

July 1, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Improvements to be made at 148<sup>th</sup> and Nebraska Highway 2**

Work is scheduled to begin July 14<sup>th</sup> at the intersection of 148<sup>th</sup> and N-2, in Lincoln, according to the Nebraska Department of Roads.

Constructors, Inc. of Lincoln has the \$175,007 contract for intersection improvements, including a right-hand turn lane for westbound N-2 traffic. Through traffic on 148<sup>th</sup> Street will follow a marked detour on N-43 and N-34. Traffic will be maintained on Highway 2 with a 12' width restriction and a lane closure for westbound traffic. Work is anticipated to be completed by fall of this year.

The Department of Roads' manager for this project is Bob Traudt of Lincoln.

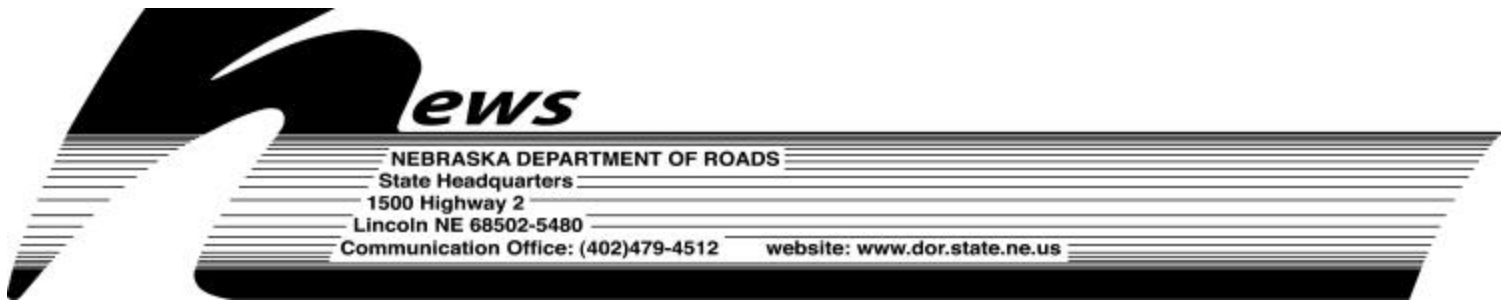
#NDOR#

### **For additional information contact:**

District Construction Engineer Mike Sklenar in Lincoln, 471-0850, Ext. 1069, or Bob Traudt in Lincoln, 471-0850, Ext. 1119.

RD-2-6(1024)

NR964



July 1, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Work to begin on US Highway 77 north of Nebraska Highway 92**

Work is scheduled to begin July 14 on US-77, beginning at N-92 (west of Yutan) and running north to the Platte River Bridge, according to the Nebraska Department of Roads.

Ten Point Construction Company of Denison, Iowa has the \$206,183 contract for pavement repair. Traffic will be maintained with lane restrictions, 12' width restrictions, and lower speed limits. Work is anticipated to be completed in September.

The Department of Roads' manager for this project is Bob Traudt of Lincoln.

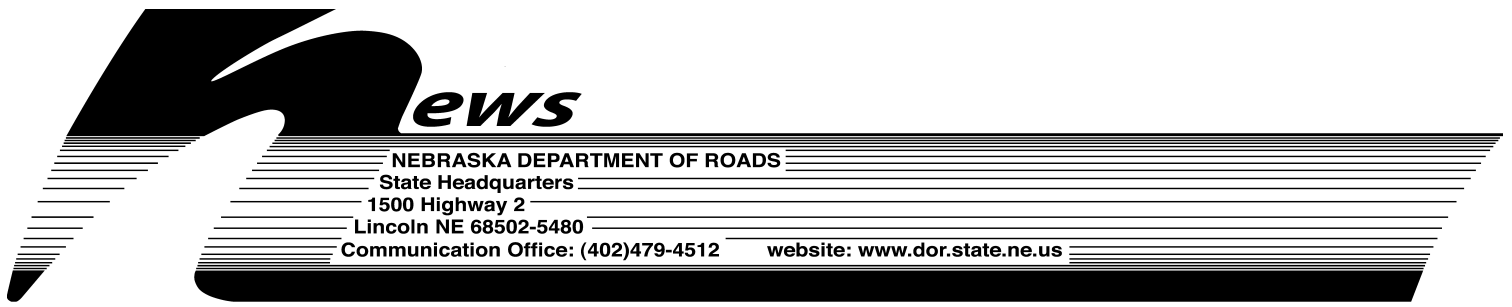
#NDOR#

### **For additional information contact:**

District Construction Engineer Mike Sklenar in Lincoln, (402) 471-0850, Ext. 1069, or Bob Traudt in Lincoln, (402) 471-0850, Ext. 1119.

