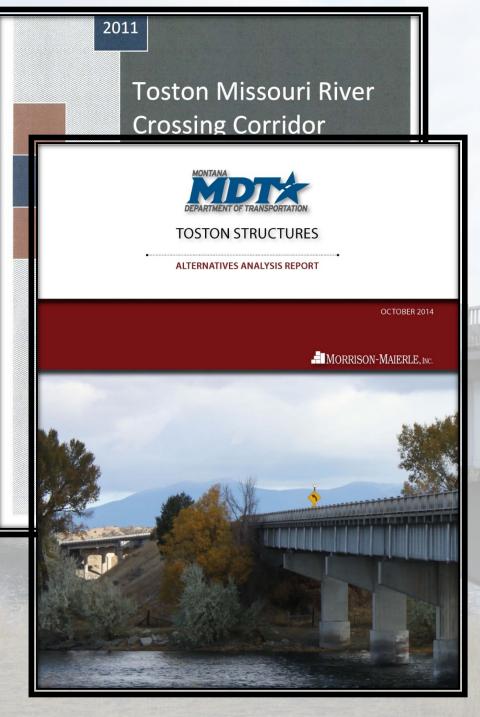
# Informational Meeting Toston Structures August 20, 2015





# Meeting Agenda

- Review project objectives and history
- Review basis for Central Corridor selection
- Present Phase 1 alignment concepts
- Provide Phase 2 design and construction schedules
- Answer questions

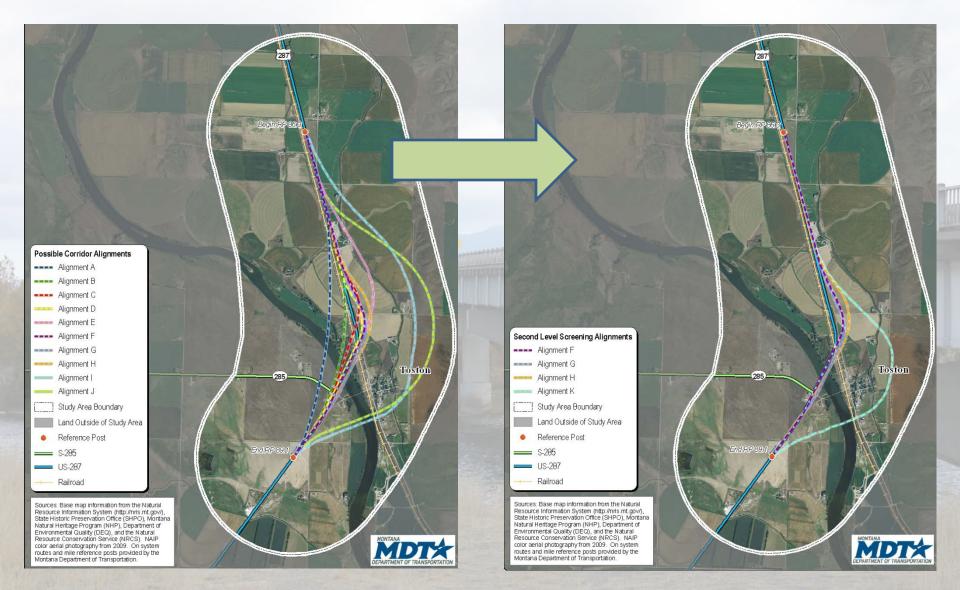


# **Project Objectives**

- Improve safety and functionality for a diverse range of vehicles
- Accommodate future traffic demands
- Retain or improve local functionality
  - Vehicles
  - Pedestrian
  - Land uses
- Replace 60-yr old bridges
- Meet current design standards
- Complete improvements between Townsend-South Passing Lanes & Toston-South Projects



### **Corridor Screening Results**



# **Selection Criteria**

- Traffic safety
  - Curves
  - Sight Distance
  - Grades
- Floodplain & irrigation
- Right-of-way impacts
- Bridge(s)
- Railroad considerations
- Environmental impacts
  - Wetlands
  - Cultural resources
  - Fishing Access Site
- Work zone issues
- Cost
- Public Involvement!

- · Intersections
- · Trucks
- · Non-motorized users



# **Central Corridor Selected**

- Basis for selection:
  - Greatest public preference
  - Closest to existing highway, resulting in lowest overall impacts
    - New Right-of-way
    - Irrigated lands affected
    - Noise
  - Shorter length in curves
  - Straight bridges with flatter approaches and increased sight distances
  - Improvement over existing conditions



# **Comments Considered for Phase 1**

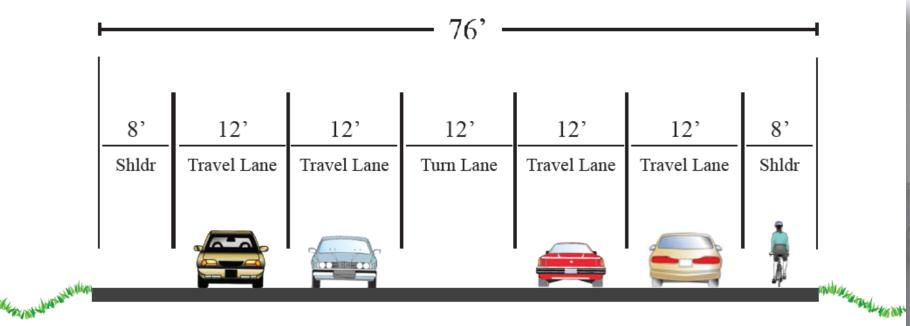
- Turning lanes and flashing lights
- Pedestrian crossings and bicycle use
- School bus stop safety needs
- Fishing access site needs, if impacted
- Whether or not to leave the existing bridges
- Farm equipment crossing needs wider shoulders
- Existing sight obstructions
- Fire station and Bunkhouse Bar access needs
- Noise impacts
- Impacts to agricultural operations

