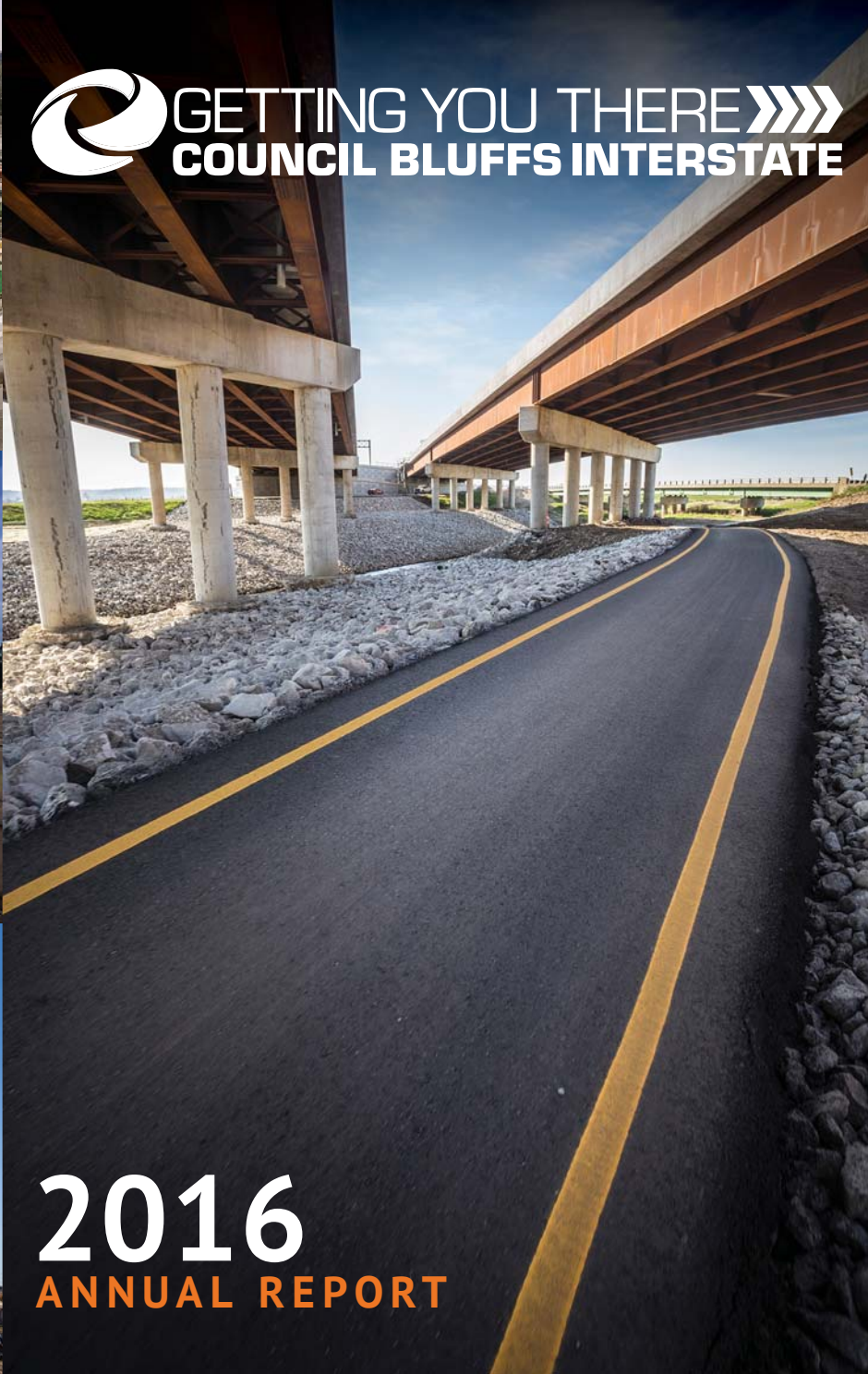




GETTING YOU THERE >>>>  
COUNCIL BLUFFS INTERSTATE



2016  
ANNUAL REPORT

COUNCIL BLUFFS INTERSTATE SYSTEM



Bridge construction for the new I-29 southbound fly-over ramp began in early 2016.

Images on the cover page, counterclockwise from the top left:

- » Bridge construction for Phase II of the East System Interchange.
- » New connection for BNSF Railroad was constructed in 2016.
- » Construction crews working on future I-29 and I-80 mainline.
- » New I-29 lanes over new city trail.