PM-77-2(1053)

NR963



July 1, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **I-80 Widening Project Platte River – Lincoln Environmentally Cleared**

The Interstate 80 widening project from the Platte River west through Lincoln has received environmental clearance.

The Nebraska Department of Roads can move forward to final design and construction of a project to widen to six lanes the Interstate from Ruff Road, near the Platte River, to Northwest 56<sup>th</sup> Street in Lincoln. On June 26, the Nebraska Division Office of the Federal Highway Administration signed a Finding of No Significant Impact statement in response to an Environmental Assessment covering the project.

In February of this year, U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta placed the I-80 widening project on a National Project Priority List to receive an accelerated environmental review under President Bush's "Executive Order on Environmental Stewardship and Transportation Infrastructure Project Reviews." The Nebraska project was one of six placed on the national priority list in February 2003, and received Cabinet-level review and assistance in expediting the environmental review process.

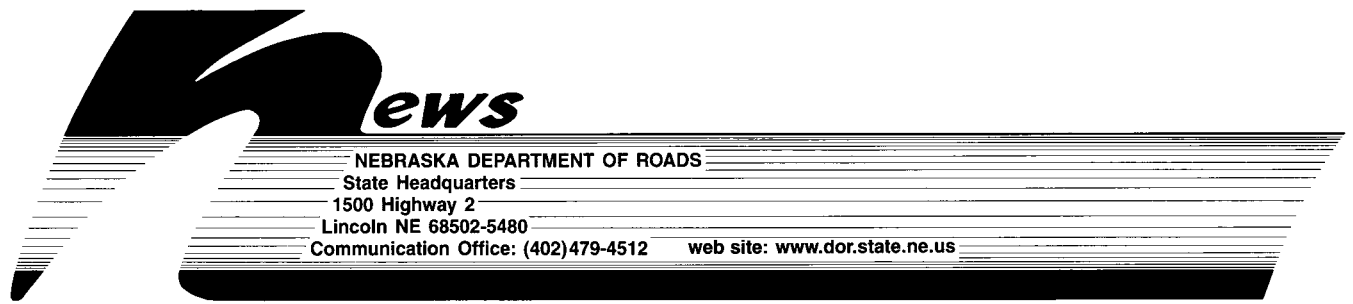
The project will now proceed to final design and construction.

#NDOR#

**For additional information contact:**

Cindy Veys, Environmental Manager at (402) 479-4410.

NR965



July 11, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **New 2003 State Maps Offer Travelers Wealth of Information**

New official Nebraska road maps have been printed for 2003 and 2004, according to the Nebraska Department of Roads. Described as “eclectic,” they contain tried and true information from past state maps, along with several new features for travelers’ added convenience in locating planned destinations. Homage is displayed to the Lewis and Clark expedition, as Nebraska celebrates the Corps of Discovery’s 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2003/2004.

New information featured on the map includes a county locator and a vehicle license index (by county numbers). All city populations have been updated with 2000 census information.

Additions to the map itself include two unincorporated towns added to the map and city index: St James (Cedar County) and Lindy (Knox County). New interchanges at Grand Island, Valley, Schuyler and Sioux City now appear on the map.

Two city inset maps have been added on the “back” side of the map due to their official census population increasing to over 10,000. Lexington and South Sioux City are now included with 16 other city insets.

Because of the additional map insets, the listing of licensed radio stations in Nebraska was removed. (Travelers wanting a complete listing of radio stations, including locations, frequencies and call letters, may check the Nebraska Broadcasters Association website at [www.ne-ba.org](http://www.ne-ba.org).)

