Appendix A

Public and Agency Involvement Materials



Table of Contents

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Public and Agency Involvement Plan (on CD) Public and Agency Involvement Plan	3
Informational Meeting # 1 – July 7, 2015 (on CD) Informational Meeting #1 Minutes	12
Resource Agency Meeting – July 28, 2015 (on CD) Resource Agency Meeting Minutes	66
Informational Meeting # 2 – May 10, 2016 (on CD) Informational Meeting #2 Minutes	115

Comment #1 MDT Response #1

1

Fairview Corridor Planning Study Informational Meeting #2

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

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MDT invites you to provide feedback on the	study:
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o receive further study information, please provide your	Please leave your comments with staff at the
ame and address:	meeting or mail them to:
Jame: Welgie Mitchell	Sarah Nicolai DOWL
ddress: 20/ W. Main	1300 Cedar Street
& Ann,	Helena, MT 59601
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maii crenticopillos richtana Org	
Email: c/ Mitchell@richland, org	Corridor Planning Study and submit by May 31, 2016.

1

Thank you for your comment.





Comment #2



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION Gold Seal Center, 918 E. Divide Ave. Bismarck, ND 58501-1947 701.328.5200 (fax) www.ndhealth.gov



2

May 18, 2016

Ms. Vicki Crnich Montana Dept. of Transportation P.O. Box 201001 Helena, MT 59620-1001

MAY 2 4 2016
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

RECEIVED

Re: Fairview Corridor Planning Study McKenzie County, North Dakota

Dear Ms. Crnich:

This department has reviewed the information concerning the above-referenced project submitted under date of April 29, 2016, with respect to possible environmental impacts.

This department believes that environmental impacts from the proposed construction will be minor and can be controlled by proper construction methods. With respect to construction, we have the following comments:

- All necessary measures must be taken to minimize fugitive dust emissions created during construction activities. Any complaints that may arise are to be dealt with in an efficient and effective manner.
- 2. Projects disturbing one or more acres are required to have a permit to discharge storm water runoff until the site is stabilized by the reestablishment of vegetation or other permanent cover. Further information on the storm water permit may be obtained from the Department's website or by calling the Division of Water Quality (701.328.5210). Also, cities may impose additional requirements and/or specific best management practices for construction affecting their storm drainage system. Check with the local officials to be sure any local storm water management considerations are addressed.
- 3. Noise from construction activities may have adverse effects on persons who live near the construction area. Noise levels can be minimized by ensuring that construction equipment is equipped with a recommended muffler in good working order. Noise effects can also be minimized by ensuring that construction activities are not conducted during early morning or late evening hours.

The department owns no land in or adjacent to the proposed improvements, nor does it have any projects scheduled in the area. In addition, we believe the proposed activities are consistent with the State Implementation Plan for the Control of Air Pollution for the State of North Dakota.

If you have any questions regarding our comments, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

L. David Glatt, P.E., Chief Environmental Health Section

LDG:cc

MDT Response #2

2

Thank you for your comment. If a project is forwarded from this study, MDT will coordinate with resource agencies in Montana and North Dakota to minimize environmental impacts to the extent practicable and secure all necessary permits.



Public and Agency Involvement Plan

Prepared for:



Prepared by:



Contents

1.0	Intro	oduction	1
	1.1 1.2	Study AreaGoal of Public and Agency Involvement Plan	
0.0			
2.0		dy Contacts	
3.0	Med	dia Coordination	3
4.0	Stu	dy Website	3
5.0	Doc	cument Availability	4
	5.1	Newsletters and Meeting Materials	4
	5.2	Reports	
6.0	Mee	etings	4
	6.1	Advisory Committee Meetings	4
	6.2	Informational Meetings	
	6.3	Resource Agency Meeting	
	6.4	Stakeholders	5
7.0	Pub	olic, Agency, and Stakeholder Comments	6
8.0	Acc	essibility	6
9.0	Stu	dy Schedule	6
Figu	res		
Figure	e 1	Study Area	2
Figure	e 2	Anticipated Study Schedule	7

1.0 Introduction

The Town of Fairview, MT, and the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) Glendive District have identified a need for a planning study to investigate alternative routes to alleviate truck traffic in the Fairview area. The increase in truck traffic in Fairview has been generated by development related to the Bakken Oil field in both Montana and North Dakota. A substantial amount of drilling activity is occurring in North Dakota, with a large percentage of the truck traffic originating in the area. Collaboration between MDT and the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT), as well as officials from Fairview, MT, East Fairview, ND, Richland County, MT, and McKenzie County, ND, will be an important component of the study. Collaboration will include communication and participation throughout the planning process as well as sharing state-specific transportation data for use in the study.

The goal of the study is to assess current and projected conditions in the Fairview area and identify options to address identified needs. The study will analyze alternative routes and attempt to minimize the cost of any selected route while considering and avoiding areas of environmental and social concern.

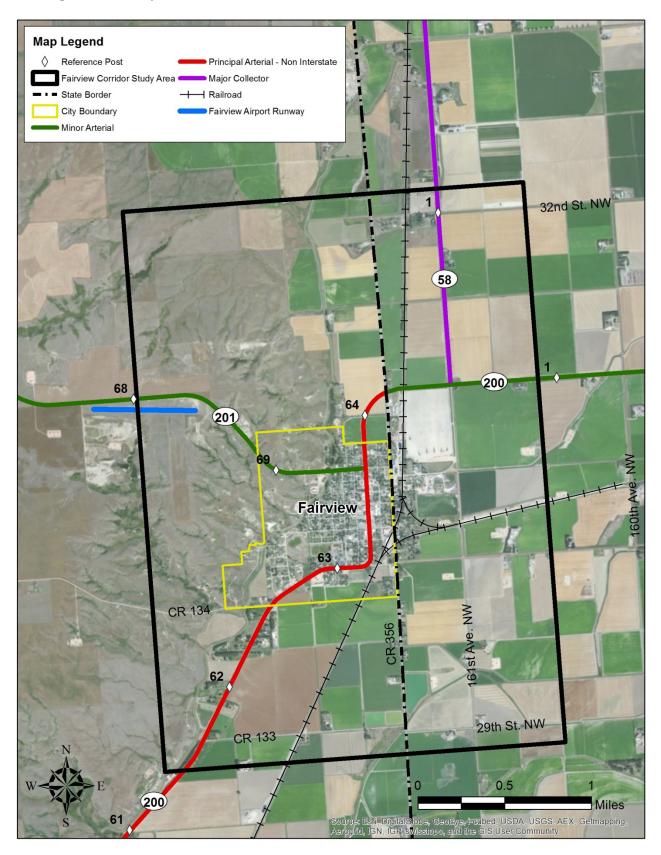
1.1 Study Area

Figure 1 illustrates the study area, which includes the Town of Fairview and its vicinity, and extends into North Dakota for a distance sufficient to assess potential alternative route locations. The study will focus on potential new routes connecting with MT/ND 200 south and east of Fairview.

1.2 Goal of Public and Agency Involvement Plan

The primary goal of this plan is to provide opportunities for members of the public, stakeholders, and resource agency representatives to learn about the process, review information about the corridor planning study, and provide input throughout the planning effort. In support of this goal, the following sections identify procedures that will guide the public and agency involvement effort.

Figure 1 Study Area



2.0 Study Contacts

Contact information for MDT and the consultant will be provided in all published materials.

Shane Mintz, MDT District Administrator

Montana Department of Transportation Glendive District Office 503 N River Avenue PO Box 890 Glendive, MT 59330-0890 406.345.8212 smintz@mt.gov

Vicki Crnich, MDT Project Manager

Montana Department of Transportation Statewide and Urban Planning 2960 Prospect Avenue PO Box 201001 Helena, MT 59620-1001 406.444.7653 vcrnich@mt.gov

Sarah Nicolai, Consultant Project Manager

DOWL 1300 Cedar Street Helena, MT 59601 406.324.7412 snicolai@dowl.com

3.0 Media Coordination

Announcements will be developed by DOWL and advertised by MDT at least three weeks before informational meetings. Advertisements will announce the meeting location, time, and date; the format and purpose of the meetings; and the locations where documents may be reviewed. The *Sidney Herald* and the *Williston Herald* may carry display advertisements.

MDT may also issue press releases to local radio and television stations announcing informational meetings. Specific media outlets will be identified during the course of the study as appropriate.

4.0 Study Website

DOWL will develop content for a website to be hosted by MDT. The website will provide a description of the planning effort, a description of public involvement opportunities, study contacts, links to available documents, and an anticipated study schedule. A link to the study website may also be provided on the NDDOT site.

5.0 Document Availability

5.1 Newsletters and Meeting Materials

DOWL will develop two newsletters for the study. The first newsletter will be issued at the time of the first informational meeting and will introduce the study and describe its purpose, illustrate the study area and study components, and describe key findings from the existing and projected conditions report. The second newsletter will be distributed at the time of the second informational meeting and will present alternative routes around Fairview, potential improvements to existing routes, and potential impacts and mitigation strategies. DOWL will also develop meeting materials for each informational meeting, including agendas, static exhibits, and other presentation materials. Print copies of newsletters and meeting materials will be available at each of the two informational meetings hosted for this study. MDT will publish electronic versions of newsletters and meeting materials on the study website at following the meetings (at http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/fairview/). Print and/or electronic copies of newsletters will also be distributed to the study mailing list.

5.2 Reports

MDT will publish electronic versions of reports on the study website. Print copies of the draft corridor study report will be available at the MDT Rail, Transit, and Planning Division Office (2960 Prospect Avenue; Helena, MT). Print copies of the report may also be made available at the following locations.

- MDT Glendive District Office (503 N River Avenue; Glendive, MT 59330-0890)
- NDDOT Williston District Office (605 Dakota Parkway West; Williston, ND 58802-0698)
- Town of Fairview City Hall (318 S Central Ave: Fairview, MT 59221)
- Richland County Office (201 W. Main; Sidney, MT 59270)
- McKenzie County Office (201 5th Street NW; Watford City, ND 58854)

6.0 Meetings

6.1 Advisory Committee Meetings

Advisory committee (AC) meetings will generally be scheduled every four weeks for the duration of the study period. AC members will discuss study progress, analysis methodologies, and any issues or concerns that arise during the study. The AC will also review study documentation before publication. Representatives from MDT, NDDOT, the Towns of Fairview and East Fairview, Richland County, McKenzie County, and FHWA Montana and North Dakota Divisions will be invited to participate in the advisory committee.

6.2 Informational Meetings

Two informational meetings will be held during the course of the study. The first informational meeting will be held part-way through the planning process after the consultant has evaluated environmental, social, and land use conditions and conducted crash and traffic analyses within the study area. During the first meeting, the consultant will introduce the study, present findings from the existing and projected conditions report, and discuss issues and concerns in the study area.

The purpose of the second meeting will be to discuss the needs and objectives for the study area, present the range of potential alternative routes around Fairview, and discuss potential improvements to existing routes. Members of the public will be asked to provide feedback on potential improvement options.

Comments will be considered throughout the planning process. A public and agency comment period will occur following publication of the draft study report. All comments will be considered before the report is finalized.

6.3 Resource Agency Meeting

MDT will host a single resource agency meeting at the MDT offices in Helena, with conference call arrangements at the MDT Glendive District Office, the NDDOT offices, and via a conference call line, as appropriate. The purpose of the meeting will be to present findings from the draft environmental scan report and existing and projected conditions report. Montana and North Dakota resource agency representatives will be asked to confirm the accuracy and completeness of the documents and identify initial avoidance areas, mitigation needs, and opportunities.

6.4 Stakeholders

DOWL will coordinate with regional trucking/freight companies to assist in determining usage trends and needs, and identify preferred routes. Potential trucking/freight stakeholders are listed below.

Name	Location	Name	Location
A&K Trucking	Fairview, MT	Mon-Dak Trucking	Sidney, MT
A&L Transportation	Sidney, MT	Nabors Well Service	Sidney, MT
Basic Energy	Sidney, MT	NCSG Crane & Heavy Haul Services Inc	Sidney, MT
Black Hills Trucking	Williston, ND	Neu Construction	Fairview, MT
Blue Rock Products	Sidney, MT	Old Dominion	Sidney, MT
Cal-Frac	Williston, ND	Power Fuels	Williston/Watford City, ND
Corcoran Trucking	Billings, MT	Prewitt's	Sidney/Fairview, MT
Fischer Sand & Gravel	Sidney, MT	Real Trucking	Sidney, MT
Franz Construction	Sidney, MT	Root	Cartwright, ND
Haliburton	Williston, ND	Schlumberge	Williston, ND
Hamm & Phillips	Sidney, MT	Sidney RedEMix	Sidney, MT
Hi-Line Trucking	Sidney, MT	Strata	Grand Forks, ND
Hofmann Trucking	Tioga and Jamestown, ND	Stride Well Service	Sidney, MT
Hurley Oilfield	Fairview, MT	Transystems	Great Falls, MT
Knife River	Williston, ND	Trentroy	Williston, ND
KTI – KUCK Trucking	Sidney, MT	Turner Gas	Fairview, MT
Lunderby	Sidney, MT		
Mitchells Oilfield Service	Sidney, MT		

Additional stakeholders (such as school districts or emergency service providers) may also be consulted during the study process.

7.0 Public, Agency, and Stakeholder Comments

Public, resource agency, and stakeholder comments are welcome throughout the planning process. Written comments may be submitted by mail to Sarah Nicolai, DOWL, 1300 Cedar Street, Helena, MT 59601; by email to snicolai@dowl.com; or online at http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/fairview/.

8.0 Accessibility

The State of Montana attempts to provide accessible information and services to all individuals. MDT will employ the following measures for the Fairview Corridor Planning Study.

- MDT will host informational meetings in locations that are accessible and compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- MDT and the consultant will confer with the leaders of the communities and representative organizations about how best to involve traditionally-underserved populations.
- MDT and the consultant will communicate effectively at the informational meetings by avoiding technical jargon and exercising appropriate conduct and judgment. Alternative accessible formats of study materials will be provided upon request.

9.0 Study Schedule

The Fairview Corridor Planning Study began in January 2015 and is expected to be completed by the end of February 2016. Figure 2 illustrates the anticipated study schedule.

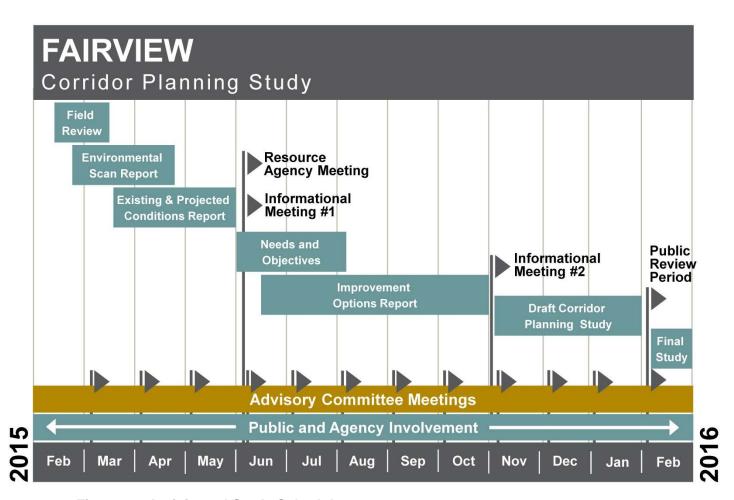


Figure 2 Anticipated Study Schedule

Office Locations

ALASKA

Anchorage Juneau Fairbanks Ketchikan Kodiak Palmer

ARIZONA

Tempe Tucson

COLORADO

Golden Gunnison Montrose

MONTANA

Billings Bozeman Butte Great Falls Helena Miles City

NORTH DAKOTA

Dickinson

OREGON

Bend

WASHINGTON

Redmond Seattle

WYOMING

Gillette Lander Laramie Sheridan

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vicki Crnich

MDT Project Manager

FROM: Sarah Nicolai

DOWL Project Manager

DATE: July 14, 2015

SUBJECT: Fairview Corridor Planning Study

Informational/Public Input Meeting #1 – July 7, 2015

Introduction

An informational/public input meeting for the Fairview Corridor Planning Study was held on July 7, 2015, at the Fairview School cafeteria located at 713 S Western Ave, Fairview, Montana. The following Montana Department of Transportation (MDT), North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT), and DOWL representatives attended the meeting.

Vicki Crnich	MDT Statewide and Urban Planning
Shane Mintz	MDT Glendive District Administrator
Jim Frank	MDT Glendive District
Tom Roberts	MDT Glendive District
Joel Wilt	NDDOT Williston District Engineer
Steve Mullen	NDDOT Land Use Planner
Sarah Nicolai	DOWL Project Manager
Emily Peterson	DOWL Environmental Specialist
Nik Griffith	DOWL Project Administrator

Forty-nine (49) people signed the meeting sign-in sheets. Meeting attendees included Bryan Cummins, mayor of Fairview; Loren Young and Duane Mitchell, Richland County Commissioners; Marcy Hamburg, Richland County Planner; Carol Lambert, District 4 Transportation Commissioner; and Kevin Dahl, Fairview City Council Member. Copies of the sign-in sheets are appended to this memorandum.

Media Coordination and Newsletter

The informational/public input meeting was advertised in the *Sidney Herald* on July 1 and 5, 2015, and in the *Sidney Roundup* on July 1, 2015. A news release was e-mailed to regional radio and television stations as well as Chambers of Commerce on June 29, 2015. The study newsletter was published to the study website at http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/fairview/documents and mailed to stakeholders.

Additionally, a link to the MDT study web page was included on the NDDOT-Williston District project webpage. Copies of these documents are appended to this memorandum.

