates the completion of major project milestones.

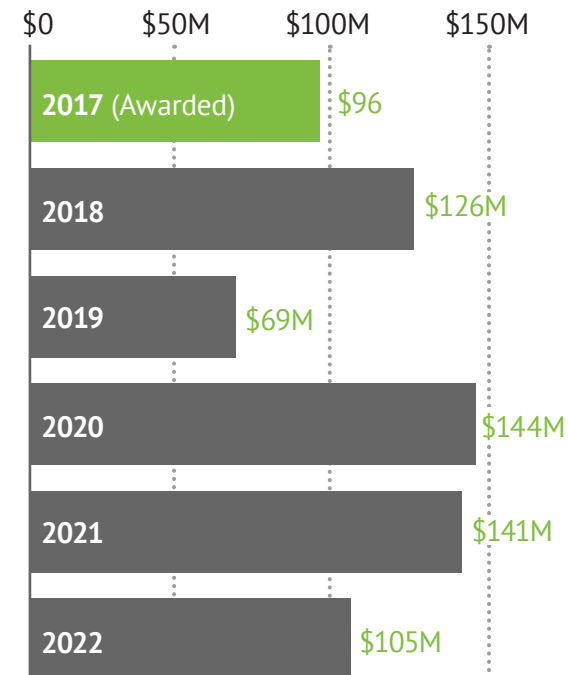
PROGRAM STATUS

The Iowa Transportation Commission and DOT recognizes that the Council Bluffs Interstate System Improvement Program is the largest interstate funding effort in the state's history. The Program is currently on schedule and on budget. The Iowa DOT continues to look for opportunities to effectively and efficiently manage the successful delivery of highway improvement projects.