2

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

8

PUBLIC OUTREACH

10

PROGRAM STATUS

12

BY THE NUMBERS

14

MOVING FORWARD

CONTENTS







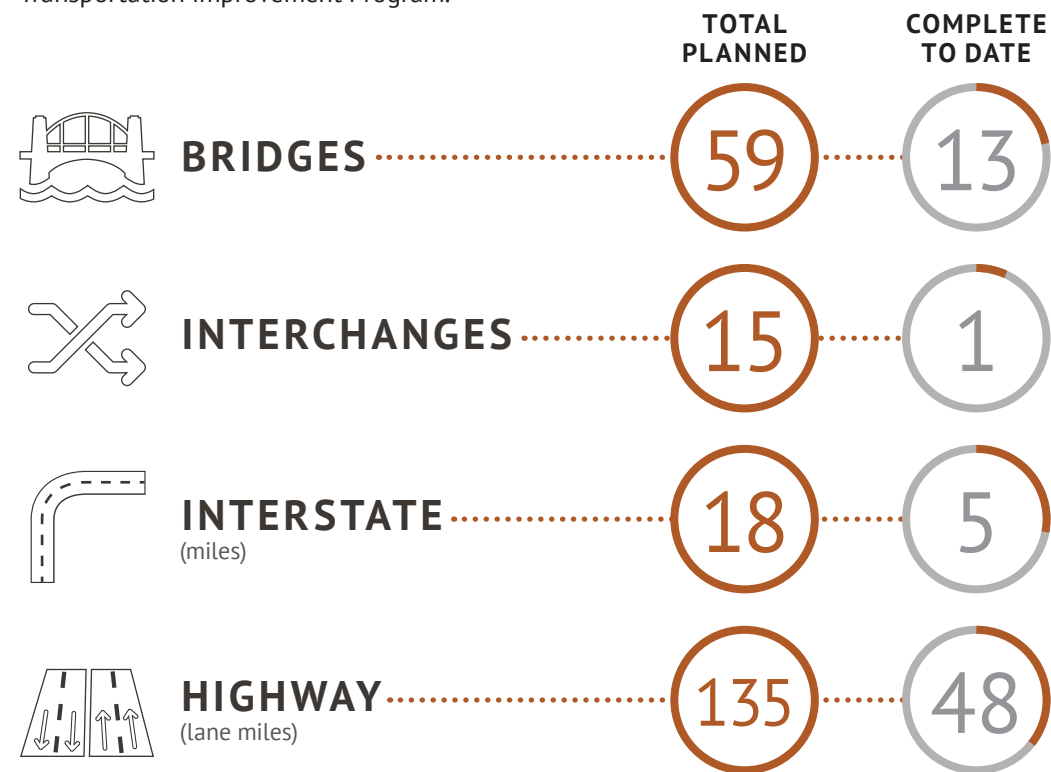
# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) 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.