#MORE#

Other new information featured for travelers using the 2003/2004 maps includes:

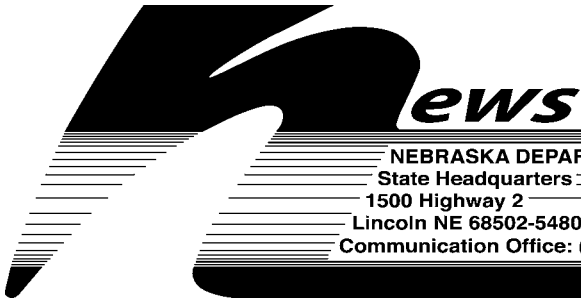
- 511 Year Round Weather and Travel Numbers
- Speeding Fine Schedule
- Updated List of Commemorative Highways

The new map retains the listing of Nebraska State Park areas and Nebraska's major rules of the road.

The map's front cover features the scenic Lewis & Clark Lake in northeast Nebraska, along with two inset photos: Chief Standing Bear Memorial Bridge over the Missouri River at Niobrara; and the Strategic Air & Space Museum entrance on I-80, near Ashland. The back cover carries a photograph of Governor Mike Johanns and First Lady Stephanie near the State Capitol, and their welcoming message.

The printing cost for 1.6 million maps is \$137,473, about 8.6 cents per map. The maps will be available free of charge through Nebraska Department of Roads offices, Nebraska Travel and Tourism offices, local chambers of commerce, and tourism industry outlets. The highway map is also available on-line at [www.nebraskatransportation.org/maps/](http://www.nebraskatransportation.org/maps/) by downloading the free DjVu viewer (available on the Maps page). You may view/download a compressed version of the new map in high resolution. The new map is also available to view/download in jpg format.

#NDOR#



NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ROADS  
State Headquarters  
1500 Highway 2  
Lincoln NE 68502-5480  
Communication Office: (402)479-4512 website: www.dor.state.ne.us

July 14, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Dynamic Message Signs Coming to Nebraska's Rural Interstate**

In late September, nine new dynamic message signs will be placed at locations throughout central and western Nebraska to assist motorists. The signs, part of the Nebraska Department of Roads' Intelligent Transportation System improvements, are expected to be operational by November.

Traveling motorists will benefit by advanced warnings of major accidents, road advisories during construction, and information concerning road conditions during inclement weather. Drivers will be able to slow down or take alternative routes to avoid problem areas.

Preliminary work has already begun on the project. The contractor, Watts Electric Company, has obtained soil borings, and ground work for the structures should begin later this summer.

The cost for the nine dynamic message signs is approximately \$820,000 and the cost for the structures and installation is \$780,000.

Locations of the nine signs are as follows:

- I-76 eastbound in Deuel County, 2.5 miles from the I-76/I-80 Interchange
- I-80 eastbound in Kimball County, 3 miles west of Kimball at County Road 35
- I-80 westbound in Kimball County, 2 miles east of Kimball at the bridge over Link L53E
- I-80 westbound in Cheyenne County, 2 miles east of Sidney (westbound rest area)
- I-80 westbound in Deuel County, 3 miles west of Big Springs at County Road 203
- I-80 westbound in Keith County, 2 miles east of Big Springs at County Road West P
- I-80 eastbound in Buffalo County, 2 miles west of Kearney at 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue (westbound rest area)
- I-80 westbound in Buffalo County, 2 miles east of Kearney at Antelope Avenue
- I-80 westbound in Hall County, 2 miles east of South Locust Street at Shady Bend Road

Last year, dynamic message signs were installed at nine locations on the Interstate system in the Omaha metro area. Six additional signs are planned for the Omaha area within the next two years, with two scheduled for Fall 2003 at the following locations: eastbound on U.S. Highway 6, West Dodge Road at 129<sup>th</sup> Street; and southbound on the I-680 ramp, I-680 & West Dodge Road Interchange.

#NDOR#

**For additional information contact:**

Randy Peters, Traffic Engineer, Nebraska Department of Roads, at (402) 479-4594.

nr962



NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ROADS  
State Headquarters  
1500 Highway 2  
Lincoln NE 68502-5480  
Communication Office: (402)479-4512 website: [www.dor.state.ne.us](http://www.dor.state.ne.us)

July 14, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Public Hearing July 28 for Improvements to Highway 21 at Broken Bow**

The Nebraska Department of Roads and the State Highway Commission will hold a Public Hearing Monday, July 28, concerning the proposed improvement of Nebraska Highway 21 in the Broken Bow area. The hearing will be held at 7:30 p.m., at the Municipal Building, 314 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, in Broken Bow.

The two-lane project begins about midway to Oconto and ends just south of Broken Bow. The first eight miles of highway in the project will be constructed on new alignment, with the new roadway parallel and just east of the existing roadway.