Presentation

DOWL representatives Sarah Nicolai and Emily Peterson presented the corridor study planning process, emphasizing public involvement as a major component. Ms. Nicolai focused on existing and projected transportation conditions within the study area and the study schedule. Ms. Peterson discussed environmental and cultural resource conditions which may present constraints and opportunities in the planning process. A copy of the presentation is appended to this memorandum.

Discussion Period

A discussion period was held following the presentation to allow members of the public to provide input or request clarification about the study. Shane Mintz, Jim Frank, Joel Wilt, and Sarah Nicolai responded to public questions and comments. Topics are summarized below.

Distinction between the Fairview-West Project and Fairview Corridor Planning Study

Members of the public asked why the Fairview-West project and the Fairview Corridor Planning Study were being conducted separately. Mr. Mintz explained that the Fairview Corridor Planning Study required input from and collaboration with NDDOT, unlike the Fairview-West project. He also discussed the differences between a programmed project and a study. A member of the public asked if recommendations from this study would supersede currently-planned projects. Mr. Mintz said that was unlikely, but always a possibility depending on available funding.

NDDOT Involvement

Several members of the public inquired about NDDOT's commitment and involvement in the study. Questions focused on the location and funding for potential future projects in Montana and North Dakota. Mr. Wilt explained that NDDOT was involved in the discussion and was participating in the study. If a project is identified through this study, NDDOT would consider potential state and federal funding sources and the effects on NDDOT budgeting.

Bypass/Economic Vitality

Members of the public asked questions about the possibility of a bypass and the effects on the economic vitality of the Fairview community. They discussed projects near Alexander, ND, where the town experienced economic downturn after construction of a bypass project. Mr. Mintz discussed the success of other towns with bypasses and stressed that Montana state law requires MDT to obtain local support before pursuing a bypass project.

Eminent Domain

One member of the public asked if DOTs had the power to use eminent domain laws should a project move forward in the future. Mr. Wilt said North Dakota does use eminent domain authority if necessary, and that the process includes offering fair market value and investigating income potential of all affected properties. Mr. Mintz explained that Montana could acquire property through eminent domain, although MDT would initially attempt to negotiate an agreement with landowners should additional right-of-way be needed.

Alignments/Possible Routes

Multiple members of the public asked about possible routes and associated roadway grades, curvature, and placement. Ms. Nicolai, Mr. Mintz, and Mr. Frank explained the process of using Quantm modeling software to identify potential new routes around Fairview. The next step in the study process will be to identify needs and potential improvements to address those needs (including new routes). The study team will present potential route alignments at the next informational/public input meeting tentatively scheduled for November.

Written Comments

Three written comments were received and addressed topics including specific suggestions for new routes, possible impediments for future alignments, Richland County and Fairview planning documents, and the quality of the informational/public input meeting presentation. Copies of written comments are included at the end of the memorandum.

Fairview Corridor Planning Study Informational/Public Input Meeting #1

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Name	Organization/Title	Address	City, State, Zip	Email
Jernen Blone	FARMER	3032 160 th are NW	FAIRDIEW	
For Mize	Home owner	2957 161 STAV NW	FAITVIEW	mt.
PAT CHRERRY	Home Owners	220 S. CENTRAL	/(1/
DYANE MITCHELL	Co. Cammissiones	221 5 Lincoln Ave	5 dng Pairview	M7
DONELLESEN		Bx383	Pairview	5922
Rutch CENDERS	RETITE	Bx383 10 box 464 16141 34th strw	1 (((
Scott Buxbaum	Farmen	16041 34th STAW	11	T. F
Pan Burman	Banker	POBOX 442		<i>-</i>
* Ken Kneer	Farmer	16061 33rd STNW	u	n
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Fairview Corridor Planning Study Informational/Public Input Meeting #1

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

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Goren H. Young	Richland County		CR 35 592	2) Lyonng@richliqud.org
Carol Lanchet	Out 4 Commission	oned Birandus		norm @ RANGEWeb- Net
Jon Roberts	MOT Mith. Chief miles Cit	1		trobacks Dand. Gov
BRYAN CAMMERS	MAYOR- Town OF PA	SOUTEW FAIRUZEY MY	597	and the second s
Laurel Arnot	, ,	11	11	fairelande @ yo hoo, com
Jug R. audto	. 1	P.D. Brx 4/1	Faitview Mt 58xx1	Tan arms of the same
Ohlene + Lee Roy Bei	do	Boy 64	training mt 592	
Graycie Starbon	10 Richland Cty	Box 2.3	Fgimiew.	5524
Billie Buxbaum	11 11 22 1	312 Interstate AUC.N	Fairvier	
Jessica Buxbaun	Richland	13483 HWY 200	Feirvica	
PIXIE SEXTON	C) C'(luce	35554 ch 133	FAILURW, MT 59	221
Josef Johnson	IEI	35/80 thy 201	11	1
Jerrick Miller	707	2912 1615 Ave NW	Fairview MT 5922	millerjerrick@yahoo.com
Wanda & Miller		2941 1619 Avenu	Fairview Mt59	
May affecter		384 W 4 TO	Fairview 49	
The allien		320 5 Mt Ave	Fairview mt	
Paul Borg				
JUDD BURMAN		632 KIRK AVE	FAIRITED	
Brian Buxbayan		13595 Ch by Rd 356	Fairview on I	
Lynn Shelmerd		405 So. Western An	Fairner n	1+. 59321
* Joyce le coreke	0.1 0 .1	422 W.10th St		
Kevin Nahl	City Conneil	ldd W 10 57	Fair view	M
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Fairview Corridor Planning Study Informational/Public Input Meeting #1

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

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Name Org	anization/Title	Address	City, State, Zip	Email
K-as Clarken D		101 a DAWSON AVE	Fair wiew, mt	Sharbka @ mid Rivers, con
KEN Sharbono		312 Indaysdale Aven	11	
Non Baxban		13 483 Huy 200	11 /1	
Rhonda Huritec		13788 CK 347	FHIRVIEW MIT	irt bone @ notmails com
Howard Hill		35554 CR 133	Fairview, mg	Howeird 1976 @ Hotmail. Com
James W. Hunter		13988 CP 349	Fairview MT	
Justin - linnifer Calver	Cha.	119 NW AVE	FAIRLY WIT	is calvert 1@ gmail com
STEVE MULLEN		3209 2WAVE	Willister ND	Smiller OND. GOU
TERRY C. MILLE	, 12	29411 16/5T AUG	NW FRIRVICW MIT	35
12.11. Bieher		318 nd 486	FZIRVIEW MT	
Jark Bleber		13481 Hey 260	Farroien My	
Sabrina Steer		35467 CR 133	Fairnew nT	sksteer@gmail.com
Ross Burbana		323 3 rel Ave med	Culbertson m.T.	*
Dell Shelperdins		LOS SOUTH Western	Fadry: ew met	
anto Baboun		16041 34th 5+ NID	January Mt	
Mary Framburg	County/Town France	123 W Mainst.	Sidney MT 59270	mhamburg@richland.org
+ Bon Hand	Journes .	+	Fames On 7 597 70)
ISEN SCHLOTHOUER	<i>(</i> 11	2891 160 ANE NOW.	11	<u> </u>
Joel Wilk	Williston ND Distr	ict	51444	
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	4			

Issue One June 2015



Fairview Corridor Planning Study

STUDY DESCRIPTION

The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT), in cooperation with the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT), has initiated the Fairview Corridor Planning Study to investigate transportation improvement options within the Fairview area.

The goal of the study is to assess current and projected conditions in the Fairview area and identify options to address identified needs. The study will analyze improvements to existing and potential futures routes, and attempt to minimize costs while considering and avoiding areas of environmental and social concern. The study process will document existing and projected conditions; analyze potential impacts; identify constraints and mitigations; gather public, resource agency and stakeholder input; and provide recommendations for improvements.

This study is a planning-level evaluation of the study area. It is not a design, maintenance, or construction project. Depending on need and funding availability, improvement options may be forwarded from this study and developed into projects at a later date.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

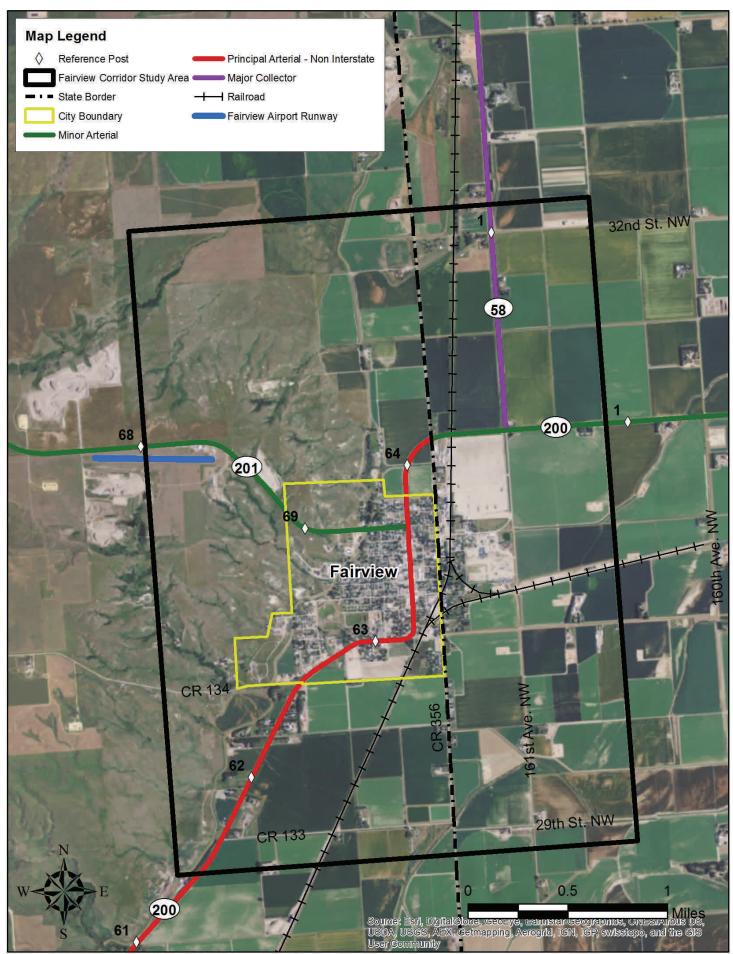
Study Description	1
Study Area	2
Existing & Projected	
Conditions	3
Study Contacts	4
Involvement	
Opportunities	4
Anticipated Study	
Schedule	4

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN INFORMATIONAL/ PUBLIC INPUT MEETING!

July 7, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. Fairview School Cafeteria 713 S. Western Ave Fairview, MT







EXISTING AND PROJECTED CONDITIONS

Findings presented in the tables below are drawn from the draft existing and projected conditions report and the draft environmental scan report for this study. Please visit the study website (http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/fairview) for more information.

Transportation System	Findings	
	Bridges	Two bridges are candidates for repair.
	Bicycle/ Pedestrian	 Intermittent sidewalks in Fairview. No dedicated facilities outside of Fairview. Shoulders along MT 200, ND 200, and ND 58.
	Drainage/ Pavement Conditions	 Grated trough structures within Fairview are not effective. Drainage within Fairview will be addressed in a future project. Truck traffic increasing roadway deterioration.
	Geometrics	4 of 5 horizontal curves on MT 200 do not meet current MDT design criteria.
	Crash History	 On MT 200 from 2004-2013, 66 crashes, 22 injuries, and 0 fatalities (13 involved trucks). On ND 200 from 2010 to 2013, 20 crashes, 8 injuries, and 0 fatalities.
	Traffic Volumes, Operations, and Origin- Destination Trends	 Traffic volumes anticipated to peak in approximately 2025, returning to lower levels by 2035. LOS D and E projected for segments in 2025. During AM, strongest truck movements occur from west to east/north and south to north/east. During PM, strongest truck movements occur from east to south.

Findings Farmland Majority of study area is farmland of statewide Ironmental Resources importance or prime farmland is irrigated. **Surface Waters/** Surface water is primarily seasonal irrigation Fringe wetlands found along irrigation ditches/ Wetlands, & canals **Floodplains** Special Flood Hazard Zone Area within the study area. **Hazardous** Ten underground storage tanks, eight leaking underground storage tanks, eight abandoned **Materials** mine sites, several oil/gas wells and horizontal drilling paths, and three reported oil spills. General Fish & Study area is within the distribution range for white-tailed and mule deer, pronghorn, sharp-Wildlife tailed grouse, black-footed ferret. Sensitive Species • Likely not present in the study area due to the high degree of disturbance. Study area is within primary the golden eagle breeding range. Cultural Seven eligible sites within the study area, including historic railroads and irrigation Resources systems. Unrecorded sites likely occur within corridor.



STUDY CONTACTS

Shane Mintz
MDT Glendive District
Administrator
406-345-8212
smintz@mt.gov

Vicki Crnich MDT Project Manager 406-444-7653 vcrnich@mt.gov

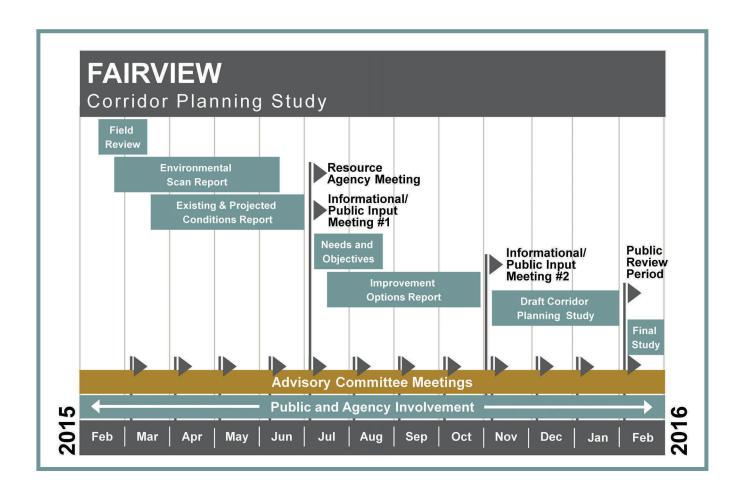
Sarah Nicolai DOWL Project Manager 406-324-7412 snicolai@dowlcom

INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

An informational/public input meeting is scheduled for <u>Tuesday, July 7, 2015</u> at the Fairview School Cafeteria, 713 S. Western Avenue, in Fairview, MT. We encourage you to attend and provide feedback about your issues and concerns for the corridor.

Please visit the study website (http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/fairview) for more information on upcoming involvement opportunities.

MDT attempts to provide accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's participation in any service, program or activity of the department. Alternative accessible formats of this information will be provide upon request. For more information, please call Sarah Nicolai at (406) 324-7412 or Montana Relay at 711.



Nicolai, Sarah

From: Grant, Paul <pgrant@mt.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2015 8:05 AM

To: ASHTO; FAIRVIEW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; KGCX-FM; KTHC-FM; KXGN; SIDNEY

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; Sidney Herald; Sidney Roundup; TYSON FISHER; The Searchlight; GLENDIVE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; KGLE-AM (E-mail); KXGN-Emilie

Boyles; KXGN-TV/KDZN-FM/KXGN-AM; Ranger Review (E-mail)

Cc: Nicolai, Sarah; Crnich, Victoria; Strizich, Carol; Zanto, Lynn (MDT); Mintz, Shane; Frank,

James; Heidner, Steven; Riley, Jean; Richland County Commissioners; Road Supervisor;

Grant, Paul; Marosok, Lauren; O'Brien, Anna; Ryan, Lori

Subject: MDT schedules an informational/public input meeting for Fairview Corridor Planning Study

June 29, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information:

Lori Ryan, Public Information, MDT, (406) 444-6821

MDT schedules an informational/public input meeting for Fairview Corridor Planning Study

Fairview - The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT), in coordination with the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT), Richland and McKenzie counties, and the town of Fairview, is conducting an informational/public input meeting to discuss the Fairview Corridor Planning Study. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 7, 2015, at the Fairview School Cafeteria, 713 S. Western Avenue, Fairview, MT. A presentation will begin at 6:00 p.m., followed by an informal discussion.

The Fairview Corridor Planning Study is a pre-environmental study that allows for earlier planning-level coordination with community members, stakeholders, environmental resource agencies, and other interested parties. The study will identify potential improvement options, which will assist in facilitating a smooth and efficient transition from transportation planning to future project development/environmental review. Potential improvement options will be based on need and funding availability.

The purpose of the meeting is to explain the planning study process, present information about existing and projected conditions, and gather public feedback on issues and concerns within the study area.

Public participation is a very important part of the process, and the public is encouraged to attend. Comments may be submitted at the meeting; by mail to Sarah Nicolai, DOWL, 1300 Cedar Street, Helena, MT 59601; by email to snicolai@dowl.com; or online at

http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/fairview/

Please indicate comments are for the Fairview Corridor Planning Study.

Interested parties are encouraged to join the study mailing list by submitting their name and contact information to Sarah Nicolai at snicolai@dowl.com

MDT attempts to provide accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's participation in any service, program or activity of the department. If you require reasonable accommodations to participate in this meeting, please call Sarah Nicolai at (406) 324-7412 at least two days before the meeting. For the hearing impaired, the

TTY number is (406) 444-7696 or 1-800-335-7592, or call Montana Relay at 711. Alternative accessible formats of this information will be provided upon request.

-----END-----

Project name: Fairview Corridor Planning Study Richland County, Montana, and McKenzie County, North Dakota



Informational/ Public Input Meeting

Discuss the Fairview Corridor Planning Study Tuesday, July 7, 2015 6:00 P.M. Fairview School Cafeteria 713 S. Western Ave., Fairview, MT

TThe Montana Department of Transportation (MDT), in coordination with the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT), Richland and McKenzie counties, and the town of Fairview, is conducting an informational/public input meeting to discuss the Fairview Corridor Planning Study which is a pre-environmental study that allows for earlier planning-level coordination with community members, stakeholders, environmental resource agencies, and other interested parties. The study will identify potential improvement options, which will assist in facilitating a smooth and efficient transition from transportation planning to future project development/environmental review. Potential improvement options will be based on need and funding availability.