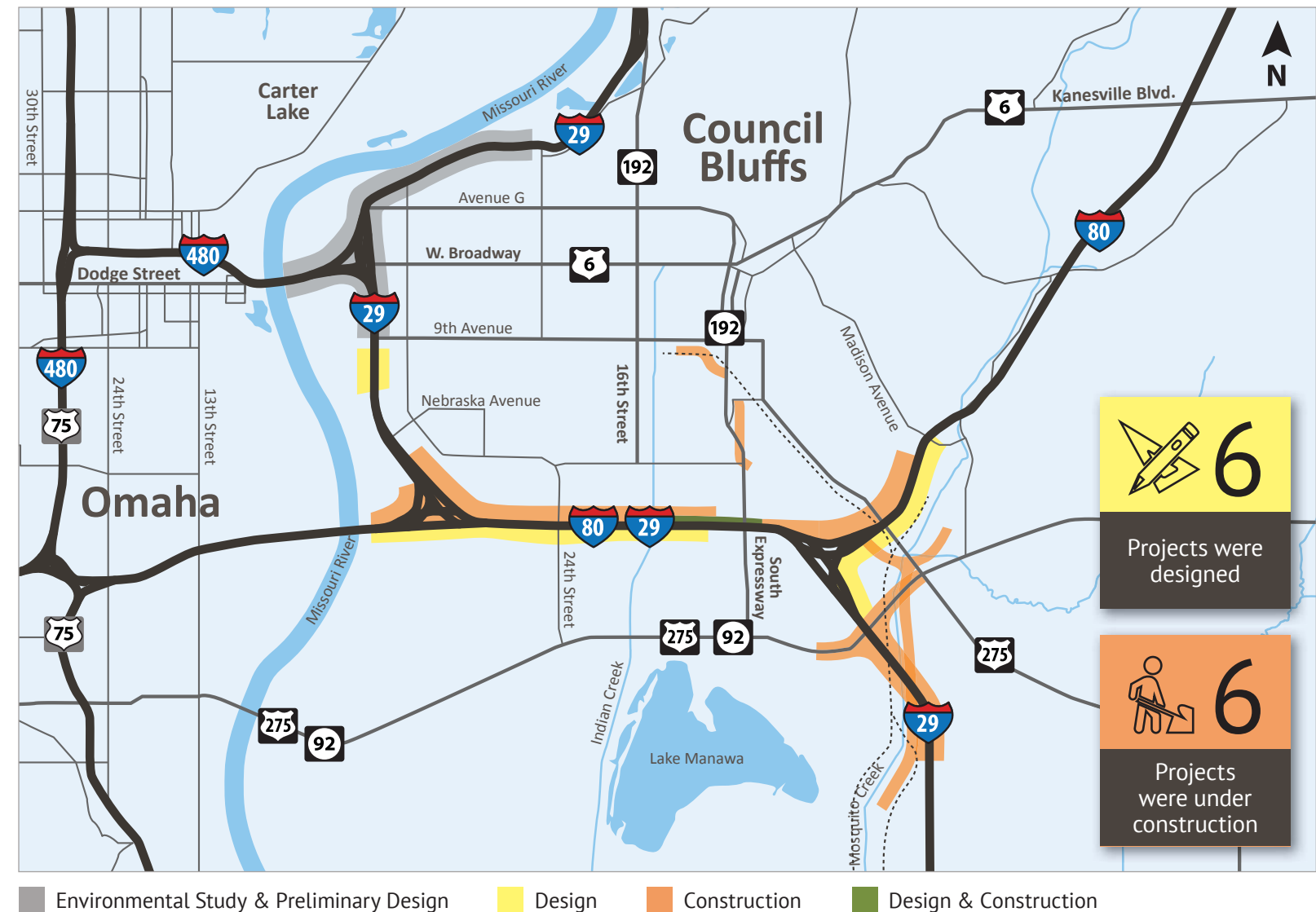
The Council Bluffs Interstate System Improvement Program is the single largest endeavor in Iowa DOT's five-year Transportation Improvement Program.

## PROGRAM GOALS

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



## 2016 SNAPSHOT



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The construction projects below were prioritized based on the highest volume of vehicles and benefits in terms of traffic management, improved safety, and increased vehicle capacity in the urban area of the interstate system.

The Council Bluffs Interstate System Improvement Program has identified several future projects that are necessary to satisfy the overall goals of the Program.



**Map Key:** The numbered dots on the map correspond with the tables below.

### COMPLETED PROJECTS

1		<b>Project:</b> I-29 & U.S. 275/Iowa 92 Interchange, Phase I <b>Highlights:</b> Completed construction and finished bank stabilization of Mosquito Creek levee.	Actual Cost: \$94M Time Spent: 1 year, 11 months
2		<b>Project:</b> Railroad Consolidation <b>Highlights:</b> Completed grading, track construction of new rail corridor and removal of abandoned track.	Actual Cost: \$14M Time Spent: 1 year, 3 months

### RAILROAD CONSOLIDATION

This project consolidated the CBEC and BNSF railroad operations into a new common corridor west of Mosquito Creek under I-29 and Iowa 92. This project, which began in late 2015, was substantially completed in fall 2016. The consolidation will improve traffic operations at the South Expressway Interchange. Railroad tracks and at-grade rail crossings have been eliminated so that the new bridges over South Expressway can be

built shorter and ramps will have less of an incline.

The project also greatly reduces roadway/railroad conflicts by consolidating the railroad corridors and eliminating numerous at-grade rail crossings and the CBEC rail corridor that bisects Lewis Central High School. Improved railroad operations will allow select BNSF trains to bypass Council Bluffs.



