

Project No. 2015-05
Route 458 Improvements, E800 Thru E1000 RD

August 18, 2015 Public Meeting

Project description presented:

Douglas County plans to complete this project to improve Route 458 from E800 Road to the curve at Clinton Dam. The Board of County Commissioners identified this project as a priority in the County's Capital Improvement Plan. The project is scheduled to begin construction in early 2017. The project will be completed with capital improvement funds, in addition to exchanged federal funds received from KDOT.

The planned safety improvements will add paved shoulders and flatten roadside slopes. Existing narrow culverts will be replaced, intersection curves will be realigned to eliminate 40 mph speed zones, and the pavement will be resurfaced. The road cross section will be similar to the work completed last year on Route 458 east of Clinton Dam. When this project is complete, there will be paved shoulders on Route 1023/Route 458 from Stull to US-59 highway.

Comments and questions received:

1. What is the purpose of the project? [The project will modernize the road in accordance with current design standards, increase the clear zone to improve safety, remove the advisory speed reductions for the three curves, reduce maintenance cost by resurfacing the roadway, and replace culverts within the project limits.]
2. Concerned about maintaining emergency vehicle access during construction.
3. Need communications plan for KU, Haskell, Baker students who use this route.
4. Concerned with eastbound motorists running STOP sign on N 1150 at Route 458.
5. Farmers need to be able to get tractors and combines through construction to reach these parcels. Spring and fall are the heaviest times.
6. N 1116 Road has drainage problems. Flow to north in east Rte 458 ditch is not contained within ditch.
7. Need to coordinate with NRCS regarding proposed changes to terraces and grassed waterways.
8. Channel downstream from E 850 Road (culvert 0955-0842) doesn't contain flow.
9. Concerned about loss of trees near R/W, especially where power lines will be relocated.
10. N 1000 Road ditch is too steep to mow.

11. How much right-of-way will you take? [The existing right-of-way varies from 65-85 feet. The proposed right-of-way width will vary depending on the needs of the project, but will generally be 120 feet wide, in accordance with the Douglas County standard for an arterial road.]
12. Is 120' going to be the maximum right-of-way needed? [We may need more at culvert locations or if slope grading is needed.]
13. Will this project cut down the large oak tree on the east side of E 1000 Road south of the school? The power company ran their lines around the tree at the landowner's request. [The tree appears to be in the R/W already and will be difficult to save.]
14. Where the side roads intersect the super elevated curve, the breakover grade is difficult for a grain truck making the turn.
15. Concerned about not having turn lanes in the areas of the reconstructed curves. Left turn lanes are needed.
16. Concerned about drainage on the west side of E 850 Road. The drainage ditch is finally getting established after several years of working on it.
17. Concerned about maintaining access to properties during construction.
18. Concerned about bicyclists using the road.
19. Concerned about the replacement or extension of culverts and the condition of the upstream and downstream channels.
20. E900 Road should not be used as a detour. There is a very narrow culvert/bridge south of the one due for replacement in 2016. Suggest N900 Road between E850 and E1000 Rd be connected for possible detour.
21. Can Share the road signs be added to the project?
22. Will rumble strips be added to the shoulder? Will a center rumble strip be added to the project for warning distracted drivers?
23. Can the existing road be used for temporary access in the areas of the curves? [It is likely the existing roads will be left in place for temporary access during construction.]
24. Will you make the questions asked at the meeting available online?