STATUS THROUGH DECEMBER 2017



DOLLARS ALLOCATED PER FISCAL YEAR

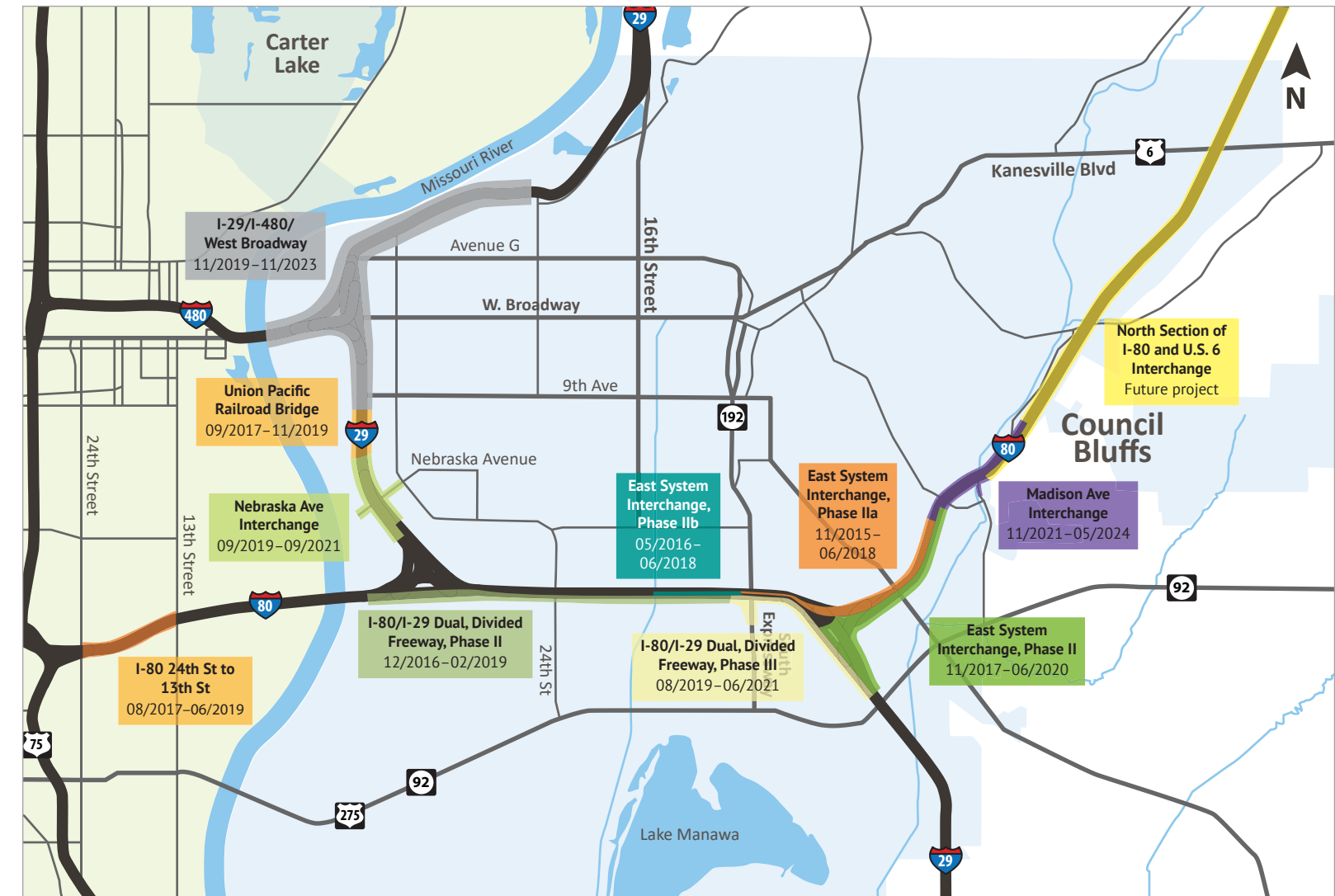


LONG-TERM STRATEGY

Program construction started in 2008 and is expected to continue through 2024. Approximately 60% of Program construction has been completed. Numerous projects will be constructed to complete the Program vision. Individual projects are being grouped strategically to maximize improvements while minimizing construction impacts to Council Bluffs residents and the traveling public.

HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

PLANNED CONSTRUCTION





BY THE NUMBERS



The Council Bluffs Interstate System Improvement Program has been active since 2008. Statistics on this page give a snapshot of the magnitude of work completed in 2017.



Linear feet of pipe
39,100 to-date



Linear feet of conduit
51,000 to-date



Linear feet of retaining wall
6,900 to-date



Linear feet of noise wall
4,200 to-date

Full construction of the of the East System Interchange will be completed in fall 2020.



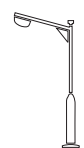
93,000

Cubic yards of concrete poured
263,000 to-date



3,200

Tons of reinforcing steel
13,200 to-date



43

New tower & street lights
106 to-date



890,000

Cubic yards of earthwork moved
7,100,000 to-date



204,000

Square yards of concrete paving
914,000 to-date



501,000

Square feet of bridge deck poured
1,462,000 to-date



8,600

Tons of structural steel for bridges
32,400 to-date



Two meetings were held this year to specifically discuss the I-29/I-480/West Broadway project.

I-29/I-480 WEST BROADWAY INTERCHANGE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Construction projects are prioritized based on the highest volume of vehicles and benefits to traffic management, improved safety and increased vehicle capacity in the urban area of the interstate system.

In 2017, Iowa DOT presented the preferred alternative and the Environmental Assessment for proposed improvements of the I-29/I-480/West Broadway Interchange in Council Bluffs, from just north of the Union Pacific Railroad crossing to just south of the 25th Street interchange. The proposed project is currently funded in the 2018–2022 Transportation Improvement Program under the Council Bluffs Interstate System Improvement Program. The total funded amount for construction is \$238 million. Environmental studies were completed and a Finding of No Significant Impact was issued by Federal Highway Administration in the fall. The proposed project has now moved to the final design phase.