### ACTIVE PROJECTS

3		<b>Project:</b> I-29 & U.S. 275/Iowa 92 Interchange, Phase II <b>Highlights:</b> Completed new I-29 southbound lanes, bridges for U.S. 275/Iowa 92 and rebuilt three of the four interstate ramps.	Cost: \$79M Spent-to-Date: \$75M Time: 1 year, 11 months Time Spent: 1 year, 9 months
4		<b>Project:</b> West System Interchange, Phase II <b>Highlights:</b> Completed grading and paving of future westbound express lanes, and opened new I-80 to I-29 northbound ramps.	Cost: \$27M Spent-to-Date: \$24.5M Time: 2 years Time Spent: 1 year, 6 months
5		<b>Project:</b> East System Interchange, Phase IIb <b>Highlights:</b> Began construction of 23rd Ave and South Expressway intersection and began I-80/I-29 bridge construction over South Expressway.	Cost: \$23M Spent-to-Date: \$7M Time: 2 years Time Spent: 7 months
6		<b>Project:</b> East System Interchange, Phase IIa <b>Highlights:</b> Graded and paved future I-80 westbound lanes and made progress on bridge construction.	Cost: \$105M Spent-to-Date: \$62.5M Time: 2 years, 6 months Time Spent: 1 year, 2 months



## 2016 PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

### I-29 and U.S. 275/ Iowa 92 Interchange

After two years of dust, ramp closures, and traffic shifts, construction of the U.S. 275/Iowa 92 interchange was nearly completed in 2016. In late fall, traffic returned to full capacity on U.S. 275/Iowa 92 and the northbound and southbound off ramp reconstruction was completed.

Construction of this interchange, which began in June 2014, involves raising I-29 and U.S. 275/Iowa 92 to accommodate the new railroad corridor for the Railroad Consolidation project. Improvements include new roadway embankments, a walking trail, and the reconstruction of six bridge structures.

During the project, Program staff are working hard to inform the public about construction impacts and partnered with local schools, churches and businesses to spread information about detours and closures. Coordination with the City of Council Bluffs and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has also been key in making sure the project is completed within the allotted time.

New I-29 bridges over Mosquito Creek.



## RELATED WORK

### Traffic Incident Management

In the Council Bluffs/Omaha metro area, a team of professionals work together to clear traffic incidents safely and quickly. Emergency responders are the heroes of our highways and roadways, with an organized plan to keep the traveling public moving and save lives every day. This coordination is called Traffic Incident Management (TIM). A TIM working group for the area meets regularly to improve the coordination of incident management efforts and discuss related topics, share the lessons learned from reviewing past incidents, and develop improved processes. This group also collaboratively maintains and updates a TIM Plan which includes alternate routes, messaging, contacts, and roles and responsibilities of area responders. A public outreach campaign was launched in fall 2016 to increase TIM awareness and communicate the role of the traveling public. More information can be found at [www.TheHighwayHeroes.org](http://www.TheHighwayHeroes.org).



## IMPROVED SAFETY

A key goal of the Council Bluffs Interstate System Improvement Program is to increase safety on the interstate in the Council Bluffs/Omaha area. By eliminating several at-grade railroad crossings with the Railroad Consolidation project, roadway/railroad conflicts will be decreased and safety will be improved in those areas. Roadway conflicts on I-29 northbound were also reduced this year when the new I-80 westbound/I-29 northbound to I-29 northbound ramp was opened. The new ramp shifted traffic into a safer configuration for merging I-80 eastbound to I-29 northbound motorists.



## ACTIVE PROJECTS IN 2016

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





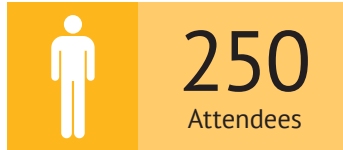
# PUBLIC OUTREACH



## 1 STAKEHOLDER MEETING



An elected officials briefing and public meeting was held in March to inform the community about 2016 construction activities and preliminary routes for the I-29/I-480/West Broadway Interchange.

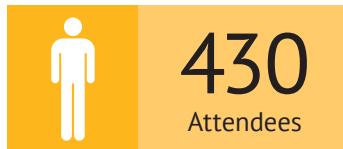


Program meetings were held with elected officials, local businesses/stakeholders, and the general public during 2016. This included a pre-construction season public meeting at the Program office in March 2016.