The purpose of the meeting is to explain the planning study process, present information about existing and projected conditions, and gather public feedback on issues and concerns within the study area.

The meeting is open to the public and attendance is encouraged. MDT attempts to provide accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's participation in any department service, program or activity. For reasonable accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact Sarah Nicolai at (406) 324-7412 at least two days before the meeting. For the hearing impaired, the TTY number is (406) 444-7696 or (800) 335-7592, or Montana Relay at 711. Alternative accessible formats of this information will be provided upon request.

Comments may be submitted at the meeting; by mail to Sarah Nicolai, DOWL, 1300 Cedar Street, Helena, MT 59601; by email to snicolai@dowl.com; or online at http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/fairview/

Please indicate comments are for the Fairview Corridor Planning Study.

Interested parties are encouraged to join the study mailing list by submitting their name and contact information to Sarah Nicolai at snicolai@dowl.com



Fairview Corridor Planning Study Informational/Public Input Meeting #1 July 2015











Welcome and Introductions







Title VI Considerations

This meeting is held pursuant to Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which ensures that no person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination on the basis of a protected status under any MDT program or activity.

Meeting Format

Presentation

- Overview of planning study process
- Key findings from draft existing and projected conditions report
 - Transportation Conditions
 - Environmental Conditions

Discussion Period





What is a Planning Study?

Transportation Agencies

Resource Agencies

Public

Planning

Project Development (Preliminary Design, Environmental Compliance, Final Design)

Construction Maintenance Operations

A planning study is conducted <u>before</u> design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction for an individual project.







Background & Goal of Study

- Increasing traffic in Fairview due to oil and gas development
- Study will identify options to address needs
 - Improvements to existing routes
 - Potential new route(s) around Fairview







Planning Study Overview

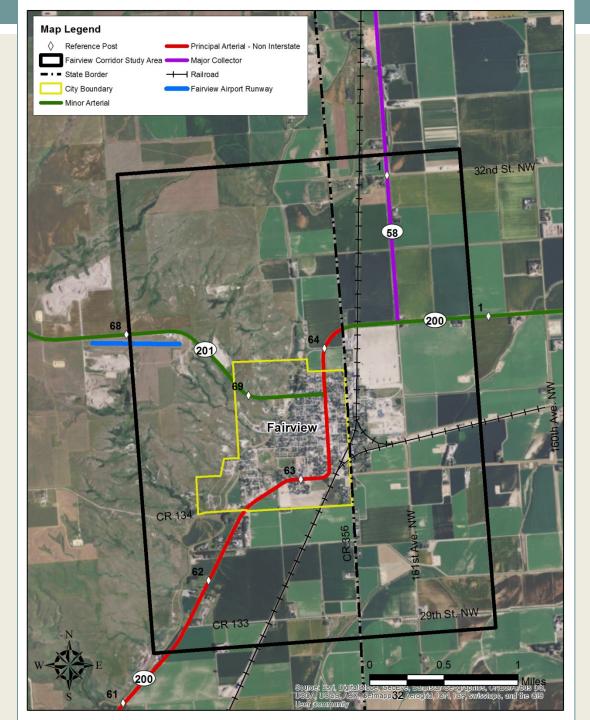
- Existing and Projected Conditions
- Informational/Public Input Meeting # 1

We Are Here

- Resource Agency Meeting
- Needs and Objectives
- Route Identification & Screening
- Informational/Public Input Meeting # 2
- Draft Study Report
- Public/Agency Review Period
- Final Study Report







Study Area

Within both Montana and North Dakota

S. Boundary: just south of CR 133 and 29th St. NW

N. Boundary: just north of 32nd St. NW

W. Boundary: extends north and south from RP 68 on MT Hwy 201

E. Boundary: extends north and south from RP 1 on ND Hwy 200







Recent and Future Projects

Agency	Project/Study	Date
MDT	Fairview Intersections	2012
	Glendive Rumble Strip Program	2013
	MT 200-Fairview	2016
	Sidney to Fairview	2016
	Fairview-West	2019
NDDOT	State Line to JCT US 85	2016
	JCT 200 N to JCT ND 1804	2016

Fairview Corridor
Planning Study is
separate from
Fairview-West
and ND 200
projects







Transportation System

Roadway Overview

- MT 201 part of separate Fairview-West project
- Classification
 - MT 200: principal arterial
 - ND 200: minor arterial
 - ND 58: major collector
- 2-lane and 4-lane sections; 12-foot travel lanes and varying shoulders
- Right-of-way widths vary from 80 feet to 170 feet from centerline
- Level terrain







Bridges

RP	Location	Year Built (Recon)	Structure Condition	Deck Condition
0.14	1M SW of Fairview	1978	Poor	Good
0.01	West edge of Fairview	2008	Good	Good
0.02	SW edge of Fairview	1908 (1980)	Fair	Good
69.34	Fairview	1934	Good	Good

2 of 4 bridges are candidates for repair or replacement (Fair or Poor Condition)





Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities



- Intermittent sidewalks in Fairview
- No dedicated facilities outside of Fairview
- Shoulders along MT 200, ND 200, ND 58





Drainage Condition



- Rural drainage is generally sufficient
- Grated trough structures
 within Fairview are not
 effective; standing water
 and truck traffic results in
 mud splatter
- Drainage within Fairview will be addressed in future project





Pavement Condition

Hwy	Begin RP	End RP	Roughness Index Rating
MT 200	61.4	62.3	Fair
	62.3	63.7	Poor
	63.7	64.2	Fair
ND 200	0.00	4.00	Fair
ND 58	0.00	6.00	Good

- Fair to poor roughness index rating for MT
 200 and ND 200
- Rutting observed during field review
- Truck traffic increasing roadway deterioration
- Future projects in MT and ND will address pavement deficiencies, resulting in good pavement condition





Geometrics



ND 200/ND 58 geometrics were assessed as part of separate planned projects.

MT 200 areas that do not meet current MDT design criteria:

- 4 of 5 horizontal curves
- Obstructions within the clear zone in Fairview





Crash History



MT 200 (2004 to 2013)

- 66 crashes, 22 injuries, and 0 fatalities
- Most were fixed object, rear end, and roll over
- 13 crashes involved trucks
- Most intersection-related crashes occurred at MT 200/MT 201.

ND 200 (2010 to 2013)

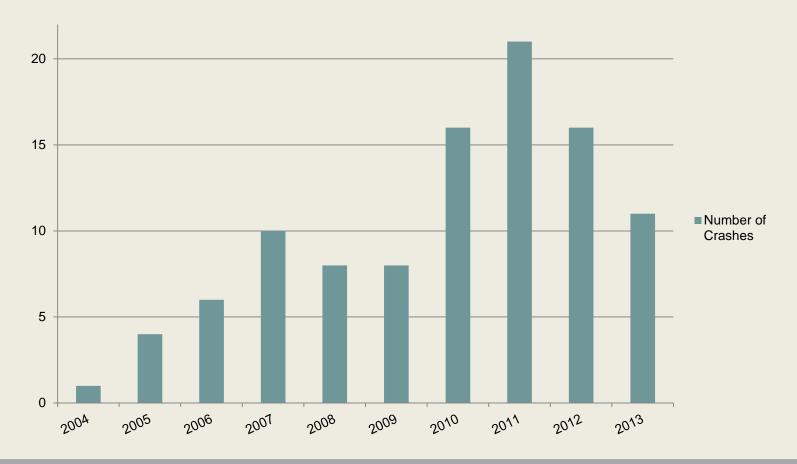
- 20 crashes, 8 injuries, and 0 fatalities
- Most were left turn, angle, and rear end





Crash History

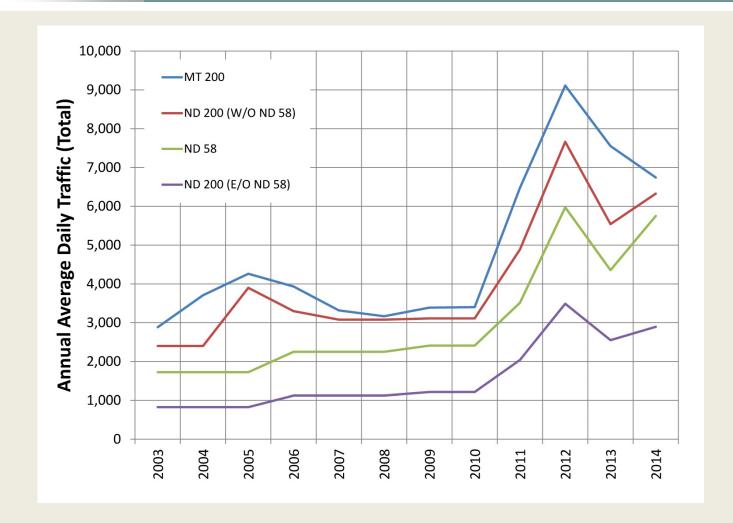
MT 200 Crashes (2004 to 2013)







Historic Traffic Volumes

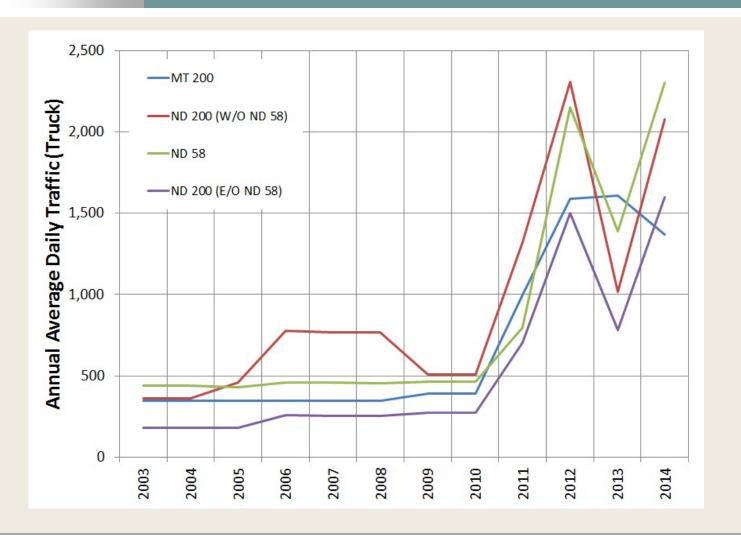


Substantial increase in volumes in recent years





Historic Truck Volumes

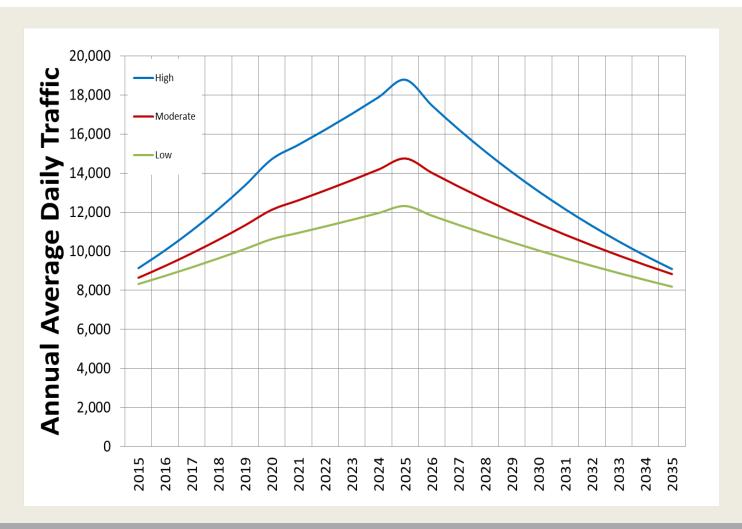


Substantial increase in volumes in recent years





Projected Traffic Volumes



Projections for MT 200, ND 200 (west of ND 58), and ND 58





Traffic Operations

Level of Service (LOS)

Vehicular Level of Service

- A Free flow conditions
- B Reasonably free flow
- Stable flow; maneuverability somewhat restricted
- Approaching unstable flow
- E Unstable flow; at capacity
- Traffic volumes exceed capacity







Segment Operations

Intersection		Year	WB PM Peak Hour LOS
	2-lane Segment South of Fairview	Existing 2015	С
Α		Projected 2025	D
		Projected 2035	С
	_	Existing 2015	Α
В	4-lane Segment in Fairview	Projected 2025	Α
		Projected 2035	Α
	2-lane Segment	Existing 2015	D
С	Between 2 nd Street	Projected 2025	E
	and ND 58	Projected 2035	D
D	2-lane Segment East of ND 58	Existing 2015	В
		Projected 2025	С
		Projected 2035	В

Desirable LOS

MDT (principal arterial): **LOS B**

NDDOT (ND 200/ND 58): **LOS C**





Intersection Operations

	Intersection	Year	Approach	AM Peak Hour LOS	PM Peak Hour LOS
ND 58 and	Existing 2015	EB	В	В	
1	ND 200 (1-lane	Projected 2025	EB	С	D
	Roundabout)	Projected 2035	EB	Α	Α
		Existing 2015	NB	Α	А
2 N	MT 200 and MT 201	Projected 2025	NB	В	С
	-	Projected 2035	NB	Α	Α

LOS based on worst intersection leg.

Desirable LOS

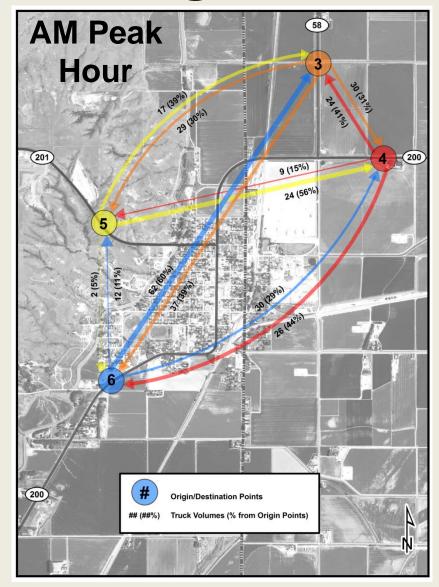
MDT (principal arterial): LOS B

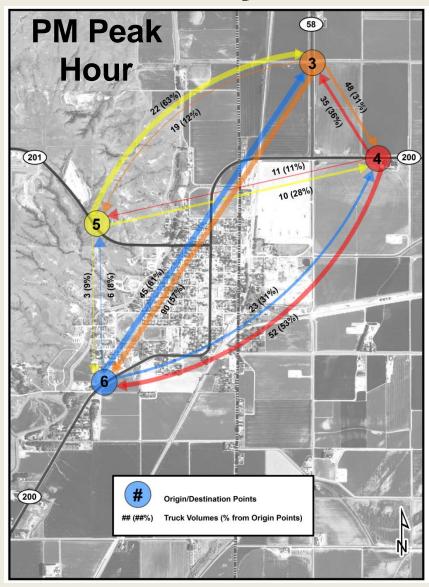
NDDOT (ND 200/ND 58): LOS C





Origin-Destination Analysis







Environmental Conditions

Farmland





- Soil surveys indicate the majority of the study area is either:
 - farmland of statewide importance (ND soil surveys) or
 - prime farmland if irrigated (MT soil surveys)





Surface Water/Wetlands

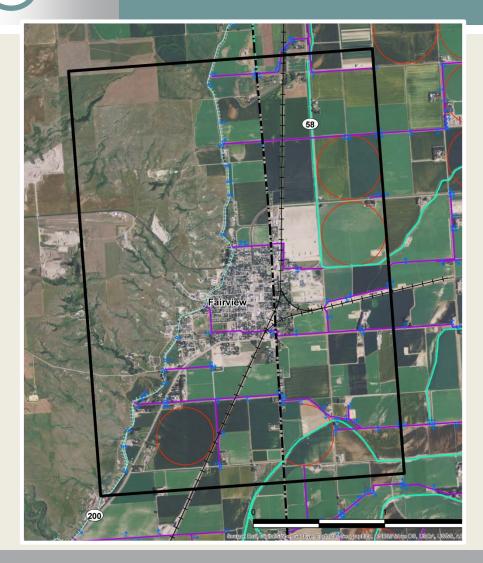


- Surface water is primarily seasonal irrigation ditches and canals.
- Fringe wetlands observed along irrigation ditches/canals throughout the study area.
- Two man-made freshwater ponds – one being the Fairview sewer ponds.
- Special Flood Hazard Area bisects the town of Fairview.





Irrigation

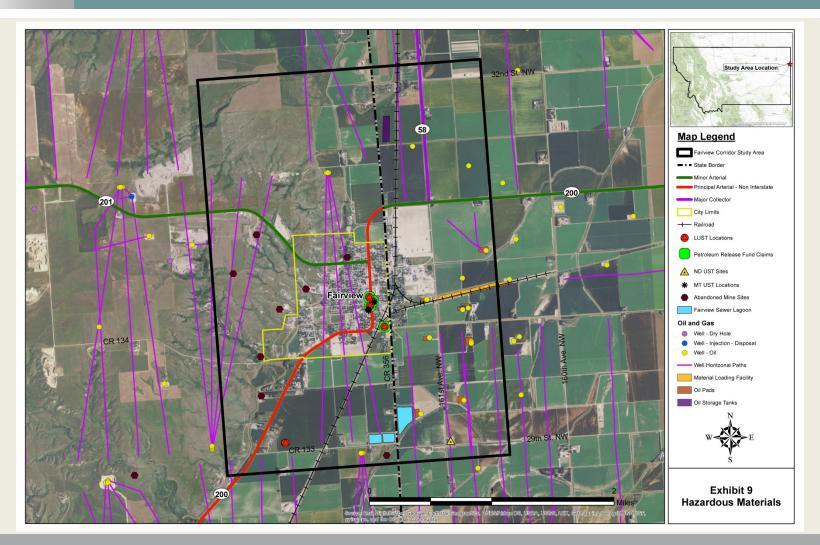


- Study area is within the Lower
 Yellowstone Irrigation District.
- Irrigation infrastructure within the study area includes:
 - the Main Canal,
 - six lateral ditches,
 - two irrigation drains,
 - a smaller network of ditches, and
 - several large pivots.