Near Adams Land and Cattle Co., the new lanes will be constructed to the west of the existing highway. The new lanes will tie into the existing lanes north of the feedlot, and the remaining 2-½ miles of Nebraska 21 will be resurfaced to Broken Bow.

Construction will include grading, surfacing, county road intersections, drainage structures and roadside shoulders. The shoulders will be six feet wide, of which two feet adjacent to the driving lanes will be surfaced.

Private property must be acquired for highway right-of-way throughout the length of the project.

Construction will be done under traffic. Traffic will be routed on temporary roadways around work zones during some phases of construction.

Construction will impact wetlands areas and mitigation will be required. Replacement wetlands will be established on state right-of-way along the project or at the Willow Island Bank Site in Dawson County.

Interested persons are invited to stop at the hearing location from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., before the hearing, for informal discussions with Department of Roads personnel on any aspect of the project.

Preliminary plans developed by the Nebraska Department of Roads are available for public inspection at the State Roads Department Office, 515 East S "E" Street, in Broken Bow, and at the Roadway Design Division, 1500 Highway 2, in Lincoln.

#NDOR#

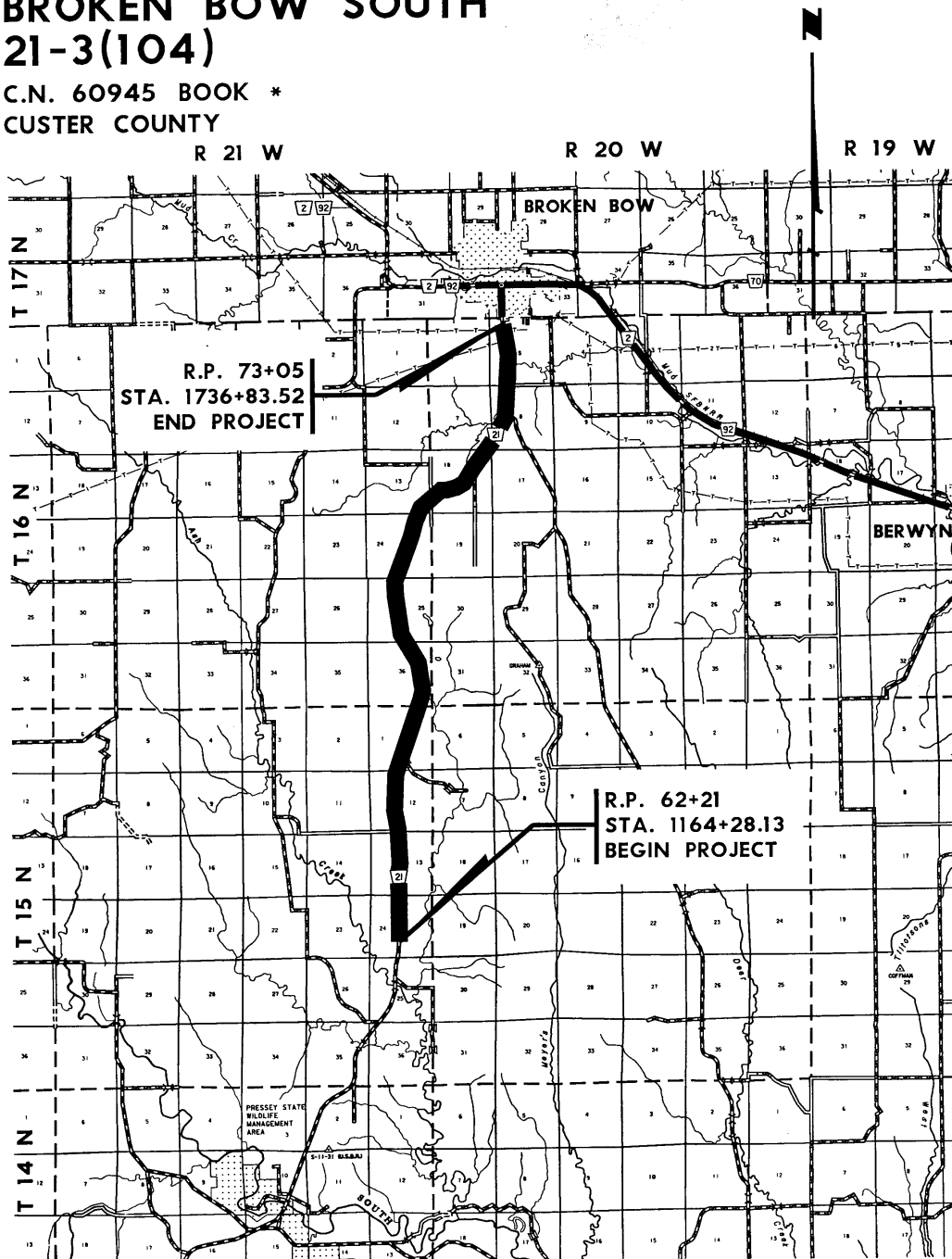
**For additional information contact:**

Mick Syslo, Roadway Design Division in Lincoln, (402) 479-3741.

STPD-21-3(104)

# BROKEN BOW SOUTH 21-3(104)

C.N. 60945 BOOK \*  
CUSTER COUNTY





Nebraska Department of Roads  
District 3 Headquarters  
408 North 13<sup>th</sup> St.  
Norfolk, NE 68702-1707  
Phone (402) 370-3470  
FAX (402) 370-3473  
www.dor.state.ne.us

# News Release

July 16, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Detour Begins July 21 on US-20**

A one mile segment of U.S. Highway 20 is tentatively scheduled to be closed between Reference Post 328+78 and Reference Post 329+78 approximately two miles west of Orchard on July 21, according to the Nebraska Department of Roads. Traffic will be detoured one mile south around this construction area. It is estimated that this detour will remain in place for approximately 28 days while the contractor installs culverts and does extensive grading at the location. Dobson Brothers Construction Co., of Lincoln, Nebraska is the contractor for this work.