## 12 GUEST SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS

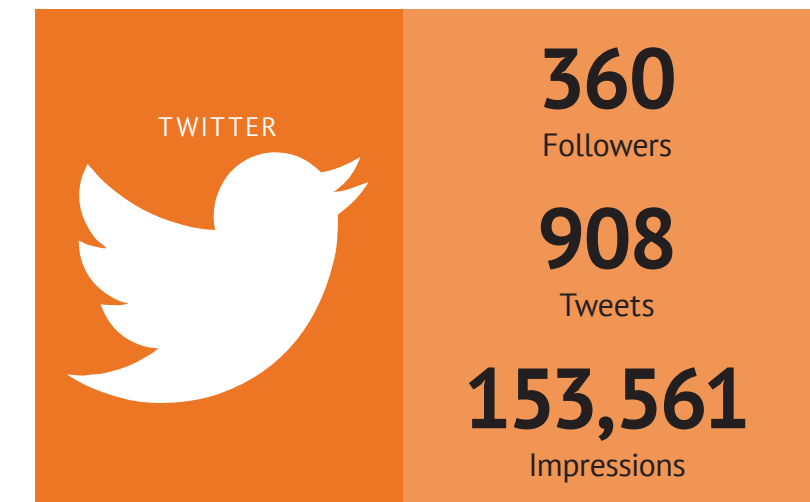
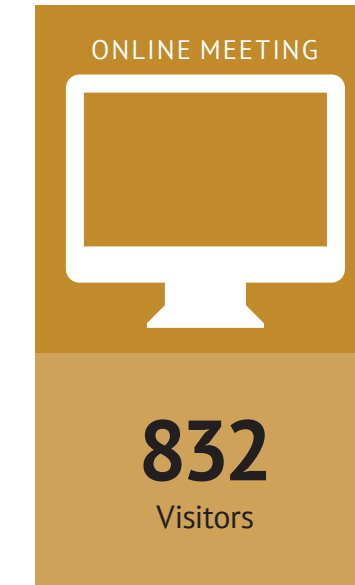
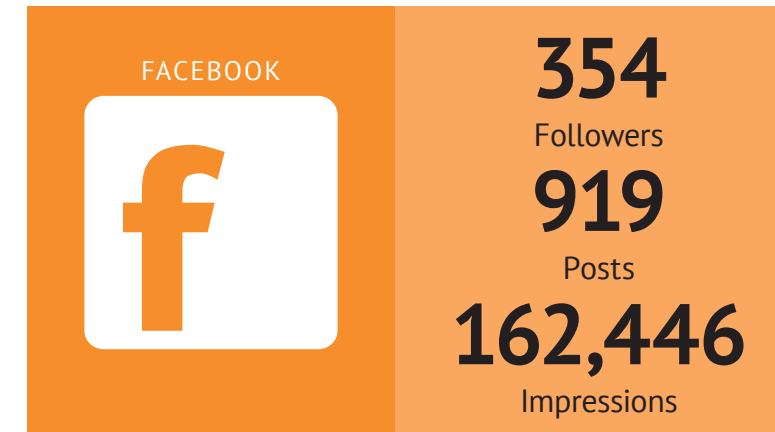
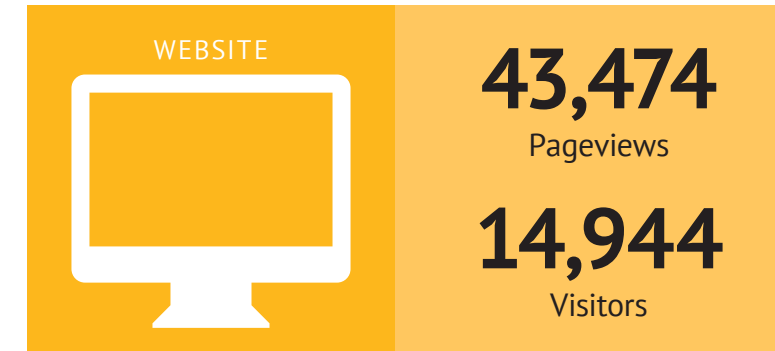


Students enrolled in *Gateway to Engineering* at Saint Albert High School were given an up close look at construction for the East System Interchange.



The Program responded to numerous requests to speak at civic group meetings and other venues to inform interested stakeholders of the Program and answer their questions.