Hazardous Materials







Hazardous Materials





- Ten active underground storage tanks.
- Eight leaking underground storage tanks.
- Eight abandoned or inactive mine sites.
- Town of Fairview sewer lagoon.
- Several oil/gas wells and horizontal drilling paths.
- Three reported oil spills in ND.





General Wildlife



- White-tailed and mule deer are common throughout corridor.
- Study area is located within the distribution range for pronghorn and sharp-tailed grouse.
- ND designates the study area as primary range for the black-tailed prairie dog.
- Seasonal irrigation ditches and canals are not considered suitable habitat for aquatic species.





Threatened/Endangered, Species of Concern, and Species of Conservation

Threat	ened/Endangered Species	Federal Status
	Greater sage-grouse	Candidate
	Sprague's pipit	Candidate
	Piping plover	Threatened
	Red knot	Threatened
Wildlife	Least tern	Endangered
Species	Whooping crane	Endangered
	Gray wolf	Endangered
	Northern long-eared bat	Threatened
	Black-footed ferret	Endangered
Insect Species	Dakota skipper	Threatened
Fish Species	Pallid sturgeon	Endangered

- Several sensitive species known to occur outside study area. Given high degree of disturbance, sensitive species <u>likely not</u> found within study area.
- No known bald or golden eagle nests within the study.
- Study area is within ND Game and Fish primary golden eagle breeding range.





Land Use











Cultural/Archeological Resources

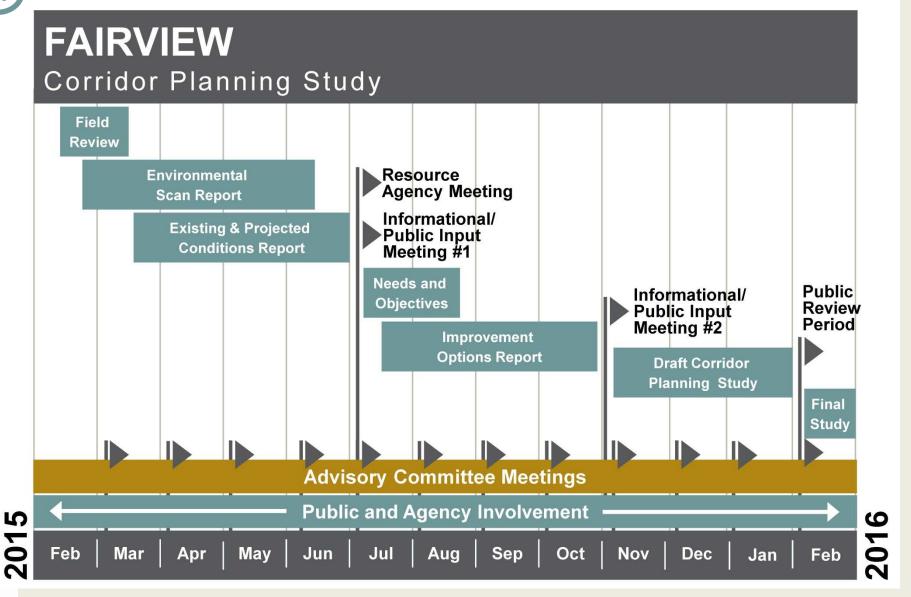




- Seven eligible sites
 within the study area
 including historic
 railroads and
 irrigation systems.
- Unrecorded sites likely occur within study area.







Submit Comments

- Leave a comment sheet with us tonight
- Please submit comments by July 24, 2015
- Website (http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/fairview/)
- Mail/e-mail comments to:

Sarah Nicolai DOWL 1300 Cedar Street Helena, MT 59601 snicolai@dowl.com











Discussion Period

Fairview Corridor Planning Study Informational/Public Input Meeting #1

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

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to up date the 2007 pc is available on line	city. The current policy at righland org-planner
To receive further study information, please provide your name and address:	Please leave your comments with staff at the meeting or mail them to:
Name: Mary Hamburg Address: County Town Planner 123 W Main St Sidney MT 59270 Email: MAGM BURG Wich land of	Sarah Nicolai DOWL 1300 Cedar Street Helena, MT 59601 Please indicate your comments are for the Fairview
(40) 433.6886	Corridor Planning Study and submit by July 24 , 2015 .





Fairview Corridor Planning Study Informational/Public Input Meeting #1

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

MDT invites you to provide feedback on the	study:
THE DOWL PLESENTATION	WAS VERY INFORM ATTUE AND
EASY TO FOLLOW , AND COMPLE	
÷.	
To receive further study information, please provide your name and address:	Please leave your comments with staff at the meeting or mail them to:
Name: BRHAN CUMMENS - MAYOR Address: PION BOX 3/1 FAIR VIEW, MT 5922/	Sarah Nicolai DOWL 1300 Cedar Street Helena, MT 59601
Email:	Please indicate your comments are for the Fairview Corridor Planning Study and submit by July 24 , 2015 .





Fairview Corridor Planning Study Informational/Public Input Meeting #1

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

MDT invites you to provide feedback on the study:			
Scens that tieing 2014/0200 away from our park, Tieing			
To receive further study information, please provide your name and address: Name: Jerrick Miller Address: 2912 1615 Ave NW Fairview MT 59221 Email: Miller Jerrick Oryahovicom	Please leave your comments with staff at the meeting or mail them to: Sarah Nicolai DOWL 1300 Cedar Street Helena, MT 59601 Please indicate your comments are for the Fairview Corridor Planning Study and submit by July 24, 2015.		





Office Locations

ALASKA

Anchorage Juneau Fairbanks Ketchikan Kodiak Palmer

ARIZONA

Tempe Tucson

COLORADO

Golden Gunnison Montrose

MONTANA

Billings Bozeman Butte Great Falls Helena Miles City

NORTH DAKOTA

Dickinson

OREGON

Bend

WASHINGTON

Redmond Seattle

WYOMING

Gillette Lander Laramie Sheridan

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vicki Crnich

MDT Project Manager

FROM: Sarah Nicolai

DOWL Project Manager

DATE: July 30, 2015

SUBJECT: Fairview Corridor Planning Study

Resource Agency Meeting – July 28, 2015

Introduction

A resource agency meeting was held July 28, 2015, at the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) Rail, Transit, and Planning Division in Helena, MT, in Conference Room A. The following resource agency, MDT, North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT), and DOWL representatives attended the meeting.

Vicki Crnich	MDT Statewide and Urban Planning
Heidy Bruner	MDT Environmental Services Bureau
Doug Lieb	MDT Environmental Services Bureau
Mike McGrath	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Montana
Swade Hammond	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – North Dakota
Terry Ellsworth	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – North Dakota
Steve Mullen	NDDOT Land Use Planner
Sarah Nicolai	DOWL Project Manager
Emily Peterson	DOWL Environmental Specialist
Nik Griffith	DOWL Project Administrator

An initial invitation letter was mailed to the resource agency distribution list on June 26, 2015. A second invitation was e-mailed on July 15, 2015, announcing a rescheduled meeting date. Both invitations are included at the end of this memorandum. The purpose of the meeting was to confirm the accuracy and completeness of the draft environmental scan and draft existing and projected conditions reports.

Presentation

DOWL representatives Sarah Nicolai and Emily Peterson presented the corridor study planning process. Ms. Nicolai focused on existing and projected transportation conditions within the study area and the study schedule. Ms. Peterson discussed environmental conditions and cultural resources which may present constraints and opportunities in the planning process. A copy of the presentation is appended to this memorandum.

Discussion Period

A discussion period was held following the presentation to allow agency representatives to provide input or request clarification. Resource agency questions and comments are summarized below.

Whooping Cranes

Mr. McGrath asked about several threatened/endangered species that may be present within the study area and vicinity, including whooping cranes. He explained that while the cranes are not likely to remain in study area, the study area is within the whooping crane migration corridor. If any overhead power or utility lines need to be relocated because of suggested improvements, he requested markers be added for visibility, or ideally, the lines be buried.

Ms. Bruner asked Mr. McGrath if there are any resources available that would provide protocols for marking utility lines. He replied that there are and he would provide that information to MDT.

Northern Long-eared Bats

Mr. McGrath suggested that the study be aware of the northern long-eared bat (NLB), as it was just recently listed as threatened. He noted the following.

- The only occurrence of the northern long-eared bat in Richland County, Montana, was recorded in 1978 in an abandoned coal mine.
- A programmatic agreement was reached between US. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Federal Highway Administration regarding consultation on the northern long-eared bat for transportation projects.
- While the agreement wouldn't be applicable to new construction, it would cover updates to current roadways.
- The agreement provides exceptions for high-density urban areas. The Fairview community would not qualify for this exception due to the abundance of trees and rural characteristics.
- Because the study area is within the outer edge of the NLB's known range, and species tend to have different patterns the closer they are to the fringes of their territory, USFWS recommends conducting NLB bat surveys if improvement options are considered near abandoned mines, woody draws, or riparian areas.
 Mr. McGrath stated that the study should recommend precautions assuming the NLB is present. He also suggested a NLB survey would be useful as little is known about the species in the study area and the information would be valuable for future planning and project efforts.
- Dr. Bruce Maxwell is working with the bats in the Black Hills and has created a genetic test for the presence of bats using guano (bat droppings). The test is still in development, but will likely be available for approximately \$65 per sample.

Mr. Ellsworth seconded Mr. McGrath's concerns about the NLB, noting there is not a lot of information on NLB at this time and it would be wise to complete NBL surveys if improvement options are carried forward.

Ms. Peterson asked Mr. McGrath if there are special procedures such as seasonal construction requirements that are standard practice when working around NLB. He replied that the user guide/agreement document would outline any recommendations. Ms. Peterson mentioned that there are many mine shafts around the study area that may be suitable habitat for NBL. Some of the mines have been reclaimed, although information on the mines is incomplete.

Ms. Nicolai asked Mr. Mullen if he had any comments. Mr. Mullen supported the discussion on NLB and suggested that the Yellowstone River train trestle bridge may provide a suitable roosting location for NBL.

Collisions

Because of the type of wildlife collisions (primarily deer) occurring within the study area, Mr. McGrath suggested the study look for places to include wildlife crossing structures when possible.

Jurisdictional Determinations

Mr. Hammond explained that the North Dakota Army Corps of Engineers has performed an approved jurisdictional determination (JD) on some of the isolated waters for project(s) along the ND 200 corridor. Other waters/wetlands along the ND 200 corridor were assessed under a preliminary jurisdictional determination to expedite the project schedule. Delineation work and jurisdictional determinations would need to be completed for the remainder of the study area if any projects move forward from the study. He also stated that any determinations in Montana would need to be handled by Montana Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Office.

Relocation of Pipelines

Mr. Hammond noted there are oil pipelines indicated on the study area map and that the study should be aware of these when moving forward. A North Dakota project failed to do this and experienced significant roadblocks in relocating the lines.

North Dakota Comments

Ms. Crnich asked Mr. Mullen if there were any additional comments from NDDOT. He replied that there were not and that NDDOT is ready for the next phase of the study.

Study Terminology

Mr. Lieb asked about the reference to JCT US 85 versus ND 58 in the discussion of recent and future projects, and noted that there may be a typographical error. Ms. Nicolai noted this information was drawn from information provided by NDDOT, and she would confirm the reference. Mr. Lieb also asked for clarification on whether MDT and NDDOT use different level of service (LOS) standards. Ms. Nicolai explained that LOS is a national concept outlined in the Highway Capacity Manual, but MDT and NDDOT define different desirable LOS thresholds for various roadway categories.

Written Comments

Ms. Nicolai reminded resource agencies that written comments are due to Ms. Crnich no later than August 7, 2015. Following receipt of agency comments, DOWL and MDT will finalize the environmental scan and existing and projected conditions reports.



Montana Department of Transportation

Michael T. Tooley, Director Steve Bullock, Governor

June 24, 2015

2701 Prospect Avenue PO Box 201001 Helena MT 59620-1001

To:

Resource Agency Distribution

Subject:

Fairview Corridor Planning Study

The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) has initiated a corridor planning study to investigate improvement options in the Fairview, Montana (MT), area in response to Bakken oil field development. This study is being performed in partnership with the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT); the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); Fairview, MT; East Fairview, MT; Richland County, MT; and McKenzie County, North Dakota (ND).

The study area includes an area around the town of Fairview extending into North Dakota sufficient to assess improvements on existing and potential new routes.

MDT invites you to attend a resource agency meeting to discuss existing and projected transportation and environmental conditions in the study area, and identify any issues or concerns regarding environmental resources that may be affected by potential future improvement options.

When: Thursday, July 9, 2015, at 9:00 AM Mountain Daylight Time

Where: MDT Planning Division

Helena, MT 59601

Conference Room C 2960 Prospect Avenue Conference Room 503 N River Avenue

MDT Glendive District

Glendive, MT 59330

GoTo Meeting
https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/229327645
Dial +1 (312) 757-3121
Access Code: 229-327-645

Audio PIN: Shown after joining the meeting

or

Meeting ID: 229-327-645

Please review the draft environmental scan report and draft existing and projected conditions report in advance of the meeting. An electronic version of these documents is provided on the enclosed CD. If you are unable to attend the resource agency meeting, please forward these files to an appropriate agency designee.

Please provide comments on the enclosed reports by July 24, 2015, to Vicki Crnich at the address indicated on the letterhead. Additional information about the study is available at the study website (http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/fairview/).

Please contact Sarah Nicolai, Consultant Project Manager, by July 2, 2015, to confirm your participation in the resource agency meeting.

Sarah Nicolai DOWL 1300 Cedar Street Helena, MT 59601 406.324.7412 snicolai@dowl.com

Thank you in advance for your agency's input.

Sincerely,

Tom Martin, P.E.

MDT Environmental Services Bureau Chief

Enclosure

Resource Agency Distribution:

David Fronczak, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Julie DalSoglio, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Mike McGrath, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Montana)

Terry Ellsworth, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Todd Tillinger, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Chris Pileski, MT Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Renee Lemon, MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Brad Schmitz, MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Marcy Hamburg, Richland County, Montana, Planning Department

Lindsay Perusich, McKenzie County, North Dakota, Planning and Zoning Department

Mindy McCarthy, MT Department of Environmental Quality

Michael Ell, ND Department of Health-Environmental Health Section

Jim Darling, MT Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

Diane Friez, Bureau of Land Management

Scot Schuler, U.S. Forest Service

Shannon Boehm, Medora Ranger District, U.S. Forest Service

Terry Ellsworth, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (North Dakota)

Dan Cimarosti, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (North Dakota)

Steve Dyke, North Dakota Game and Fish Department

David Glatt, North Dakota Department of Health, Environmental Health Section

Mike Humann, North Dakota Department of Trust Lands

Fairview Corridor Planning Study

Page 3 of 3 June 24, 2015

Copies (without enclosure):

Heidy Bruner, P.E., Environmental Engineering Section Supervisor Doug Lieb, Environmental Project Development Engineer Vicki Crnich, MDT File From: Nicolai, Sarah

To: "fronczak.david@epa.gov"; "dalsoglio.julie@epa.gov"; "mike_mcgrath@fws.gov"; "terry_ellsworth@fws.gov";

"todd.n.tillinger@usace.army.mil"; "Daniel.E.Cimarosti@usace.army.mil"; "cpileski@mt.gov"; "mhumann@nd.gov"; "rlemon@mt.gov"; "bschmitz@mt.gov"; "jdarling@mt.gov"; "sdyke@nd.gov"; "mhamburg@richland.org"; "lperusich@co.mekenzie.nd.us"; "MMcCarthy3@mt.gov"; "mell@nd.gov"; "dglatt@nd.gov"; "dfriez@blm.gov"; Phillips, Lucas J -FS; "smullen@nd.gov"; Vicki Crnich (vcrnich@mt.gov); "Heidy Bruner"; Lieb, Douglas (dlieb@mt.gov); Sickerson, Larry (lsickerson@mt.gov); Griffith, Nikolas;

Peterson, Emily

Subject: Fairview Resource Agency Meeting
Attachments: FAIRVIEW AGENCY LETTER.pdf

MDT has rescheduled the Fairview Corridor Planning Study Resource Agency Meeting for Tuesday, July 28, 2015, at 10:00 AM Mountain Daylight Time. At the meeting, we will ask resource agency representatives to confirm the accuracy and completeness of the draft environmental scan report, which was provided on CD (by mail) and may also be viewed on the study website (http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/fairview/). We encourage agency representatives to join us in person or by phone.

MDT Planning Division Conference Room C 2960 Prospect Avenue Helena, MT 59601

MDT Glendive District Conference Room 503 N River Avenue Glendive, MT 59330

GoTo Meeting

https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/554071605

Dial +1 (408) 650-3131 Access Code: 554-071-605

Audio PIN: Shown after joining the meeting

Meeting ID: 554-071-605

Additional information is provided in the attached updated letter. Please contact Sarah Nicolai, Consultant Project Manager, at HYPERLINK "mailto:snicolai@dowl.com" snicolai@dowl.com or 406.324.7412 by July 22, 2015, to confirm your participation in the meeting. Thank you!