Overlength or overwidth traffic will not be permitted through the project. Work on this project is anticipated to be completed this fall.

#NDOR#

**For additional information contact:**

Project Manager Gene Colfack in O'Neill, (402) 336-2051

NR960

# Legal Notice

## Notice of Rule-Making Hearing Nebraska Department of Roads

The Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) will hold a new Public Hearing concerning new proposed RAILROAD CROSSING REGULATIONS, July 25, 2003, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m., NDOR Central Administration Bldg. (Auditorium), 1500 Highway 2, Lincoln.

The following new Chapters assigned to the Rail and Public Transportation Division have received additional revisions since the March 20 and March 24, 2003 Public Hearings and are proposed for adoption:

- 415 NAC 4, Definitions for Highway-Rail Grade Crossings;
- 415 NAC 5, Administration of State and Federal Highway Rail Grade Crossing Safety Projects;
- 415 NAC 6, Highway-Rail Crossings – Construction, Maintenance and Repair; and
- 415 NAC 7, Comprehensive Public Safety Program for Highway-Rail Grade Crossings.

One existing Chapter assigned to the former Transportation Planning Division remains proposed for repeal:

- 412 NAC 2, Administration of the State Grade Crossing Protection Fund and Federal Funds Available for Railroad Crossing Safety Projects.

The regulations implement the Nebraska Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Safety Act (LB 255, 1997), Neb. Rev. Stat. 74-1329 through 74-1343, as amended by LB 259 (2003). The regulations include a new Comprehensive Safety Program for all grade crossings, and overhaul the existing Grade Crossing Safety Project Program for public crossings. They affect all public grade crossings, including crossings on county and municipal road systems, and also private grade crossings. Fiscal Impact: The regulations will not require additional expenditures by NDOR, but will enable NDOR to use existing state and federal funding more effectively for the benefit of the State Highway System, municipal street systems and county road systems. Counties and municipalities participating in crossing projects will continue to bear a portion of the cost of such projects. Railroads will continue to share costs on a per project basis. In exceptional cases, a local government or a private entity may be required to fund improvements if NDOR issues an order pursuant to § 003.07 of 415 NAC 7.