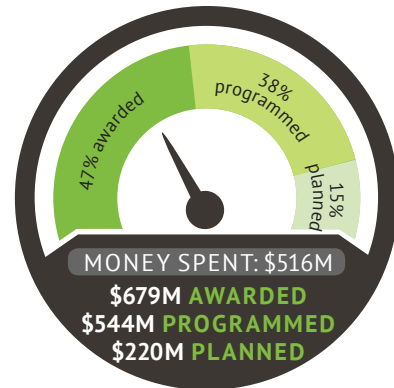
## ONLINE ENGAGEMENT IN 2016



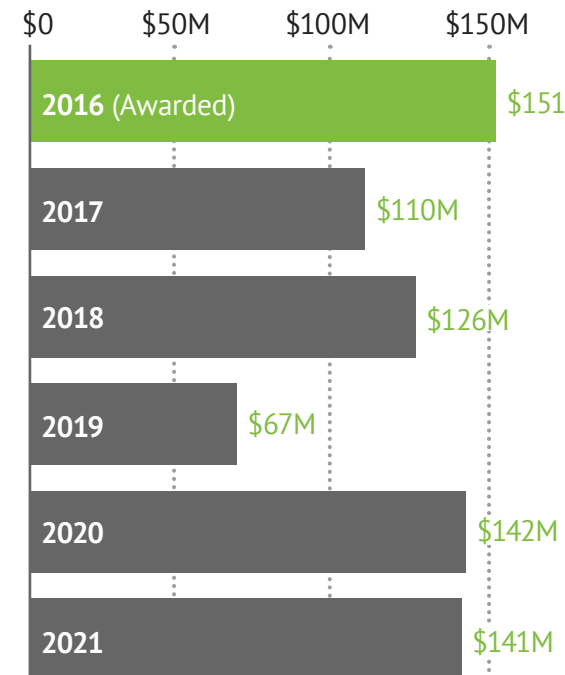
# PROGRAM STATUS

The Iowa Transportation Commission and Iowa DOT recognizes that the Council Bluffs Interstate System Improvement Program is the largest interstate highway funding effort in the state's history. To successfully implement this Program, the Iowa DOT will look for all opportunities to effectively and efficiently turn this significant commitment of resources into successful delivery of highway improvement projects.