As part of proposed improvements, additional right-of-way will be required. Right-of-way acquisition began in 2017 and must be complete before the project begins in 2020.

Potentially displaced property owners were assigned a relocation advisor to provide relocation assistance. This typically occurs during early stages of the appraisal process and continues until residents become established at a new location.



For more information on the right-of-way process, please refer to the following video:
<http://bit.ly/lowadotROW>

Sarah Opal is one homeowner selling her home to the state.

“We had a gentleman come and appraise it and take pictures. Then we had some DOT people come in and talk with us about the acquisition. Hopefully, within the next six months we'll be moved into a new home.”

Opal said the state is giving her a fair price for her home.

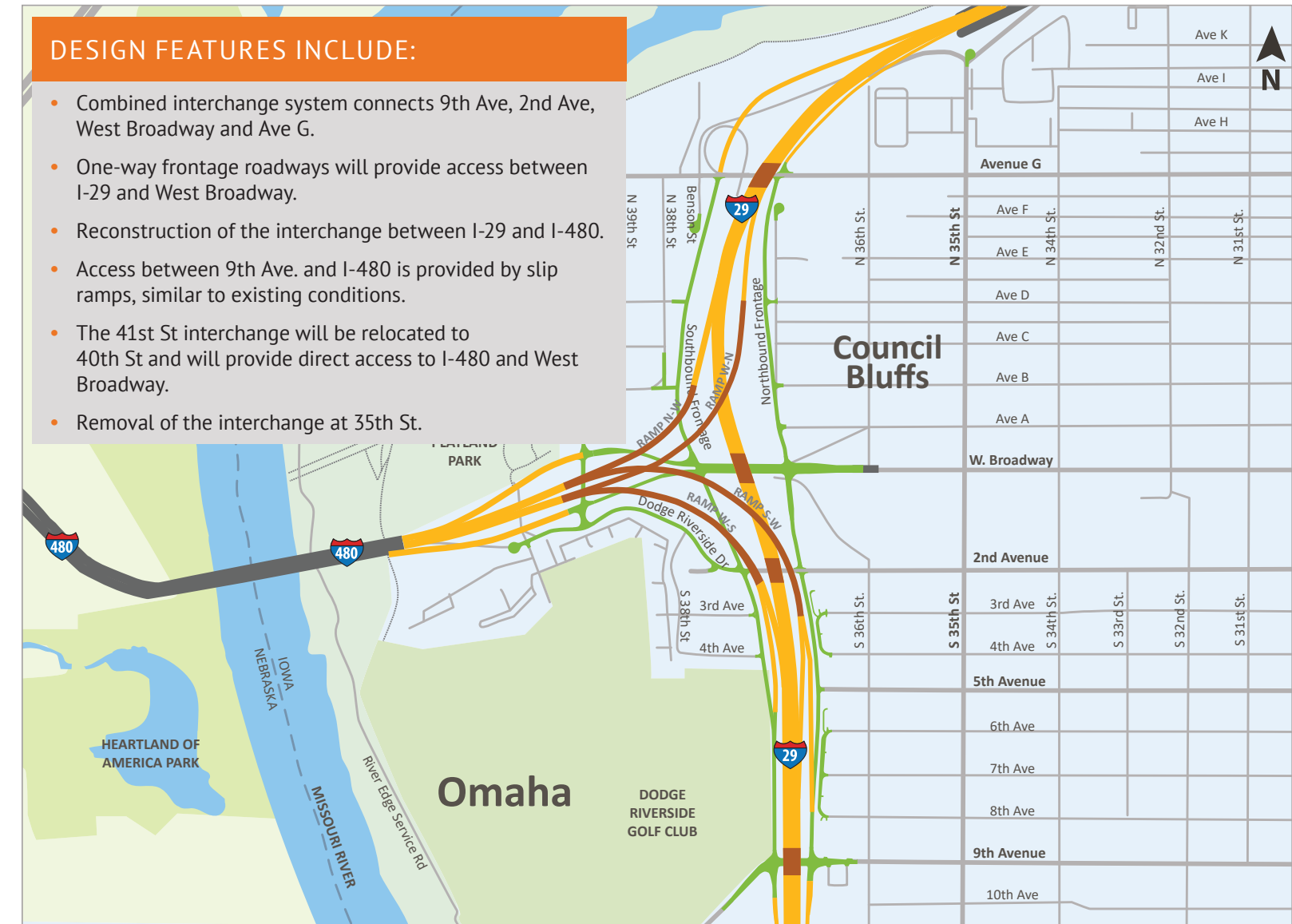
Source: KETV Channel 7

“Sometimes people think change isn't good, but I think it's good because it's going to help the city.”

Zach Taylor
Source: KETV Channel 7

DESIGN FEATURES INCLUDE:

- Combined interchange system connects 9th Ave, 2nd Ave, West Broadway and Ave G.
- One-way frontage roadways will provide access between I-29 and West Broadway.
- Reconstruction of the interchange between I-29 and I-480.
- Access between 9th Ave. and I-480 is provided by slip ramps, similar to existing conditions.
- The 41st St interchange will be relocated to 40th St and will provide direct access to I-480 and West Broadway.
- Removal of the interchange at 35th St.



Proposed Freeway Pavement

Proposed Bridge

Proposed Local Roadway Pavement

2018 KEY PROJECTS

	In Progress	Project: East System Interchange, Phase IIa Highlights: Construction of this phase will be complete in late spring 2018.	Cost: \$107M Spent-to-Date: \$106M Time: 2 years, 6 months Time Spent-to-Date: 2 years, 1 month
	In Progress	Project: East System Interchange, Phase IIb Highlights: Complete construction of the I-29 northbound detour to South Expressway exit.	Cost: \$24M Spent-to-Date: \$23M Time: 2 years Time Spent-to-Date: 1 year, 7 months