Montana Department of Transportation

Michael T. Tooley, Director Steve Bullock, Governor

2701 Prospect Avenue PO Box 201001 Helena MT 59620-1001

To:

Resource Agency Distribution

Subject:

Fairview Corridor Planning Study

The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) has initiated a corridor planning study to investigate improvement options in the Fairview, Montana (MT), area in response to Bakken oil field development. This study is being performed in partnership with the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT); the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); Fairview, MT; East Fairview, MT; Richland County, MT; and McKenzie County, North Dakota (ND).

The study area includes an area around the town of Fairview extending into North Dakota sufficient to assess improvements on existing and potential new routes.

MDT invites you to attend a resource agency meeting to discuss existing and projected transportation and environmental conditions in the study area, and identify any issues or concerns regarding environmental resources that may be affected by potential future improvement options.

When: Tuesday, July 28, 2015, at 10:00 AM Mountain Daylight Time

Where: MDT Planning Division

Conference Room A 2960 Prospect Avenue Helena, MT 59601 or

MDT Glendive District Conference Room 503 N River Avenue

Glendive, MT 59330

GoTo Meeting
https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/554071605
Dial +1 (408) 650-3131
Access Code: 554-071-605

Audio PIN: Shown after joining the meeting

Meeting ID: 554-071-605

Please review the draft environmental scan report and draft existing and projected conditions report in advance of the meeting. An electronic version of these documents is provided on the enclosed CD. If you are unable to attend the resource agency meeting, please forward these files to an appropriate agency designee.

Please provide comments on the enclosed reports by **August 7, 2015**, to Vicki Crnich at the address indicated on the letterhead. Additional information about the study is available at the study website (http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/fairview/).

Page 2 of 2 July 14, 2015

Please contact Sarah Nicolai, Consultant Project Manager, by July 22, 2015, to confirm your participation in the resource agency meeting.

Sarah Nicolai DOWL 1300 Cedar Street Helena, MT 59601 406.324.7412 snicolai@dowl.com

Thank you in advance for your agency's input.

Sincerely,

Tom Martin

MDT Environmental Services Bureau Chief

Enclosure

Resource Agency Distribution:

David Fronczak, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Julie DalSoglio, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Mike McGrath, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Montana)

Terry Ellsworth, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (North Dakota)

Todd Tillinger, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Montana)

Dan Cimarosti, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (North Dakota)

Chris Pileski, MT Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Mike Humann, ND Department of Trust Lands

Renee Lemon, MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Brad Schmitz, MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Jim Darling, MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Steve Dyke, ND Game and Fish Department

Marcy Hamburg, Richland County, Montana, Planning Department

Lindsay Perusich, McKenzie County, North Dakota, Planning and Zoning Department

Mindy McCarthy, MT Department of Environmental Quality

Michael Ell, ND Department of Health, Environmental Health Section

David Glatt, ND Department of Health, Environmental Health Section

Diane Friez, U.S. Bureau of Land Management

Lucas Phillips, McKenzie Ranger District, U.S. Forest Service (North Dakota)

Copies (without enclosure):

Vicki Crnich, MDT

Steve Mullen, NDDOT

File



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION
Gold Seal Center, 918 E. Divide Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501-1947
701.328.5200 (fax)
www.ndhealth.gov

July 31, 2015

Ms. Vicki Crnich Montana Dept. of Transportation P.O. Box 201001 Helena, MT 59620-1001

Re: Fairview Corridor Planning Study McKenzie County, North Dakota

Dear Ms. Crnich:

This department has reviewed the information concerning the above-referenced project submitted under date of June 24, 2015, with respect to possible environmental impacts.

This department believes that environmental impacts from the proposed construction will be minor and can be controlled by proper construction methods. With respect to construction, we have the following comments:

- All necessary measures must be taken to minimize fugitive dust emissions created during construction activities. Any complaints that may arise are to be dealt with in an efficient and effective manner.
- 2. Projects disturbing one or more acres are required to have a permit to discharge storm water runoff until the site is stabilized by the reestablishment of vegetation or other permanent cover. Further information on the storm water permit may be obtained from the Department's website or by calling the Division of Water Quality (701.328.5210). Also, cities may impose additional requirements and/or specific best management practices for construction affecting their storm drainage system. Check with the local officials to be sure any local storm water management considerations are addressed.
- 3. Noise from construction activities may have adverse effects on persons who live near the construction area. Noise levels can be minimized by ensuring that construction equipment is equipped with a recommended muffler in good working order. Noise effects can also be minimized by ensuring that construction activities are not conducted during early morning or late evening hours.

The department owns no land in or adjacent to the proposed improvements, nor does it have any projects scheduled in the area. In addition, we believe the proposed activities are consistent with the State Implementation Plan for the Control of Air Pollution for the State of North Dakota.

If you have any questions regarding our comments, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

L. David Glatt, P.E., Chief Environmental Health Section

LDG:cc



Fairview Corridor Planning Study Resource Agency Meeting July 2015











Welcome and Introductions

Meeting Format

Presentation

- Overview of planning study process
- Key findings from draft existing and projected conditions report
 - Transportation Conditions
 - Environmental Conditions

Discussion Period





What is a Planning Study?

Transportation Agencies

Resource Agencies

Public

Planning

Project Development (Preliminary Design, Environmental Compliance, Final Design)

Construction Maintenance Operations

A planning study is conducted <u>before</u> design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction for an individual project.







Background & Goal of Study

- Increasing traffic in Fairview due to oil and gas development
- Study will identify options to address needs
 - Improvements to existing routes
 - Potential new route(s) around Fairview







Planning Study Overview

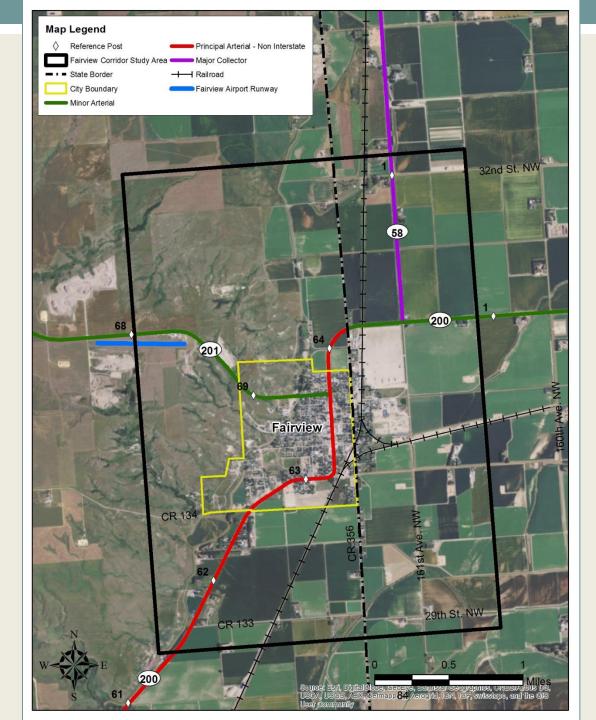
- Existing and Projected Conditions
- Informational Meeting # 1
- Resource Agency Meeting

We Are Here

- Needs and Objectives
- Route Identification & Screening
- Informational Meeting # 2
- Draft Study Report
- Public/Agency Review Period
- Final Study Report







Study Area

Within both Montana and North Dakota

S. Boundary: just south of CR 133 and 29th St. NW

N. Boundary: just north of 32nd St. NW

W. Boundary: extends north and south from RP 68 on MT Hwy 201

E. Boundary: extends north and south from RP 1 on ND Hwy 200







Recent and Future Projects

Agency	Project	Date
	Fairview Intersections	2012
	Glendive Rumble Strip Program	2013
MDT	MT 200-Fairview	2016
	Sidney to Fairview	2016
	Fairview-West	2019
NDDOT	State Line to JCT US 85	2016
וטטטוו	JCT 200 N to JCT ND 1804	2016

Fairview Corridor
Planning Study is
separate from
Fairview-West
and ND 200
projects







Transportation System

Roadway Overview

- MT 201 part of separate Fairview-West project
- Classification
 - MT 200: principal arterial
 - ND 200: minor arterial
 - ND 58: major collector
- 2-lane and 4-lane sections; 12-foot travel lanes and varying shoulders
- Right-of-way widths vary from 80 feet to 170 feet from centerline
- Level terrain







Bridges

RP	Location	Year Built (Recon)	Structure Condition	Deck Condition
0.14	1M SW of Fairview	1978	Poor	Good
0.01	West edge of Fairview	2008	Good	Good
0.02	SW edge of Fairview	1908 (1980)	Fair	Good
69.34	Fairview	1934	Good	Good

2 of 4 bridges are candidates for repair or replacement (Fair or Poor Condition)





Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities



- Intermittent sidewalks in Fairview
- No dedicated facilities outside of Fairview
- Shoulders along MT 200, ND 200, ND 58





Drainage Condition



- Rural drainage is generally sufficient
- Grated trough structures within Fairview are not effective; standing water and truck traffic results in mud splatter
- Drainage within Fairview will be addressed in future project





Pavement Condition

Hwy	Begin RP	End RP	Roughness Index Rating
MT 200	61.4	62.3	Fair
	62.3	63.7	Poor
	63.7	64.2	Fair
ND 200	0.00	4.00	Fair
ND 58	0.00	6.00	Good

- Fair to poor roughness index rating for MT 200 and ND 200
- Rutting observed during field review
- Truck traffic increasing roadway deterioration
- Future projects in MT and ND will address pavement deficiencies, resulting in good pavement condition





Geometrics



ND 200/ND 58 geometrics were assessed as part of separate planned projects.

MT 200 areas that do not meet current MDT design criteria:

- 4 of 5 horizontal curves
- Obstructions within the clear zone in Fairview





Crash History



MT 200 (2004 to 2013)

- 66 crashes, 22 injuries, and 0 fatalities
- Most were fixed object, rear end, and roll over
- 13 crashes involved trucks
- Most intersection-related crashes occurred at MT 200/MT 201.

ND 200 (2010 to 2013)

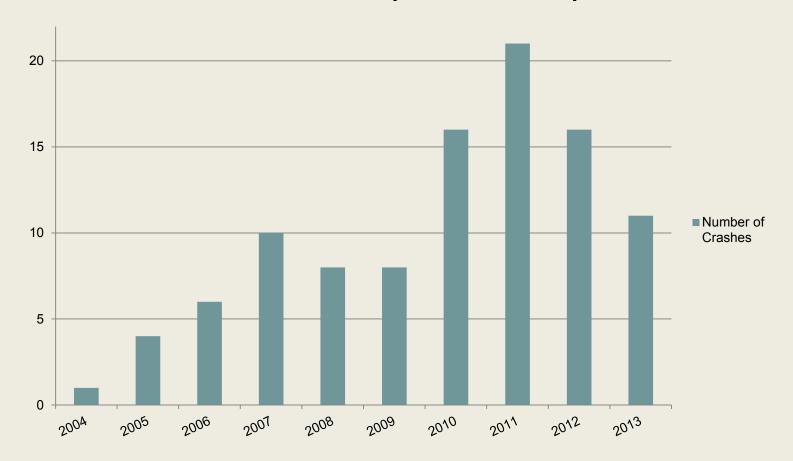
- 20 crashes, 8 injuries, and 0 fatalities
- Most were left turn, angle, and rear end





Crash History

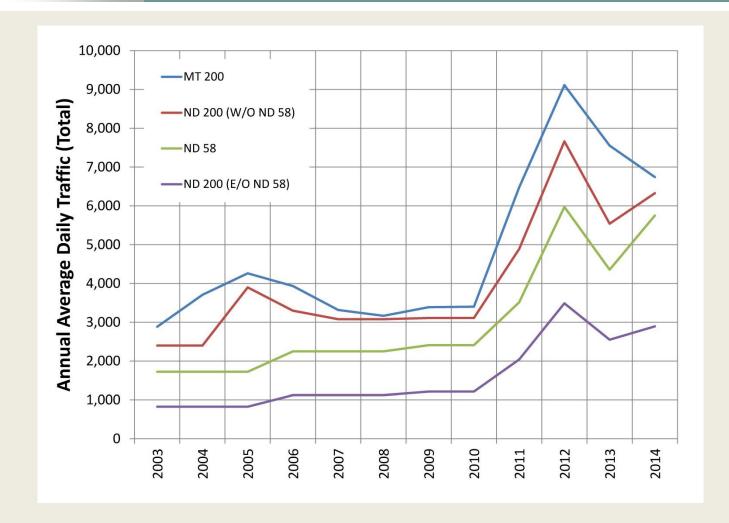
MT 200 Crashes (2004 to 2013)







Historic Traffic Volumes

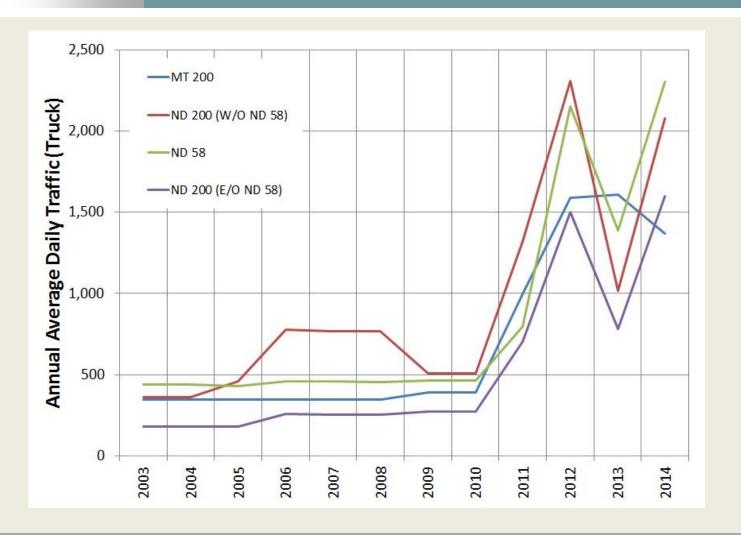


Substantial increase in volumes in recent years





Historic Truck Volumes

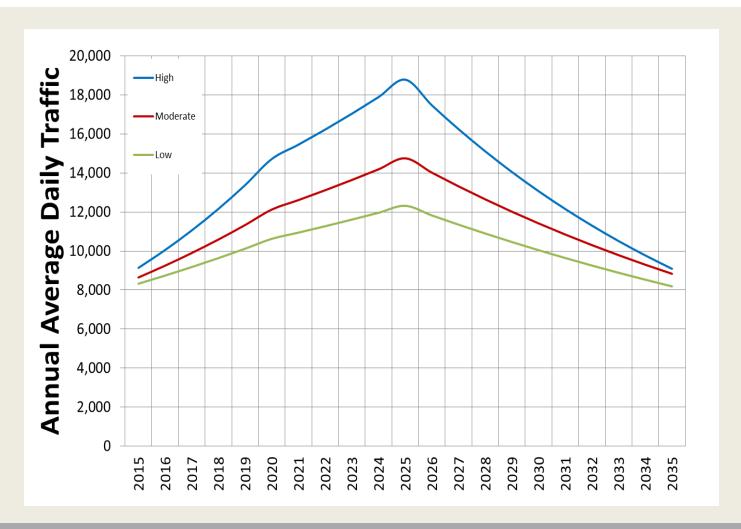


Substantial increase in volumes in recent years





Projected Traffic Volumes



for MT 200, ND 200 (west of ND 58), and ND 58





Traffic Operations

Level of Service (LOS)

Vehicular Level of Service

- A Free flow conditions
- B Reasonably free flow
- Stable flow; maneuverability somewhat restricted
- Approaching unstable flow
- Unstable flow; at capacity
- Traffic volumes exceed capacity







Segment Operations

Intersection		Year	WB PM Peak Hour LOS	
A	2-lane Segment South of Fairview	Existing 2015	С	
		Projected 2025	D	
		Projected 2035	С	
	4-lane Segment in Fairview	Existing 2015	Α	
В		Projected 2025	Α	
		Projected 2035	Α	
	2-lane Segment Between 2 nd Street and ND 58	Existing 2015	D	
C		Projected 2025	E	
		Projected 2035	D	
D	2-lane Segment East of ND 58	Existing 2015	В	
		Projected 2025	С	
		Projected 2035	В	

Desirable LOS

MDT (principal arterial): **LOS B**

NDDOT (ND 200/ND 58): **LOS C**





Intersection Operations

	Intersection	Year	Approach	AM Peak Hour LOS	PM Peak Hour LOS
1	ND 58 and ND 200 (1-lane Roundabout)	Existing 2015	EB	В	В
		Projected 2025	EB	С	D
		Projected 2035	EB	Α	Α
2	MT 200 and MT 201	Existing 2015	NB	Α	Α
		Projected 2025	NB	В	С
		Projected 2035	NB	Α	Α

LOS based on worst intersection leg.

