

SAUNDERS COUNTY

BRIDGE PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Number BRO-7078(31); Control Number 13175

Saunders County is currently soliciting public comment on the proposed replacement of a bridge and culvert located on County Road 26 between County Road 'N' and County Road 'O', approximately 3 miles south and 0.5 miles east of the City of Prague, in Saunders County, Nebraska. Identified as **Prague South Bridge Replacement**, the proposed project would remove and replace the existing Saunders County bridge (Structure No. C007811330) with a new bridge. Additionally, the project would remove and replace a corrugated metal pipe culvert (Structure No. C007811335) with a new triple-barrel concrete box culvert.

The purpose of the bridge and culvert replacement project is to provide modern and safe stream crossings, to improve the reliability of the transportation asset, and to perpetuate the mobility of the travelling public. The need for the bridge replacement is supported by a sufficiency rating of 28.7 out of 100, and its status as functionally obsolete. Conditions include, but are not limited to, visible wear in the wheel lines, cracking in the spans, rail damage, and significant erosion in the channel. The bridge was constructed in 1950 and is more than 65 years old. The posted weight limit is 4/6/9 tons, limiting some farm equipment from crossing the North Fork Wahoo Creek. The corrugated metal pipe culvert needs replacement because it was constructed as a temporary fix when the original structure was damaged beyond repair due to flooding.

The project would begin approximately 700 feet (0.13 miles) south of County Road 'O' and extend to approximately 1,650 feet (0.31 miles) south of County Road 'O'. The roadway in the area would be expanded from 22 feet with a 1-foot earth shoulder to 28 feet with a 3-foot earth shoulder. The proposed project would require the acquisition of additional property rights including new right-of-way (ROW) for construction throughout the project area. Access to adjacent properties would be maintained during construction but may be limited at times due to phasing requirements. Wetland impacts are anticipated and are expected to be mitigated at a wetlands bank.

The proposed project would require detouring Country Road 26 traffic. A designated detour would be provided, utilizing County Road 'O', Nebraska Highway 79, and County Road 'M'. Details of detour routes will be made available upon request. Construction could begin as early as the spring of 2018 and be complete by the summer of 2018.

The public is being encouraged to make suggestions or express concerns regarding the proposed **Prague South Bridge Replacement** project. Comments will be collected through April 22, 2017. Written comments or requests should be submitted to:

Steve Mika, Highway Superintendent
Saunders County Highway Dept.
426 N Broadway
Wahoo, NE 68066
email: smika@co.saunders.ne.us

Verbal statements may be taken at phone number (402) 443-8124 or in person at the Saunders County Highway Department offices. Information regarding the proposed project will be made available on the Saunders County website at www.saunderscounty.ne.gov. For those without internet access, information may be obtained through the contact above. Project information can also be provided in additional or alternative languages or formats if requested.