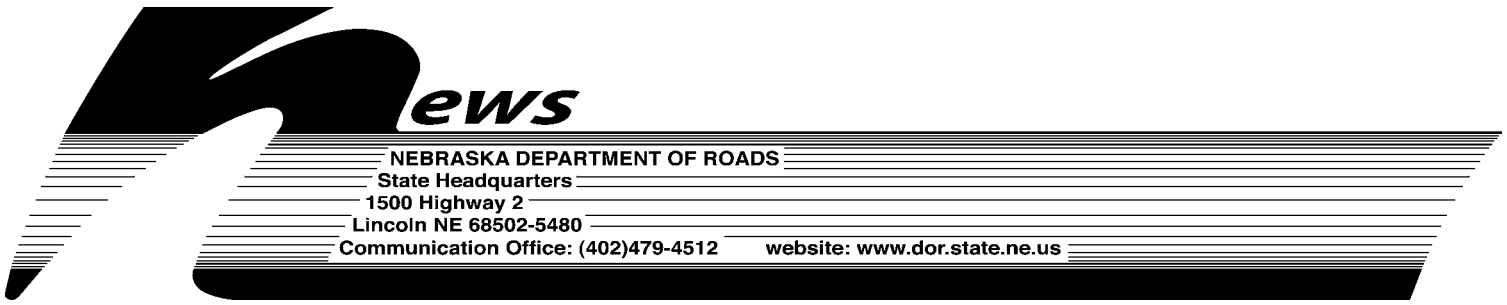
Comments and recommendations may be presented orally or in writing at the Hearing, or mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to the Department of Roads prior to the Hearing, or by August 4, 2003.

Send comments or obtain a free copy of the proposed Rules and Regulations revisions and the Fiscal Impact Statement by writing to: Government Affairs Division, Department of Roads, P.O. Box 94759, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4759, FAX (402) 479-3636. You may also call (402) 479-4607; TDD# (402) 479-3834; or e-mail [emartens@dor.state.ne.us](mailto:emartens@dor.state.ne.us). To view a copy over the Internet, go to the NDOR website: [www.nebraskatransportation.org](http://www.nebraskatransportation.org) and

click on “news and upcoming events,” or go to the Secretary of State’s website:  
[www.sos.state.ne.us/Rules/hearings.htm](http://www.sos.state.ne.us/Rules/hearings.htm). To pick up a copy in person:  
1500 Highway 2, Government Affairs Division Office.

This notice is provided pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act.

LLD1-NY



July 18, 2003

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**State Highway Commission Monthly Agenda Announced**

The State Highway Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting July 25th at 10:00 a.m., at the Nebraska Department of Roads' Central Headquarters, Room 103, 1500 Highway 2, Lincoln, Nebraska.

The public is invited to attend. A copy of the meeting agenda can be obtained from the Executive Secretary for the Commission, Room 105, Nebraska Department of Roads Central Headquarters, Lincoln, Nebraska, or by calling (402) 479-4530.

#NDOR#

***Agenda Below***

## NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ROADS NOTICE OF INFORMATION OPEN HOUSE

**Date:** Aug. 14, 2003

**Time:** 4 – 6 p.m.

**Place:** Roper Elementary  
Gymnasium  
2323 S. Coddington  
Lincoln, Nebraska

The Nebraska Department of Roads will hold a public information meeting regarding construction of an interchange on the West Bypass in Lincoln.

The proposed project in Lancaster County, identified as S-77-2(1021) and known as ***K & L Street Interchange***, is located at the existing intersection of Capitol Parkway West and U.S. Highway 77.

The interchange would replace the existing signalized, at-grade intersection. One of the U.S. 77 bridges over Middle Creek would be redecked as part of the project.

A temporary intersection south of the existing intersection will be constructed to maintain traffic during construction of the interchange. Temporary closure of U.S. 77 at night may be required during placement of bridge girders.

The project will require acquisition of some right-of-way from one

tract of private property. Control of access to U.S. 77 will be perpetuated.

Construction will impact wetlands areas and mitigation is required for about 2 acres. Replacement wetlands have been established at Arbor Lake, north of Interstate 80 near 27<sup>th</sup> Street and Arbor Road.

Where possible, the Department of Roads will provide an accessible meeting facility for disabled people. Appropriate provisions for people who are hearing and visually challenged will be made if the department is notified by July 31, 2003. Notification should be submitted to: Public Hearings Officer, Department of Roads, P.O. Box 94759, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4759, voice telephone (402) 479-4871. TDD telephone is (402) 479-3834.

Preliminary plans are available for public inspection at the NDOR District 1 Office, 302 Superior St., in Lincoln, and at the Roadway Design Division, NDOR Central Headquarters, 1500 Hwy 2, in Lincoln.

For further information regarding the proposed project, contact Syed Atallah in Lincoln at (402) 479-4601.