Desirable LOS

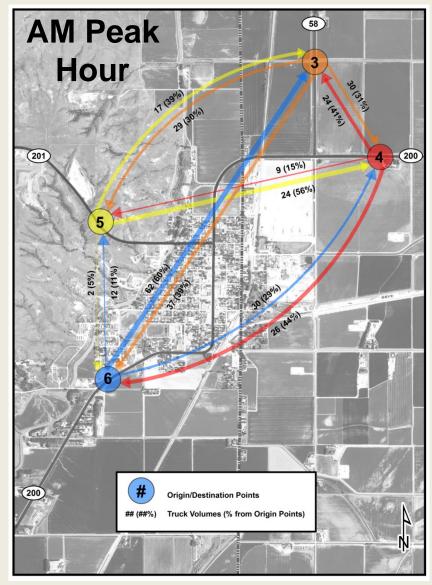
MDT (principal arterial): LOS B

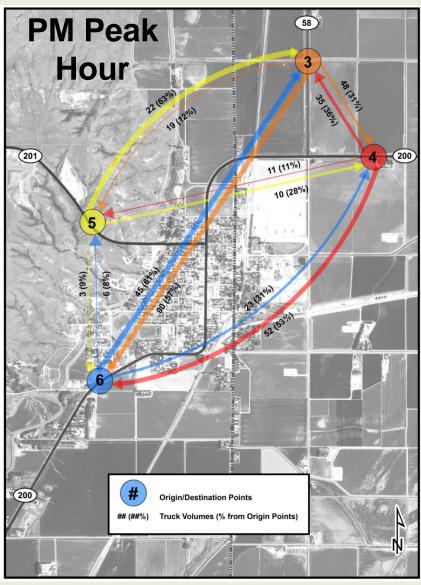
NDDOT (ND 200/ND 58): **LOS C**





Origin-Destination Analysis







Environmental Conditions

Farmland





- Soil surveys indicate the majority of the study area is either:
 - farmland of statewide importance (ND soil surveys) or
 - prime farmland if irrigated (MT soil surveys)





Surface Water/Wetlands

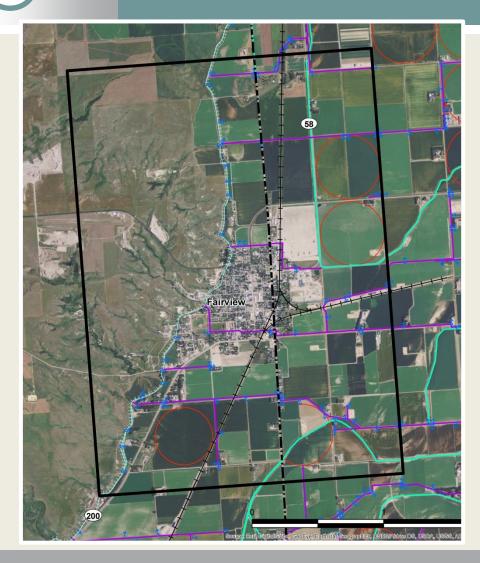


- Surface water is primarily seasonal irrigation ditches and canals.
- Fringe wetlands observed along irrigation ditches/canals throughout the study area.
- Two man-made freshwater ponds – one being the Fairview sewer ponds.
- Special Flood Hazard Area bisects the town of Fairview.





Irrigation

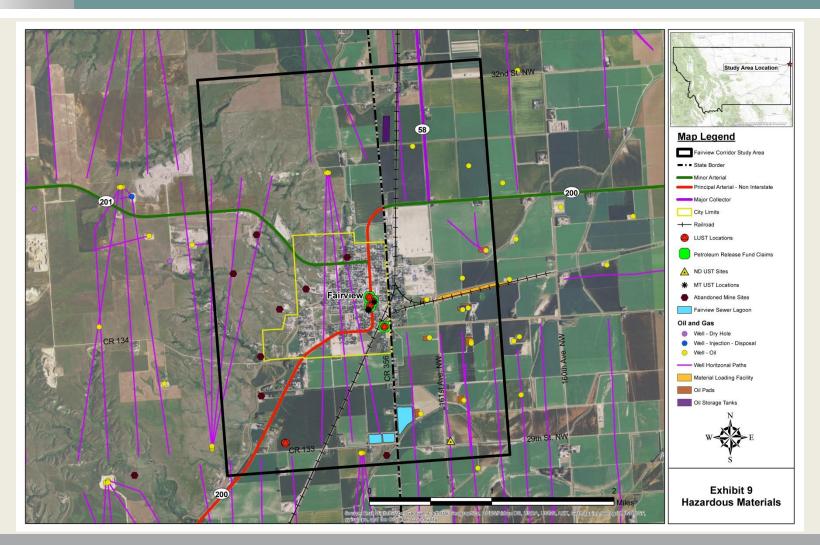


- Study area is within the Lower Yellowstone Irrigation District.
- Irrigation infrastructure within the study area includes:
 - the Main Canal,
 - six lateral ditches,
 - two irrigation drains,
 - a smaller network of ditches, and
 - several large pivots.





Hazardous Materials







Hazardous Materials





- Ten active underground storage tanks.
- Eight leaking underground storage tanks.
- Eight abandoned or inactive mine sites.
- Town of Fairview sewer lagoon.
- Several oil/gas wells and horizontal drilling paths.
- Three reported oil spills in ND.





General Wildlife



- White-tailed and mule deer are common throughout corridor.
- Study area is located within the distribution range for pronghorn and sharp-tailed grouse.
- ND designates the study area as primary range for the black-tailed prairie dog.
- 5 animal carcasses collected from 2004-2012,
 concentrated from RP 61.5 to RP 64.1
- Seasonal irrigation ditches and canals are not considered suitable habitat for aquatic species.





Threatened/Endangered, Species of Concern, and Species of Conservation

Threatened/Endangered Species		Federal Status
	Greater sage-grouse	Candidate
	Sprague's pipit	Candidate
	Piping plover	Threatened
	Red knot	Threatened
Wildlife	Least tern	Endangered
Species	Whooping crane	Endangered
	Gray wolf	Endangered
	Northern long-eared bat	Threatened
	Black-footed ferret	Endangered
Insect Species	Dakota skipper	Threatened
Fish Species	Pallid sturgeon	Endangered

- Several sensitive species known to occur outside study area. Given high degree of disturbance, sensitive species <u>likely not</u> found within study area.
- No known bald or golden eagle nests within the study.
- Study area is within ND Game and Fish primary golden eagle breeding range.





Land Use











Cultural/Archeological Resources

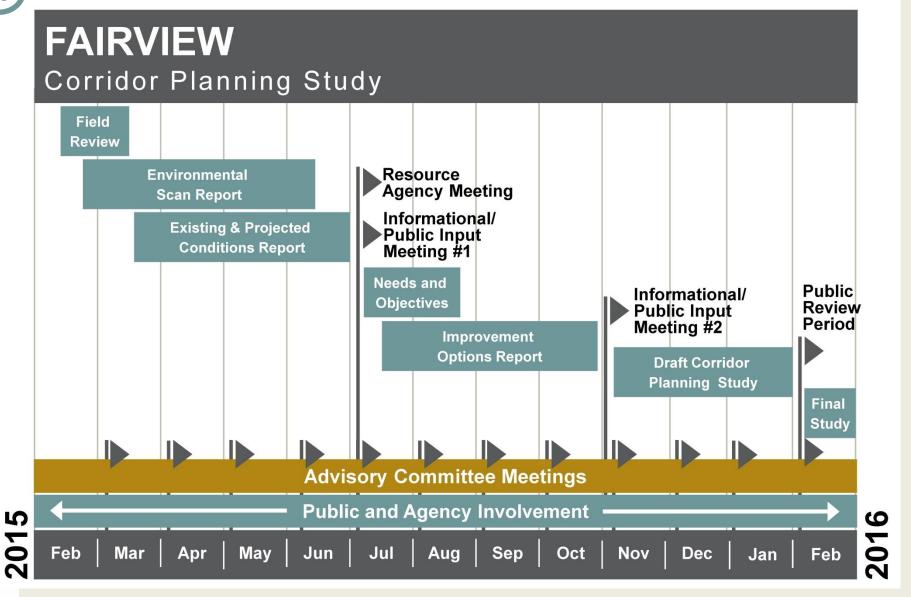




- Seven eligible sites
 within the study area
 including historic
 railroads and
 irrigation systems.
- Unrecorded sites likely occur within study area.







Submit Comments

- Please submit comments by August 7, 2015
- Website (http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/fairview/)
- Mail/e-mail comments to:

Vicki Crnich
Montana Department of Transportation
2701 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620-1001
vcrnich@mt.gov











Discussion Period

Office Locations

ALASKA

Anchorage Juneau Fairbanks Ketchikan Kodiak Palmer

ARIZONA

Tempe Tucson

COLORADO

Golden Gunnison Montrose

MONTANA

Billings Bozeman Butte Great Falls Helena Miles City

NORTH DAKOTA

Dickinson

OREGON

Bend

WASHINGTON

Redmond Seattle

WYOMING

Gillette Lander Laramie

MEETING MINUTES

Date:	May 10, 2016	Start Time: 6:00 p.m.	End Time: 8:00 p.m.
Meeting called	Fairview School		Attandana
by:	713 S Western Ave	Attendees:	
Project:	Fairview Corridor Planning Study		Noted within the minutes.
Project Number:	DOWL: 4638.11506		
Subject:	Informational/Public		

Introduction

An informational/public input meeting for the Fairview Corridor Planning Study was held on May 10, 2016, at the Fairview School cafeteria located at 713 S Western Ave, Fairview, Montana. The following Montana Department of Transportation (MDT), North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT), and DOWL representatives attended the meeting.

Vicki Crnich	MDT Statewide and Urban Planning
Shane Mintz	MDT Glendive District Administrator
Jim Frank	MDT Glendive District
Suhail Kanwar	McKenzie County
Henry Miller	McKenzie County
Steve Mullen	NDDOT Land Use Planner
Nik Griffith	DOWL Project Administrator
Sarah Nicolai	DOWL Project Manager
Cody Salo	DOWL Senior Engineer

Sixteen (16) people signed the meeting sign-in sheets. Meeting attendees included Loren Young and Duane Mitchell, Richland County Commissioners; Adam Smith, Richland County Public Works; and Jason Elletson and Kevin Dahl, Fairview City Council members. Copies of the sign-in sheets are appended to this memorandum.

Media Coordination and Newsletter

The informational/public input meeting was advertised in the *Sidney Roundup* on April 20 and May 4, 2016, and the *Sidney Herald* on April 24 and May 8, 2016. A news release was e-mailed to the Fairview media list on May 4, 2016. The study newsletter was published to the study website at www.mtd.mt.gov/pubinvolve/fairview and mailed to stakeholders. Copies of these documents are appended to this memorandum.

Presentation

DOWL representatives Sarah Nicolai and Cody Salo presented the corridor study planning process, emphasizing public involvement as a major component. Ms. Nicolai focused on existing and projected transportation conditions within the study area, needs and objectives, and funding feasibility. Mr. Salo discussed potential improvement options. A copy of the presentation is appended to this memorandum.

Discussion Period

A discussion period was held following the presentation to allow members of the public to provide input or request clarification about the study. Shane Mintz, Steve Mullen, Ms. Nicolai, and Mr. Salo responded to public questions and comments. Topics are summarized below.

Project Feasibility and Timeline

An attendee asked about the feasibility of improvements occurring along the corridor given current funding constraints. Mr. Mintz explained that funding for projects in the district has been allotted for the next five years, but MDT will continue to observe conditions in the area. Ms. Nicolai added should conditions in the study area continue to require improvements; projects may be reprioritized to preserve system function.

Right-of-way and Eminent Domain

Several members of the public expressed concern with alternative alignments that appeared to affect numerous properties. Ms. Nicolai explained the proposed alignments were planning-level recommendations. Should any of the improvements reach the project stage, MDT would engage property owners directly to identify impacts and solutions. Mr. Mintz added MDT attempts to compensate property owners at fair market price.

Quantm Modeling

Attendees asked questions about the Quantm process. Topics covered speed inputs, roadway grades, and avoid zones. Attendees specifically asked for clarification on how the program interacted and accounted for each of the input elements. Mr. Salo explained the Quantm process and relayed how the data were input into the program to produce alternative alignments.

MT 201 Traffic

A member of the public asked how traffic traveling eastbound on MT 201 would interact with possible new alignments. Mr. Salo and Mr. Mintz explained that the new alignments were modeled in a manner that would make them useful alternatives to the current alignments for traffic traveling through the area.

Economic Impacts

Concern was expressed about the effect of a bypass on the town of Fairview. Mr. Mintz, Mr. Salo, and Ms. Nicolai explained that Montana state law requires bypass options be reviewed and approved by local governments before projects may proceed. Mr. Mintz added this is to ensure all possible impacts are assessed, including the possible economic changes Fairview

could experience. Mr. Mullen added multiple bypasses (or truck reliever routes) have been finished in North Dakota communities which could provide background information regarding these concerns.

Travel Time and Alternative Alignment Usage

An attendee asked if the new alignments would save travel time. Mr. Salo explained they saved travelers around 2 minutes of travel time. The attendee expressed concern that such a low savings may not be attractive to truck drivers. Mr. Salo and other attendees explained travel time savings are a large factor in alternative route decisions and the alignments could be attractive with these savings.

Funding Availability

Mr. Mintz explained to attendees that the Glendive District funding was committed for the next five years and a number of projects have been identified beyond the five-year plan. Funding from other sources could include increased FAST Act allocations, TIGER grants, and FASTLANE grant funding.

Timeline

Members of the public asked what the timeline for a project would be. Mr. Mintz and Ms. Nicolai explained this effort was a study and MDT has not made a decision to move forward with a project at this time. Mr. Mintz reiterated the District's funding was allocated for the next five years and beyond, but there were other funding options available that could be pursued. Ms. Nicolai added increased traffic volumes associated with a resurgence in the oil and gas industry could expedite the need for possible improvements. Ms. Crnich said MDT would continue to monitor the area as it had before to assess those factors.

Written Comments

Two written comments were received regarding support for the western alignment and impact minimization and permitting associated with future project development. Copies of written comments, the presentation, and sign-in sheets are included at the end of the memorandum.

Fairview Corridor Planning Study Informational Meeting #2

Tueday, May 10, 2016

Name /	Organization/Title	Address	City, State, Zip	Email
John & Lathleen H		B1X115	Beach, ND 58621	
Jan Xamuen J	RICHLAND CONNTY			ASMITHE RICHANDIORS
Mosan Smith	Fairview Town Come:	POBOX 82 Feigure MT		elletson 1974 eymail. com
Jason Elletson		POBOX 82 Fairvia MT 3209 Jule	Willistano 58801	Smuler @ ND. and
	~ willsta rippot	422 W.10th St Fairven	01 - 1 00	Smyler @ ND: 40V kdeo@midrivers, com
Kevin Dahl	Fairview City Council	Tad W.10- IT Parven		
	Richland Count 9	13705 CR 351	Fairur MT 59221	
Charlelyn young			" " "	
BEIAN JEWS	WST.	16105 321 ST		
Joen H. Joung		13705 CR 351	es co	
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Fairview Corridor Planning Study Informational Meeting #2

Tueday, May 10, 2016

Name	Organization/Title	Address	City, State, Zip	Email
We Sollth	Dowl	438 Dearboren #2	Helena, Mit 5960)	nguffthe dowl com
Cody Lato	Now			0 11.
War Nicolai	DOWL	1300 Cedar Street	Helena UT 5960)	£
Connie Talliet		DIN 1st street	Farrice Mt. 59221	
Comme Jables		35467 CR 133	Farriw	Sksteer@gmail.com
Sabrina Steer		GIU 4 ²⁶ St h	Farusen MT 55001	Ge a midrivers. com
Brian Breser	city could	2912 1612 Ave NW	Fairview AT 59221	Millerjerrick Oyahoo, con
Jerrick Miller	FFO'	alla 161 Ave 10 W		shand or QCo, mekey e. nd. u)
Suhail Kanwar	McKenne County	201 Sty St. Nov	Waterd City, NO S8854	suand rate many end a
MENTE C Nollen	McKenzie County	294 16) - Ale N	W FAIRDY CENTY	
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April 14, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lori Ryan, Public Information Officer, (406)444-6821, lryan@mt.gov

Informational Meeting to Discuss Fairview Corridor Planning Study

Fairview — The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT), in coordination with the North Dakota Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, City of Fairview, and Richland and McKenzie counties, is conducting a public informational meeting to discuss the Fairview Corridor Planning Study.

The meeting will be held in Fairview on Tuesday, May 10, at the Fairview School cafeteria (713 S. Western Ave.). A presentation will begin at 6:00 p.m., followed by an informal discussion.

The Fairview Corridor Planning Study is a pre-environmental study initiated in February 2015 that allows for planning-level coordination with community members, stakeholders, environmental resource agencies, and other interested parties. The study area includes highways Montana 200, North Dakota 200, North Dakota 58, and the area immediately surrounding Fairview. The study identified potential improvement options, which will assist in facilitating a smooth and efficient transition from transportation planning to future project development and environmental review.

This public meeting will not focus on Montana 201, which is being evaluated separately as part of another MDT project (Fairview-West).

The purpose of the meeting is to explain the planning study process; present information about existing and projected roadway condition, needs and objectives, and improvement options; and solicit public comment on the draft study report. Beginning April 29, 2016, the draft corridor study report may be viewed at:

http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/fairview/

Public participation is a very important part of the process, and the public is encouraged to attend. Comments may be submitted at the meeting, by mail to Sarah Nicolai, DOWL, 1300 Cedar Street, Helena, MT 59601, by email to snicolai@dowl.com, or online at:

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http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/fairview/

Please indicate comments are for the Fairview Corridor Planning Study and submit by May 30 to ensure your comments are adequately reviewed and considered during project development.

Interested parties are encouraged to join the study mailing list by submitting their name and contact information to Sarah Nicolai at snicolai@dowl.com.

MDT attempts to provide accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's participation in any service, program or activity of the department. If you require reasonable accommodations to participate in this meeting, please call Sarah Nicolai at (406) 324-7412 at least two days before the meeting.

Alternative accessible formats of this information will be provided upon request by contacting the Office of Civil Rights, P.O. Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620; (406) 444-9229; fax (406) 444-7234; or email aflesch@mt.gov. For the hearing impaired, the TTY number is (406) 444-7696 or 1-800-335-7592, or call Montana Relay at 711.