## STATUS THROUGH DEC 2016



## DOLLARS ALLOCATED PER FISCAL YEAR

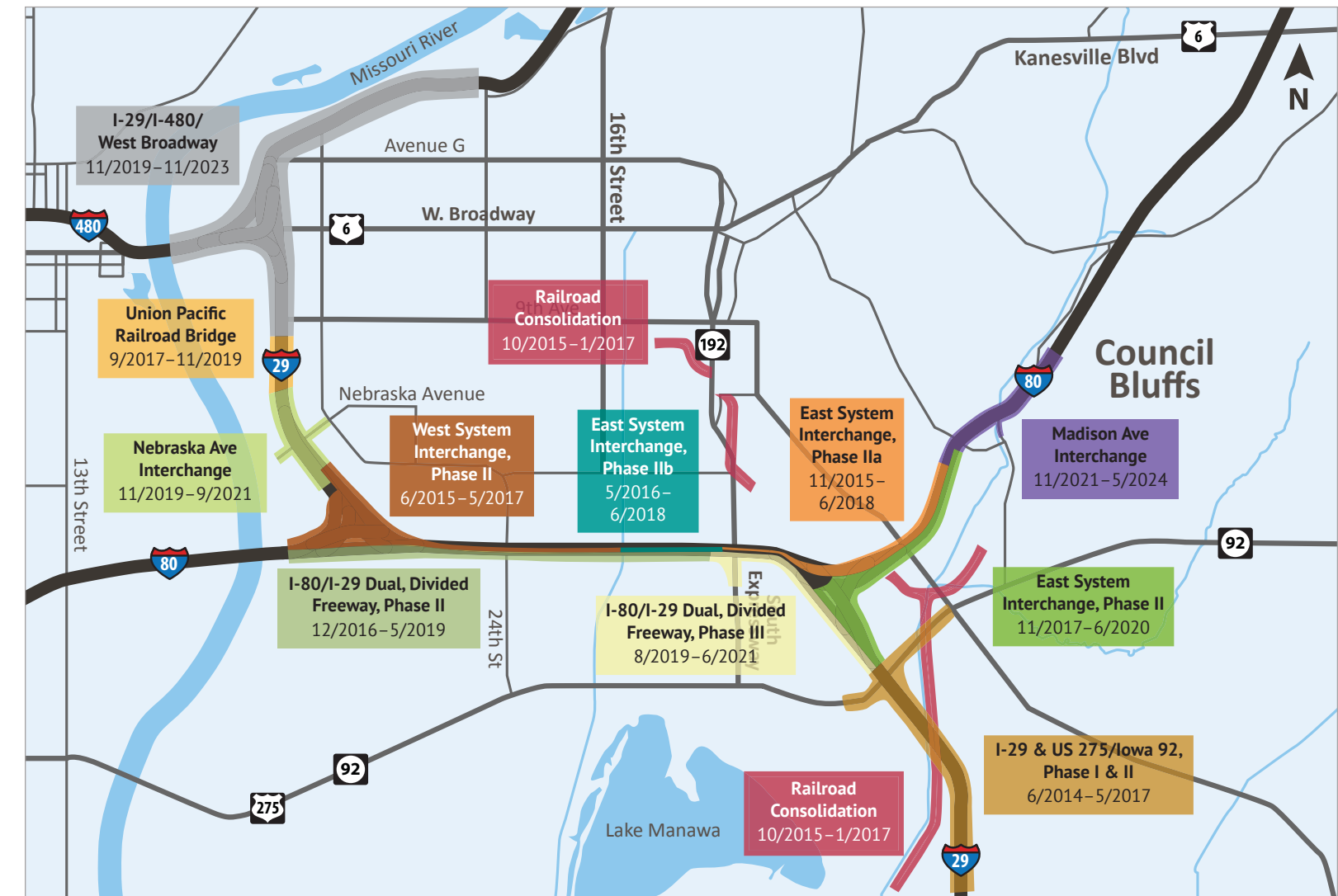


## LONG-TERM STRATEGY

Program construction started in 2008 and is expected to continue through 2024. Numerous projects will be constructed to complete the overall 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. The statistics on this page give a snapshot of the magnitude of work completed in 2016.



41,000

Cubic yards of concrete poured  
170,000 to-date



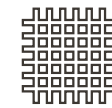
123,000

Square feet of bridge deck poured  
953,000 to-date



3,000

Linear feet of pipe  
38,000 to-date



3,100

Tons of reinforcing steel  
10,000 to-date



Crews work on new bridges over South Expressway.



7.2

Miles of railroad track laid



1,200,000

Cubic yards of earthwork moved  
6,200,000 to-date



260,000

Square yards of concrete paving  
710,000 to-date



3,400

Linear feet of retaining wall  
5,200 to-date



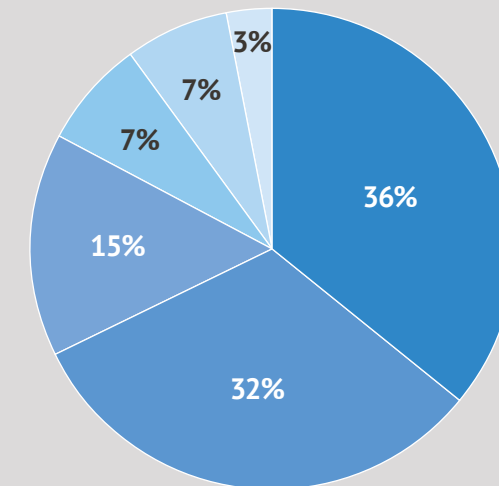
6,500

Tons of structural steel for bridges  
23,800 to-date



## UTILITIES

Utility types to be cleared (removed or relocated) for highway construction.



- Electricity
- Gas (natural, petroleum)
- Communications
- Sanitary Sewer
- Storm Drains
- Water

- 341,409 linear feet of utilities impacted
- Over 1,600 utility conflicts
- \$12.3M spent to-date by Iowa DOT to relocate utilities












# MOVING FORWARD



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

Future projects include construction on I-29 north of the Union Pacific Railroad Bridge to a point just west of 25th Street. Currently, the plans for this project include the I-29/I-480/West Broadway System Interchange and interchanges at 41st Street, Avenue G, and Ninth Avenue. As determined in the Tier I Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), direct access to West Broadway from I-29 via one-way frontage roads will be provided.

