

# PROJECT INFORMATION

REGARDING

# the NW 66<sup>th</sup> Avenue Reconstruction and Kempton Bridge Replacement Project



prepared by:



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Engineers and Planners

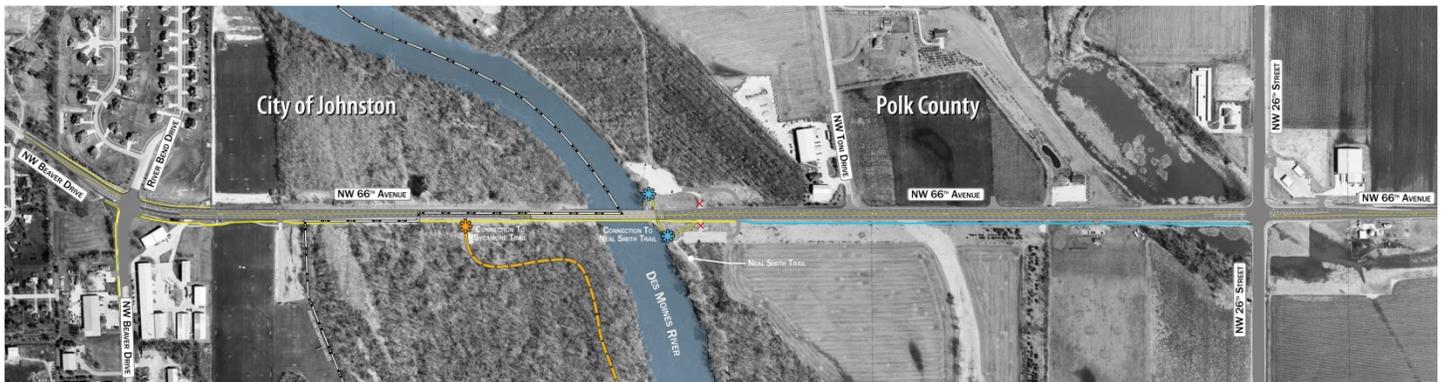
**FROM NW BEAVER DRIVE to NW 26<sup>th</sup> STREET  
IN JOHNSTON AND POLK COUNTY, IOWA**

## **PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED**

The purpose of the proposed project is to safely accommodate existing and projected traffic volumes between NW Beaver Drive and NW 26th Street.

The need for the proposed action is based on a combination of factors in relation to improving traffic operations through the corridor. Specifically the proposed action will address the following issues:

- Level of Service “F” along this segment of NW 66th Avenue
- Low sufficiency rating of Kempton Bridge



## **PROJECT DATA**

### **Location:**

NW 66 Ave. from NW Beaver Drive to NW 23 St. Total Project Length = 1.60 Miles.

### **Roadway History:**

NW 66 Ave. is a Minor Arterial roadway last reconstructed in 1970 to its current cross-section. No significant improvements have been made since then other than HMA overlays, and improvements at the intersections of NW Beaver Dr. and NW 26<sup>th</sup> Street.

NW 66th Avenue provides east/west continuity for the Des Moines Metropolitan Community north of Interstate 80. It serves as an incident management detour when Interstate 80 is closed and provides an arterial for mutual aid and response for the communities and portion of unincorporated Polk County located north of the interstate.

### **Bridge History:**

The NW 66 Avenue bridge, known as the Kempton Bridge, is 56 years old. It was built in 1959 after the previous bridge was damaged during a major flood. The substructure of this bridge had to be repaired in 1994 after the 1993 floods caused a severe scour hole under some of the piers. This repair included encasement of the piling under the pier footings in sheet piling filled with concrete.

After the 2008 uncontrolled release from the Saylorville reservoir, these repairs were inspected and found to be exposed due to the high flows that created another scour hole. While this does not impact the structural integrity of the bridge, it does expose the structure to significant damage should another extreme flood event occur, that is why we are moving forward with Phase 1.

### **Traffic Volumes:**

*Existing* : Approximately 15,000 vehicles per day (vpd) with 9% trucks.

*Future (2030)*: Estimated to reach 30,000 vehicles per day (vpd) according to the Des Moines Area MPO Traffic Model.

### **PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS**

The proposed improvement is to replace the existing 2-lane bridge with a 4-lane bridge and include a multi-purpose trail on the bridge to connect the trail systems on the east and west sides of the Des Moines River. The project will also construct a 4-lane roadway with a continuous left-turn lane between NW 26th Street and NW Beaver Drive. The project also includes reconstruction of the NW Beaver Drive and NW 26th Street intersections.

### **CONSTRUCTION PHASES**

The Project will be constructed in three Phases.

Phase 1- Bridge reconstruction and Approaches	2015 through 2017
Phase 2- Roadway Reconstruction West of Bridge	2017 to 2018
Phase 3- Roadway Reconstruction East of Bridge	2018 to 2020

Construction is scheduled to be completed over six (6) construction seasons, depending on funding availability. Funding sources include Federal STP funds awarded through the Des Moines Area MPO, Johnston local funds, and Polk County local and Farm-To-Market funds. Access to adjacent properties will be maintained at all times.

### **SCHEDULE**

Construction of Phase 1 of this project is scheduled to begin in June of 2015. This first phase will be completed over two construction seasons to allow the roadway to remain open to traffic throughout the project by constructing the new bridge ½ at a time.

If you have additional questions or comments regarding the proposed improvements, please contact:

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Email: [publicworks@polkcountyiowa.gov](mailto:publicworks@polkcountyiowa.gov)  
Or go to [www.Kemptonbridge.com](http://www.Kemptonbridge.com)

If residents wish to receive project schedule updates via email as they are developed, submit your email address and contact info to us at [publicworks@polkcountyiowa.gov](mailto:publicworks@polkcountyiowa.gov)