-----END-----

Project name: Fairview Corridor Planning Study Richland County, Montana, and McKenzie County, North Dakota



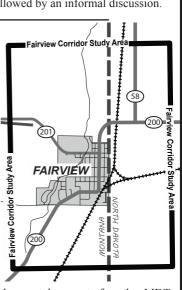
Public Informational Meeting

To Discuss Fairview Corridor Planning Study

The Montana Department of Transportation, in coordination with the North Dakota Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, City of Fairview, and Richland and McKenzie counties, is conducting a public informational meeting to discuss the Fairview Corridor Planning Study.

The meeting will be held in Fairview on Tuesday, May 10, at the Fairview School cafeteria (713 S. Western Ave.). A presentation will begin at 6:00 p.m., followed by an informal discussion.

The Fairview Corridor Planning Study allows for planning-level coordination with community members, stakeholders, environmental resource agencies, and other interested parties. The study (area shown on the map) identified potential improvement options, which will assist in facilitating a smooth and efficient transition from transportation planning to future project development and environmental review. This second public meeting will not focus on Montana



201, which is being evaluated separately as part of another MDT project (Fairview-West). The purpose of the meeting is to explain the planning study process; present information about existing and projected roadway condition, needs and objectives, and improvement options; and solicit public comment on the draft study report.

This meeting is open to the public and attendance is encouraged. MDT attempts to provide accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's participation in any department service, program or activity. For reasonable accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact Sarah Nicolai at (406) 324-7412 at least two days prior to the meeting.

Alternative accessible formats of this information will be provided upon request by contacting the Office of Civil Rights, P.O. Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620; (406) 444-9229; fax (406) 444-7243, or e-mail to aflesch@mt.gov. Those using a TTY may call (800) 335-7592 or through the Montana Relay Service at 711.

Beginning April 29, 2016, the draft report may be viewed at:

http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/fairview/

Comments may be submitted in writing at the meeting; by mail to Sarah Nicolai, DOWL, 1300 Cedar Street, Helena, MT 59601; by email to snicolai@dowl.com; or online at the link above.

Please indicate comments are for the Fairview Corridor Planning Study and submit comments by May 30, 2016.



Fairview Corridor Planning Study

STUDY DESCRIPTION

The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT), in coordination with the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT); City of Fairview; Richland County, Montana; McKenzie County, North Dakota; and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), have completed the Fairview Corridor Planning Study to investigate transportation improvements within the Fairview area. The goal of the study was to assess current and projected conditions and identify options to address identified needs on MT 200/ND 200. A separate project (Fairview-West) is addressing transportation needs for MT 201.

WHAT ARE THE STUDY NEEDS?

Needs and objectives for the Fairview study were developed through a review of existing and projected conditions, input from members of the public and resource agencies, and coordination with the study advisory committee.

<u>Need 1:</u> Accommodate existing and projected transportation demands within the study area.

<u>Need 2:</u> Provide transportation facilities that safely support travel for all modes.

A full list of needs, objectives, and other considerations are included in the draft report posted to the study website at http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve fairview

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Study Description 1
Study Needs1
Improvement
Options2
Optimized
Alignments 4
Involvement
Opportunities 4
Study Schedule 4

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN INFORMATIONAL/ PUBLIC INPUT MEETING!

May 10, 2016, at 6:00 p.m.

Fairview School Cafeteria 713 S. Western Ave Fairview, MT







Improvement Options

NEW ALIGNMENTS

MDT used Quantm modeling software to identify new planning-level alignments satisfying geometric, social, environmental, and terrain constraints in consideration of public and stakeholder feedback. The Quantm system considers millions of route options before delivering a range of options that best meet planning needs and objectives, while balancing social and environmental impacts against cost scenarios. Six optimized alignments were identified through this process (see figure at right). **Western** (Blue)

Eastern 1 (Red)

1A: 1 new overpass, 1 at-grade railroad spur crossing

1B: 2 new overpasses

Eastern 2 (Yellow)

2A: 2 at-grade railroad crossings

2B: 1 new overpass, 1 at-grade railroad spur crossing

2C: 2 new overpasses

The six optimized alignments were evaluated according to the following screening criteria: route length and travel time, at-grade rail crossings, parcel impacts and right-of-way acquisition, wetland impacts, farmland impacts, irrigation impacts, access point density, and cost.

Based on the screening process, MDT determined the best performing alternative is the western alignment.

EXISTING ALIGNMENTS

The study also identified improvements to existing roadways.

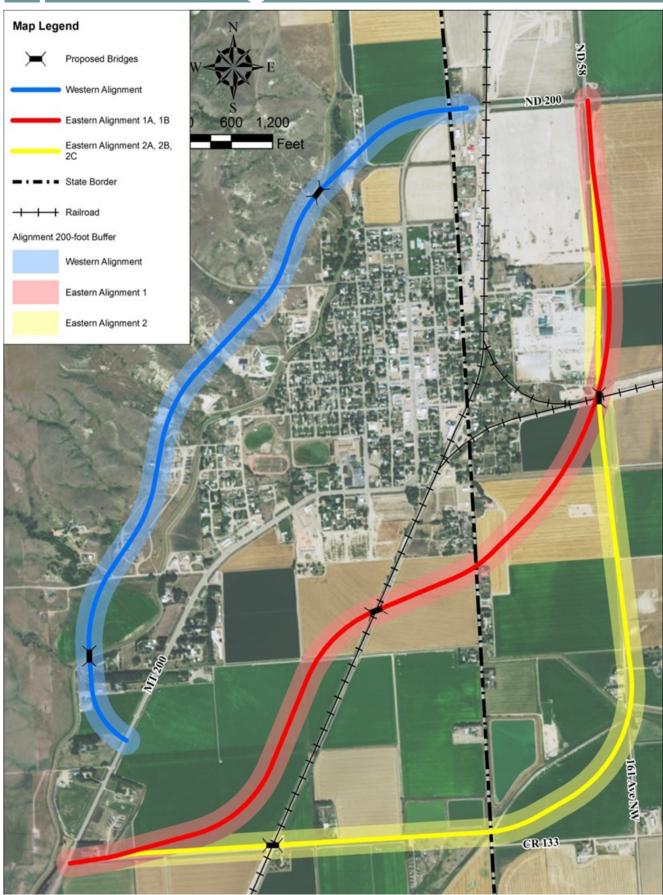
OPTION 1: ROADWAY WIDENING (THREE LANES)

 Widen MT 200 from the existing two-lane highway to a three-lane highway south of Fairview between County Road 133 and 0.2 miles south of County Road 134.

OPTION 2: SIDEWALK/ADA IMPROVEMENTS

Reconstruct existing sidewalk to meet Public Rights-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG) for curb ramp requirements, and construct new sidewalk as needed to improve pedestrian safety and provide continuous pedestrian access.

Optimized Alignments



STUDY CONTACTS

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MDT Glendive District
Administrator
406-345-8212
smintz@mt.gov

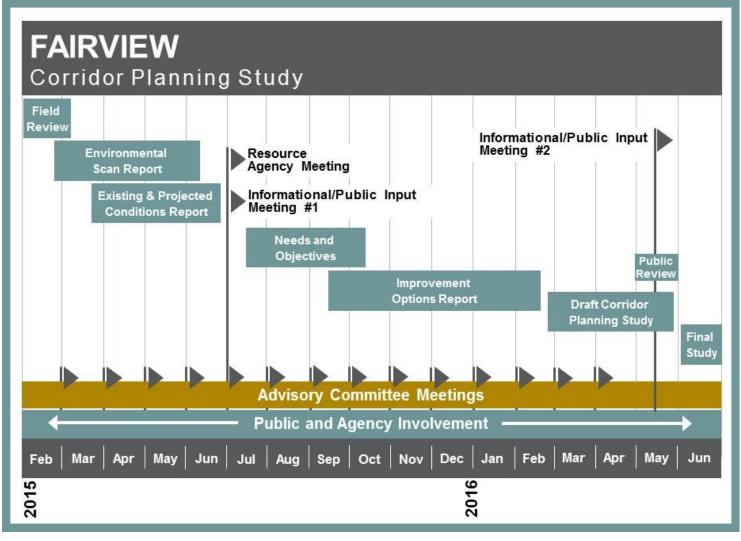
Vicki Crnich MDT Project Manager 406-444-7653 vcrnich@mt.gov

Sarah Nicolai DOWL Project Manager 406-324-7412 snicolai@dowlcom

INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The final informational/public input meeting is scheduled on <u>May, 10, 2016</u>, at the Fairview School Cafeteria, 713 S. Western Avenue, in Fairview, MT at 6:00 p.m. We encourage you to attend and provide comments on the draft corridor study report. Beginning April 29, 2016, the draft report may be viewed at http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/fairview/documents.shtml.

MDT attempts to provide accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's participation in any service, program or activity of the department. Alternative accessible formats of this information will be provide upon request. For more information, please call Sarah Nicolai at (406) 324-7412 or Montana Relay at 711.









Title VI Considerations

This meeting is held pursuant to Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which ensures that no person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination on the basis of a protected status under any MDT program or activity.



Meeting Format

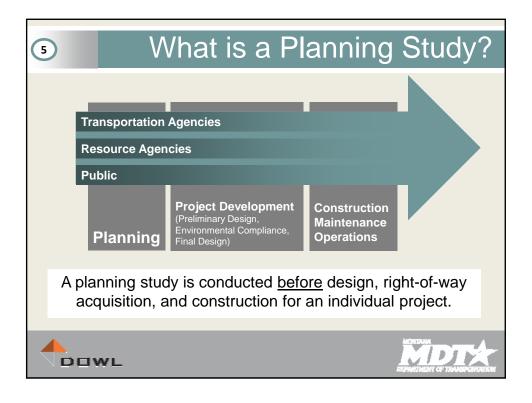
Presentation

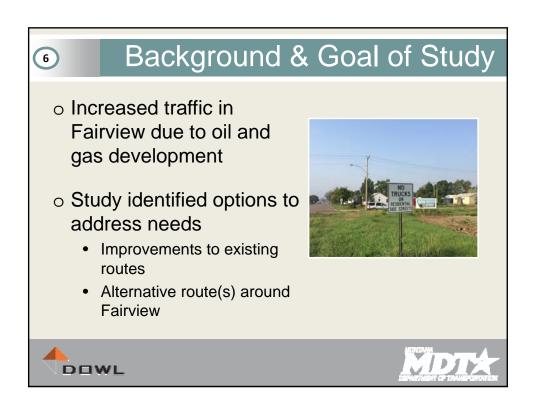
- Planning Study Process
- Existing and Projected Conditions
- Needs and Objectives
- Improvements Options
- Study Recommendations

Discussion Period









7

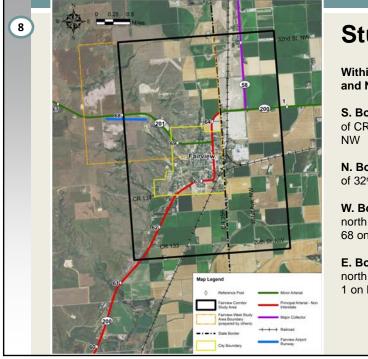
Planning Study Overview

- o Existing and Projected Conditions
- Informational/Public Input Meeting # 1
- o Resource Agency Meeting
- Needs and Objectives
- o Improvements and Route Identification
- Draft Study Report
- o Informational/Public Input Meeting # 2
- o Public/Agency Review Period
- Final Study Report

We Are Here



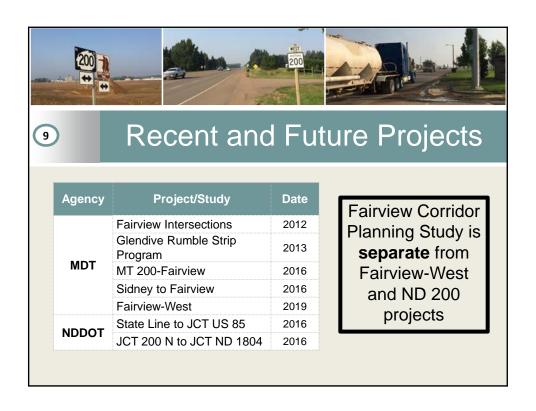


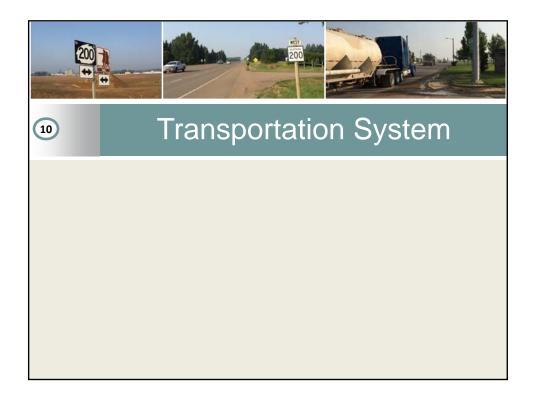


Study Area

Within both Montana and North Dakota

- **S. Boundary:** just south of CR 133 and 29th St. NW
- **N. Boundary:** just north of 32nd St. NW
- W. Boundary: extends north and south from RP 68 on MT Hwy 201
- E. Boundary: extends north and south from RP 1 on ND Hwy 200





(11)

Roadway Overview

o MT 201 part of separate Fairview-West project and not the focus of this study and meeting

Classification

- MT 200: principal arterial
- ND 200: minor arterial
- ND 58: major collector
- o 2-lane and 4-lane sections; 12-foot travel lanes and varying shoulders
- o Right-of-way widths vary from 80 feet to 170 feet from centerline
- Level terrain









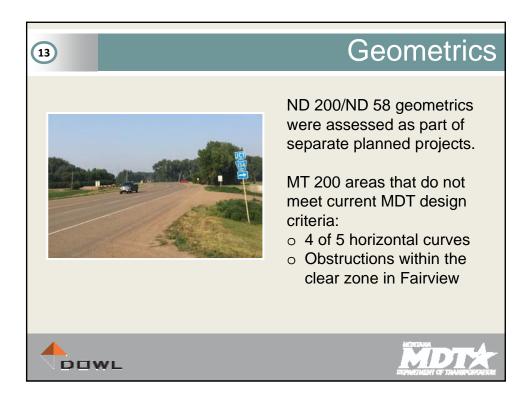
Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities

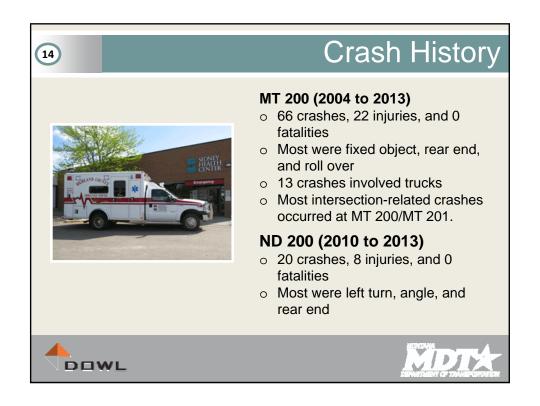


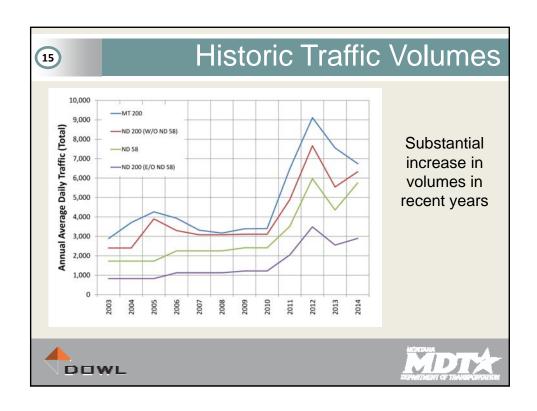
- o Intermittent sidewalks in Fairview
- o 4- to 8-foot shoulders along MT 200, ND 200, **ND 58**

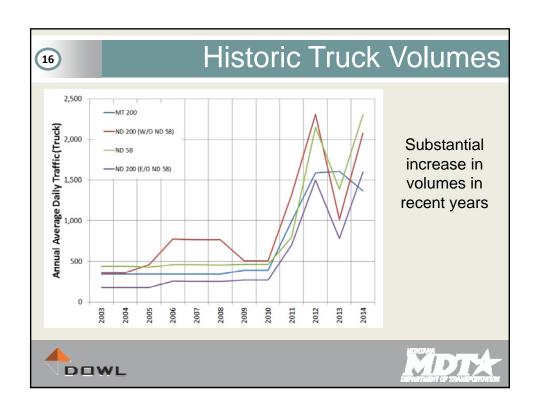


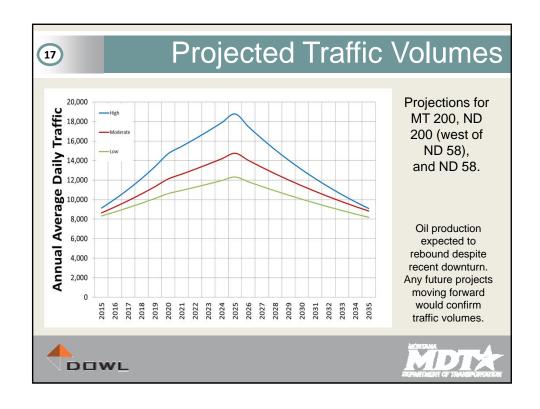


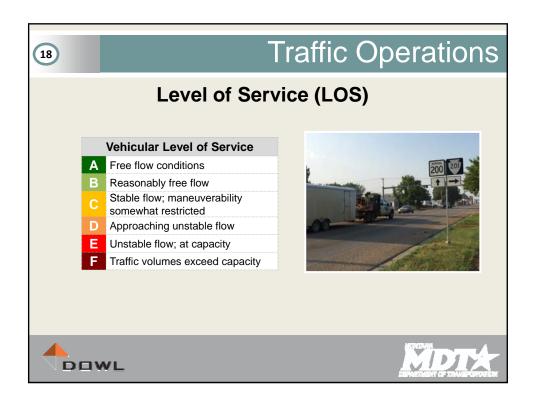




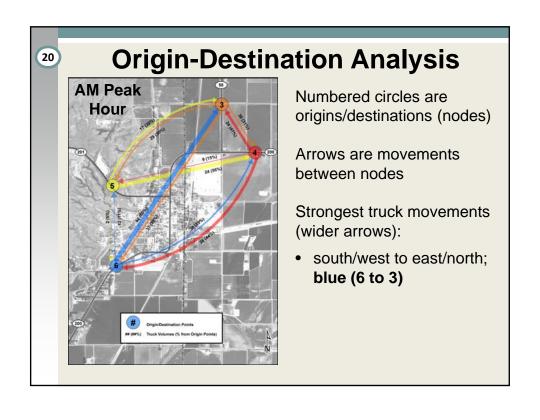








19		Segi	ment C	perations
	Intersection	Year	WB PM Peak Hour LOS	
		Existing 2015	С	Dania II.
Α	2-lane Segment South of Fairview	Projected 2025	D	Desirable
		Projected 2035	С	LOS
	_	Existing 2015	В	MDT (principal
В	4-lane Segment in Fairview	Projected 2025	В	MDT (principal arterial): LOS B
		Projected 2035	В	arteriary. <u>LCC B</u>
	2-lane Segment	Existing 2015	D	NDDOT (ND
С	Between 2 nd Street	Projected 2025	Е	200/ND 58):
	and ND 58	Projected 2035	D	LOS C
	_	Existing 2015	В	
D	2-lane Segment East of ND 58	Projected 2025	С	
	Lust Of ND 00	Projected 2035	Α	
1	DOWL			MDTA



21

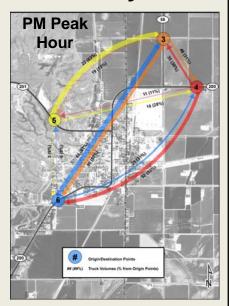
Origin-Destination Analysis

Numbered circles are origins/destinations (nodes)

Arrows are movements between nodes

Strongest truck movements (wider arrows):

north/east to south/west;
 orange (3 to 6) and red
 (4 to 6)



22

Needs and Objectives

Need 1: Accommodate existing and projected transportation demands within the study area.