	In Progress	Project: I-80/I-29 Dual, Divided Freeway, Phase II Highlights: Continue bridge construction, grading and paving. A traffic shift will occur in late 2018.	Cost: \$42M Spent-to-Date: \$31M Time: 2 years, 6 months Time Spent-to-Date: 1 year, 1 month
	In Progress	Project: Union Pacific Railroad Bridge Highlights: Complete reconstruction of the northern half of the bridge and begin demolition of the southern half in late 2018.	Cost: \$18M Spent-to-Date: \$5M Time: 2 years, 6 months Time Spent-to-Date: 5 months
	Winter 2017	Project: East System Interchange, Phase III Highlights: Begin bridge construction, grading and paving.	Cost: \$104M Spent-to-Date: \$2M Time: 2 years, 7 months Time Spent-to-Date: 2 months

2018 PROJECT SPOTLIGHTS



Union Pacific Railroad Bridge

Reconstruction of the Union Pacific Railroad Bridge is necessary to allow for future increased capacity on I-29. The existing bridge will be rebuilt from its existing five tracks to three tracks to improve local yard operations. The bridge design has been optimized so roadway grade does not need to be altered during construction. Coordination between the City, Union Pacific Railroad and Iowa DOT has resulted in a design that lengthens the bridge to allow River Road to be extended north of the railroad tracks in the future, and make important connections to local roads.



I-80/I-29 Dual, Divided Freeway Phase II

The dual, divided freeway will offer greater flexibility to travelers and will improve the overall efficiency of the transportation network. For example, it allows traffic to keep moving in both directions, even if lanes are closed because of a crash or maintenance. The dual, divided freeway allows through traffic to utilize both the express and local lanes, offering more lanes overall to travelers. Currently, weaving of through traffic and local traffic using the on and off ramps creates congestion, especially during peak traffic hours. The dual, divided freeway separates through traffic from local traffic, eliminating this source of delay.



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