SD44 / Platte-Winner Bridge Corridor Study and Environmental Assessment

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE – MAY 2017

Project Introduction and Meeting Objectives

Welcome to the first Public Open House of the SD44 / Platte-Winner Bridge Corridor Study and Environmental Assessment Project! Last year, the South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) completed a statewide Major Bridge Investment Study. That study recommended the SD44 bridge over the Missouri River (the "Platte-Winner Bridge") should be replaced sometime in the mid-2020s. The existing SD44 highway alignment between highways SD47 and SD50 has also experienced numerous landslides since the current bridge opened in 1966, resulting in extensive repair and mitigation expenses.

The purpose of this project is to investigate options for replacement of the Platte-Winner Bridge. SDDOT anticipates the new bridge will have a design life of 100 years. For this reason, and because of the history of landslides, it is also prudent to evaluate options for maintaining SD44 in the most stable location possible.

We are looking for your input on transportation issues in this project corridor. This information will help us establish project needs to be addressed through the design process and environmental assessment. It will also help to identify a Preferred Alternative for detailed design. **Please leave your comment form with us before leaving or email/mail comments to Tim Thoreen or Steve Gramm by June 6, 2017.**

Study Area

Study Team

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Bridge Replacement Issues and Study Process

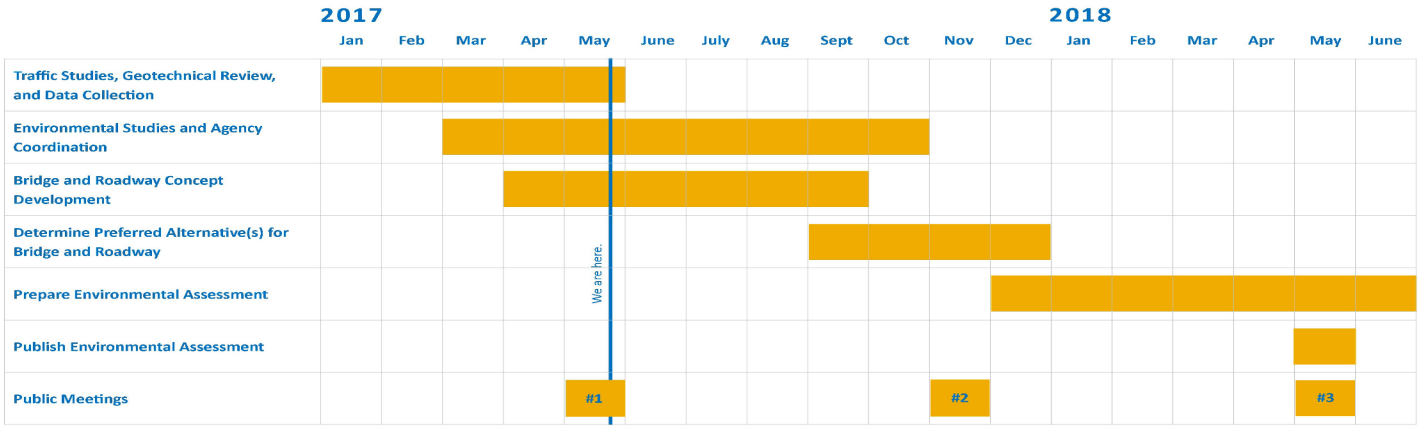
The process for identifying a replacement for the Platte-Winner Bridge requires several studies and participation of the public and many agencies. At this stage of study, the project team is obtaining stakeholder input and gathering data about the project area. These studies will inform the development of and screening of alternatives for a new bridge and related improvements along the SD44 corridor.

Several issues will be considered in the study, including:

- Closure of the crossing requires an unacceptably long detour; keeping the bridge open during construction is a critical concern
- Geotechnical conditions in this area are problematic for new roadway alignments because of the risk for landslides and additional maintenance/repair requirements
- New bridge design is for a service life of 100 years, traffic studies need to account for the long-term roadway safety and capacity on SD44 and its intersections
- Recreational and cultural resources are noteworthy in this study area, environmental studies will need to cover these and involve multiple agencies for review of impacts.

The Environmental Assessment process enables review of these issues and more as part of the selection of a preferred alternative. Your input today and in the future on these and other topics that are important to you will help the project team understand the alternatives and how to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the impacts of the project. As shown in the schedule below, additional public meetings are planned.

Study Schedule



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Project Website

www.sd44bridge.com

Visit the project website for more information and project updates.