



PRESS RELEASE

Contact:
Scott Suhr, Iowa DOT Transportation Planner
712.326.3712
info@CouncilBluffsInterstate.com

PLAN AHEAD: OVERNIGHT CLOSURES COMING TO THE COUNCIL BLUFFS AREA

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa — August 5, 2019 – Very soon drivers in Council Bluffs will have more options for travel within the I-80 eastbound/I-29 southbound segment of the Dual, Divided Freeway. In the coming weeks, Iowa DOT anticipates opening newly constructed lanes of the Dual, Divided Freeway.

Prior to the traffic shift, a series of overnight closures will be needed to allow construction crews to install overhead signs and pavement markings on both eastbound I-80 and southbound I-29. Specific dates and details are subject to weather conditions and will be announced through 511ia.org, press releases and social media.

The dual, divided freeway design will physically separate through traffic on I-80 from local traffic on I-29 destined for Council Bluffs. Drivers wanting to travel to destinations within Council Bluffs will need to choose Local lanes to access exits at 24th Street and South Expressway. Drivers wanting to travel without stopping in Council Bluffs should choose Express lanes.

The Iowa DOT encourages motorists to plan ahead, avoid distractions, follow signs and use caution while becoming accustomed to new traffic patterns. For notifications, please visit 511ia.org and sign up for real time traffic alerts. Additional information can be found at www.CouncilBluffsInterstate.IowaDOT.gov. You can also contact the program office at 712-216-3339 or info@CouncilBluffsInterstate.com.

Iowa DOT chose a Dual, Divided Freeway design because it offers greater flexibility to travelers, reduces congestion and will improve safety and efficiency. For example, it allows traffic to keep moving in both directions, even if lanes are closed because of a crash. This design allows through traffic to utilize both Express and Local lanes, offering more lanes overall. The Dual, Divided Freeway separates through traffic from local traffic, eliminating delay and conflicts caused by merging traffic between interchanges.

Iowa DOT is reconstructing I-80, I-29 and I-480 in the Council Bluffs metropolitan area as part of the Council Bluffs Interstate Improvement Program. This comprehensive interstate redesign, will modernize the highway system and improve mobility and safety of approximately 18 miles of interstate.

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MEDIA ALERT: If you would like to preview expected changes, speak with Iowa DOT personnel or receive further information, please contact Wendy Thompson in the Program office at 712-216-3339 or Wendy.Thompson@CouncilBluffsInterstate.com.