## ACTIVE PROJECTS IN 2017

-  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
-  East System Interchange (Phase III)
-  I-80/I-29 Dual, Divided Freeway (Phase III)

 Construction    Design

Iowa DOT is currently conducting the Tier II environmental studies, which includes environmental field surveys and conceptual design. The environmental studies will identify a single preferred alternative that will be carried through design of the new Interchange and interstate system. Studies and the preliminary design will be complete in early 2017. Construction is anticipated to begin in late 2019.





Another future project addressed in the Tier I Final EIS is extending I-80 improvements northeast of Madison Avenue Interchange to east of the U.S. 6/Kanesville Boulevard Interchange. Funding sources and schedule for this project have not yet been determined.



## COUNCIL BLUFFS INTERSTATE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM



- ① NDOR I-80: 24th St to 13th St
- ② Interstates I-29 and I-80, including the Dual, Divided Freeway
- ③ I-29 including the I-29/I-480/West Broadway System Interchange
- ④ North section of I-80 including the U.S. 6 (Kanesville Blvd) Interchange

-  Completed Projects
-  Active Construction Projects (2015–2022)
-  Environmental Studies and Preliminary Engineering Underway
-  Future Projects



## 2017 KEY PROJECTS

In 2017 the Council Bluffs Interstate System Improvement Program will continue making progress on reconstruction of I-80, I-29 and I-480 in the Council Bluffs/Omaha metropolitan area. Construction will potentially impact travel, as well as local

businesses at interchanges that will be under construction.

The majority of the construction occurring in 2017 will be at the two system interchanges, and along the I-80/I-29 eastbound mainline.

The second phase of the West System Interchange will be completed in the spring. Construction crews expect to shift traffic at the East System Interchange late in the year when the Phase II work nears completion.

	In Progress	<b>Project:</b> West System Interchange, Phase II <b>Highlights:</b> Construction of this phase will be complete in late spring 2017.	Cost: \$27M Spent-to-Date: \$24.5M Time: 2 years Time Spent: 1 year, 6 months
	In Progress	<b>Project:</b> East System Interchange, Phase IIa <b>Highlights:</b> Complete bridge construction and open to traffic in late 2017.	Cost: \$105M Spent-to-Date: \$62.5M Time: 2 years 6 months Time Spent: 1 year, 2 months
	In Progress	<b>Project:</b> East System Interchange, Phase IIb <b>Highlights:</b> Complete bridge construction.	Cost: \$23M Spent-to-Date: \$7M Time: 2 years Time Spent: 7 months
	In Progress	<b>Project:</b> I-29 & U.S. 275/Iowa 92 Interchange, Phase II <b>Highlights:</b> Complete the new I-29 southbound on-ramp and wrap up construction activities for the I-29 and U.S. 275/Iowa 92 interchange reconstruction project.	Cost: \$79M Spent-to-Date: \$75M Time: 1 year, 11 months Time Spent: 1 year, 9 months
	Winter 2017	<b>Project:</b> Dual, Divided Freeway, Phase II <b>Highlights:</b> Launch construction and begin grading and paving for future I-80 eastbound express lanes and I-80/I-29 local lanes.	Cost: \$41M Spent-to-Date: \$400,000 Time: 2 years 6 months Time Spent: 1 month
	Summer 2017	<b>Project:</b> Union Pacific Railroad Bridge <b>Highlights:</b> Launch construction and begin railroad efficiency improvements.	Cost: \$22M Spent-to-Date: <i>Project not let yet</i> Time: 2 years, 2 months Time Spent: <i>Project not let yet</i>

## 2017 PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

### East System Interchange

The East System Interchange project is the largest project let to-date for the Council Bluffs Interstate System Improvement Program and the Iowa Department of Transportation. Phase IIa construction began in late 2015, and is anticipated to be complete in late 2017 or early 2018. This project has many complexities and requires coordinating with various railroads and other stakeholders.

Phase IIb began in June 2016 and includes the I-80 westbound/I-29 northbound lanes and bridges over South Expressway. This is a key transportation corridor in the area that will require coordination with businesses, residents, motorists, and other stakeholders when ramp closures occur in late 2017. Construction is expected to be completed in early 2018.



The East System Interchange, Phase II project includes five bridges totaling over 8,300 feet in length.





COUNCIL BLUFFS INTERSTATE SYSTEM