Objectives: To the extent practicable:

- Meet desirable levels of service through the 2035 planning horizon.
- Consider regional and local travel patterns.





23

Needs and Objectives

<u>Need 2</u>: Provide transportation facilities that safely support travel for all modes.

Objectives: To the extent practicable:

- Improve roadway and bridge elements to meet current design criteria.
- Improve continuity for pedestrian facilities on MT 200 in Fairview.
- Consider methods to reduce conflicts between local vehicular traffic and regional truck traffic.







Needs and Objectives

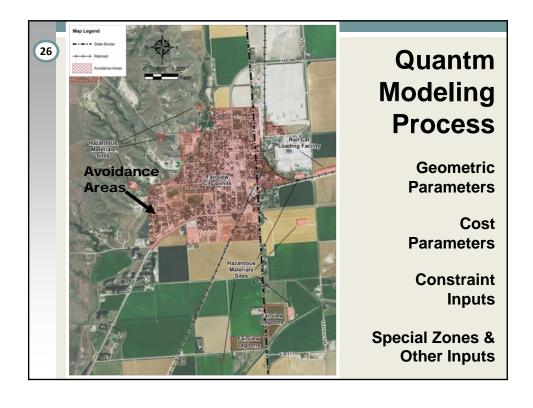
Other Considerations

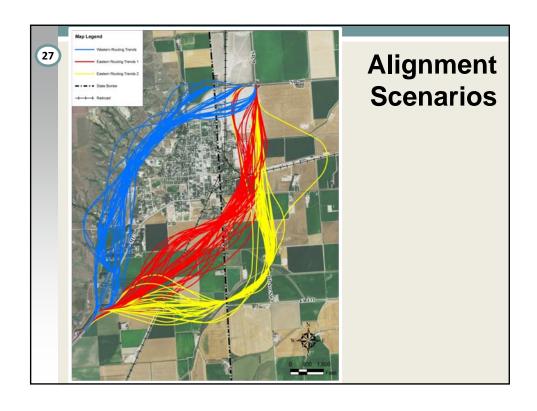
- Local planning efforts and planned projects
- Impacts to railroad, utility, irrigation, and mining features and environmental resources
- Funding availability
- Temporary construction impacts
- Construction feasibility and physical constraints
- Seasonal variations in truck traffic

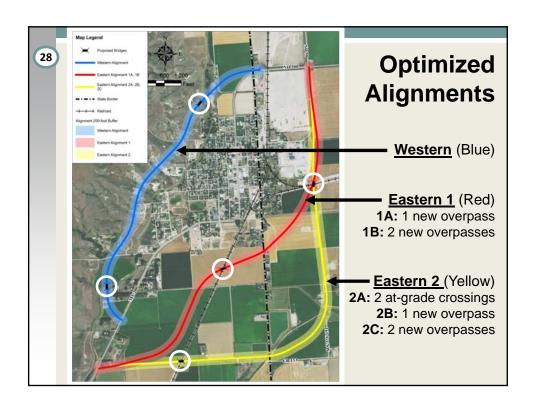














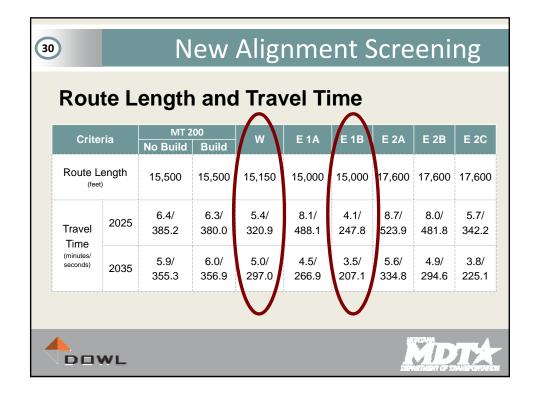
New Alignment Screening

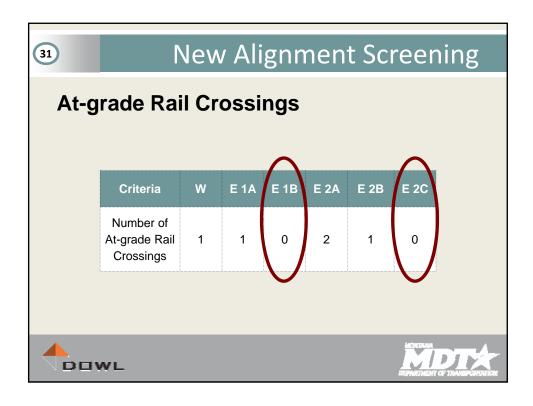
Screening Parameters

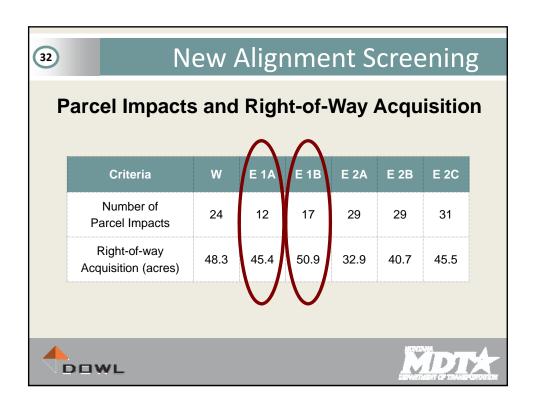
- Route Length and Travel Time
- · At-grade Rail Crossings
- · Parcel Impacts and Right-of-Way Acquisition
- Wetland Impacts
- Farmland Impacts
- Irrigation Impacts
- Access Point Density
- Cost

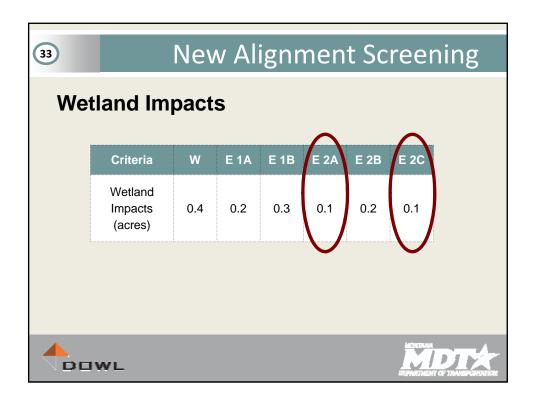


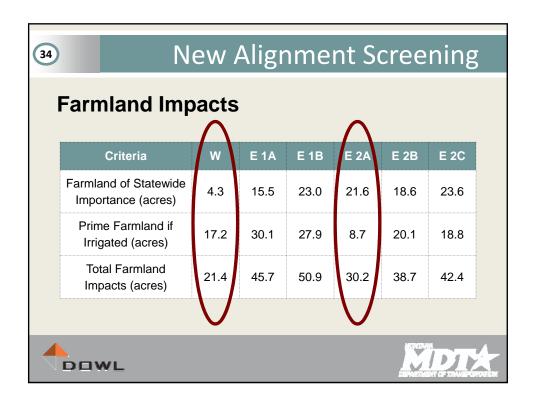


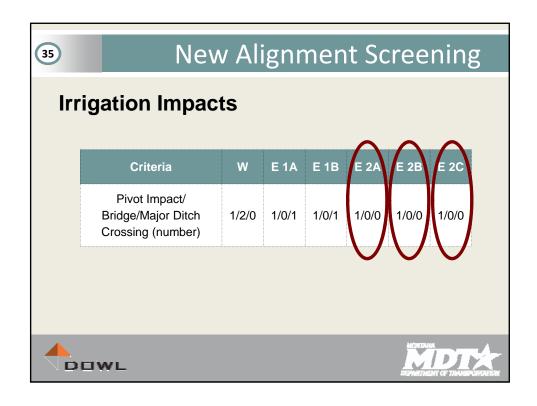


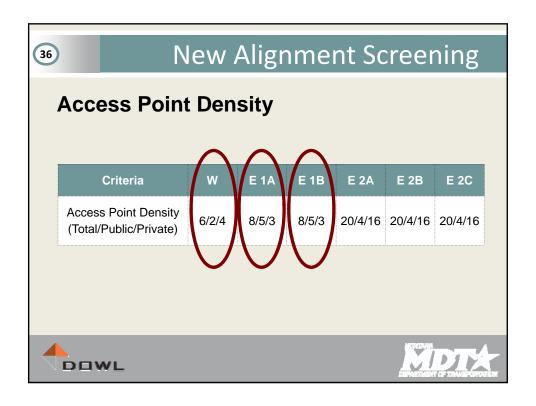


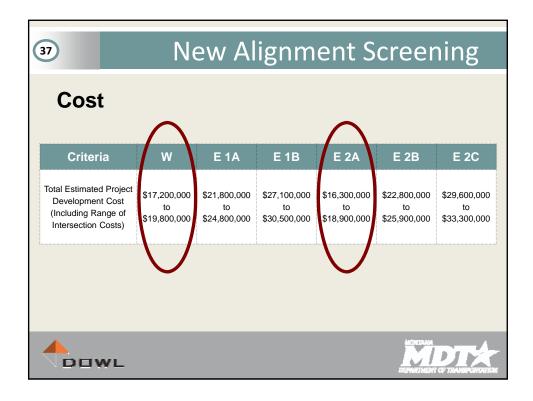






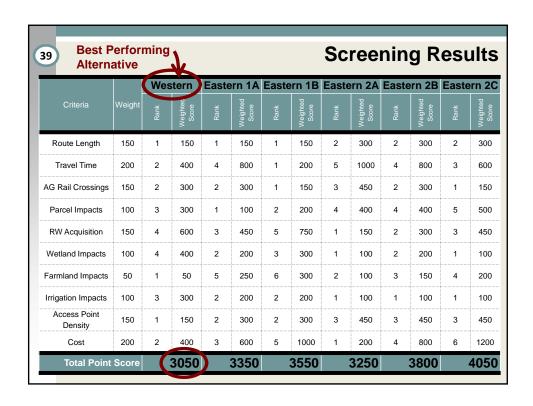


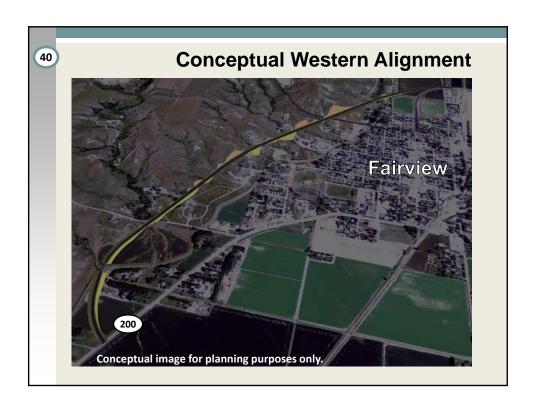


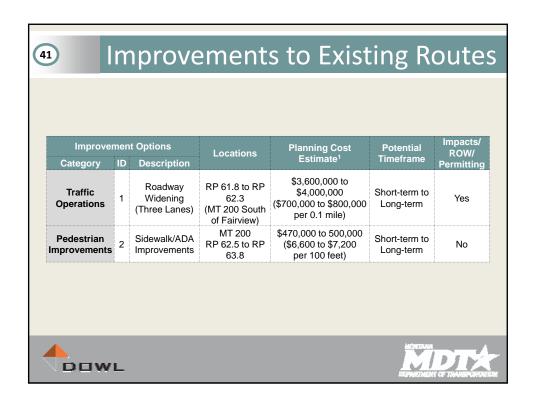


New Alignment Screening 38 **Screening Process** Ranked 1 to 6 (with 1 being the best performing) Weighted according to importance/risk (with input from study advisory committee) Rank x Weight = Weighted Score Lowest Score = Best Performing Alternative MDTA

DOWL







Conclusions & Next Steps

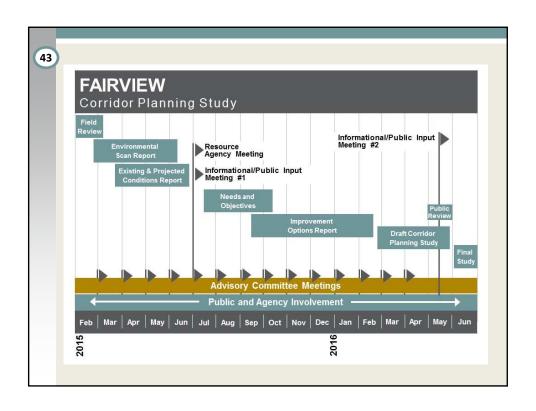
Best Performing Alternative

• Western Alignment

Funding availability, right-of-way acquisition, and other MDT priorities will factor into any future implementation decisions.











Fairview Corridor Planning Study Informational Meeting #2

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

MDT invites you to provide feedback on the study:				
Mank you the pure was very good.	Presentation			
was Mary good.				
I like the idea a	f the West route.			
- //				
This route would proposed for more housing do also irregated farm to be given up.	rovide opptunity			
for more housing do	velapment,			
I also engated farm	and would not			
be given up.				
	4			
This is a great ide	ca and I hope			
This is a great ide it could be completed	,			
I think I you &	The leave the dips			
in the road In Fairview, trucks well esse the new rowte				
cese the new route				
To receive further study information, please provide your name and address:	Please leave your comments with staff at the meeting or mail them to:			
Name: Delane Mitchell	Sarah Nicolai			
Address: 20/W, Main	DOWL 1300 Cedar Street			
Sidney	Helena, MT 59601			
	Please indicate your comments are for the Fairview			
Email: <u>c/MItchell@richland, org</u>	Corridor Planning Study and submit by May 31, 2016.			







ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION
Gold Seal Center, 918 E. Divide Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501-1947
701.328.5200 (fax)
www.ndhealth.gov

May 18, 2016

Ms. Vicki Crnich Montana Dept. of Transportation P.O. Box 201001 Helena, MT 59620-1001 RECEIVED

MAY 2 4 2016

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Re: Fairview Corridor Planning Study McKenzie County, North Dakota

Dear Ms. Crnich:

This department has reviewed the information concerning the above-referenced project submitted under date of April 29, 2016, with respect to possible environmental impacts.

This department believes that environmental impacts from the proposed construction will be minor and can be controlled by proper construction methods. With respect to construction, we have the following comments:

- 1. All necessary measures must be taken to minimize fugitive dust emissions created during construction activities. Any complaints that may arise are to be dealt with in an efficient and effective manner.
- 2. Projects disturbing one or more acres are required to have a permit to discharge storm water runoff until the site is stabilized by the reestablishment of vegetation or other permanent cover. Further information on the storm water permit may be obtained from the Department's website or by calling the Division of Water Quality (701.328.5210). Also, cities may impose additional requirements and/or specific best management practices for construction affecting their storm drainage system. Check with the local officials to be sure any local storm water management considerations are addressed.
- 3. Noise from construction activities may have adverse effects on persons who live near the construction area. Noise levels can be minimized by ensuring that construction equipment is equipped with a recommended muffler in good working order. Noise effects can also be minimized by ensuring that construction activities are not conducted during early morning or late evening hours.

The department owns no land in or adjacent to the proposed improvements, nor does it have any projects scheduled in the area. In addition, we believe the proposed activities are consistent with the State Implementation Plan for the Control of Air Pollution for the State of North Dakota.

If you have any questions regarding our comments, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

L. David Glatt, P.E., Chief Environmental Health Section

LDG:cc