# Completing Phase 1

- Alignment within Central Corridor
- Consideration of all public comments
  - **Environmental review**



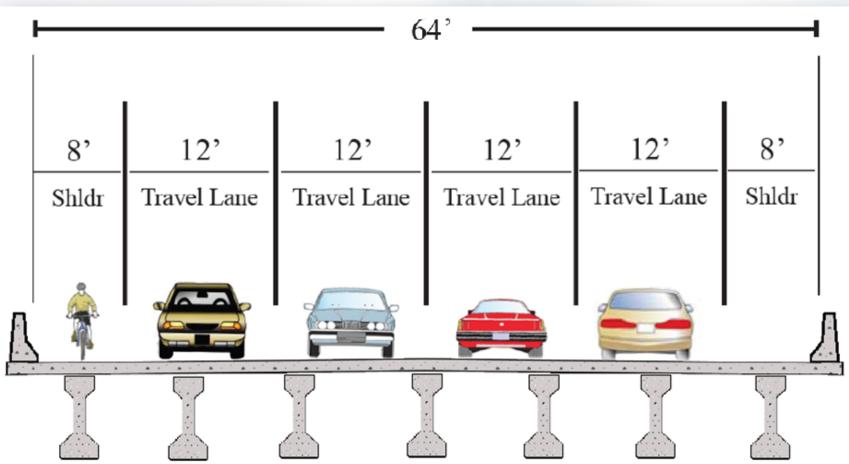
### **Major Design Elements**



#### Conceptual Roadway Typical Section



### **Major Design Elements**



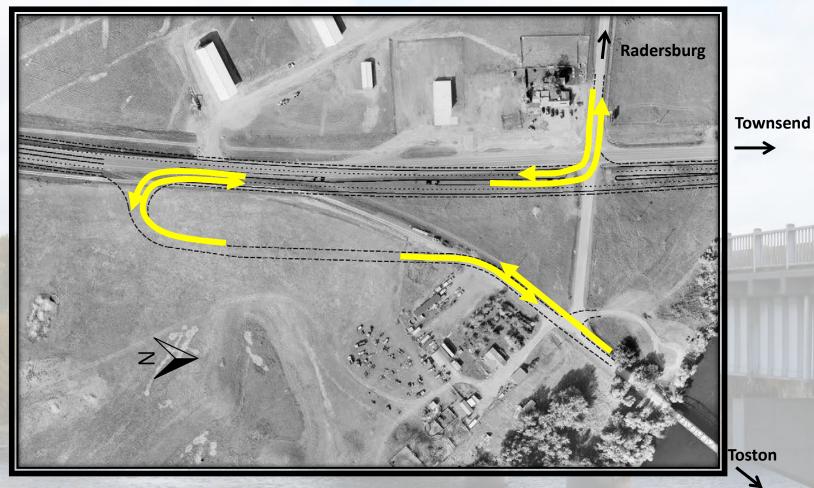
Conceptual Bridge Typical Section

#### Traffic Circulation – Today:

Radersburg



#### Traffic Circulation – After Project:



- Provides slow turning lanes for Radersburg/Bunkhouse and Toston access
- Prevents crossing five lanes of highway traffic
- Reduces non-recreational use at fishing access site
- Hay sheds' direct access eliminated and fire station access to be improved
- Non-vehicle crossing needs still under consideration

### Traffic Circulation – Today:

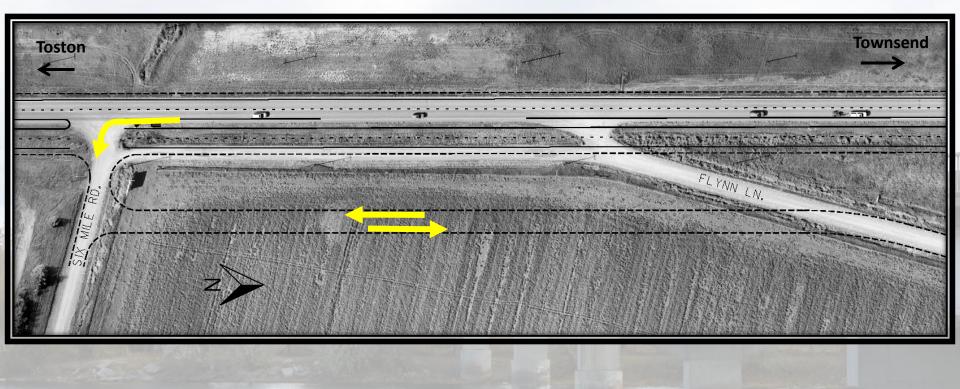


#### Traffic Circulation – After Project:



- Preserves Lombard Road access
- Safest location for intersection
- Alternative routing on existing Lombard Road requires another underpass

### Traffic Circulation – After Project:



# Limited Access Control Design

- Goal: fewer, higher quality access points to improve safety and functionality for local and thru traffic
- Improved Fire Station access
- Inventory existing accesses
  - Public Roads
  - Private Approaches
  - Farm Field Approaches
- Evaluate operations
- Transportation Commission Resolution



# Wildlife Crossing Feasibility Study

- Records indicate road kills from Flynn Lane to Missouri River
  5x higher than similar highways
- Evaluating cost-effective means of reducing collisions



### Phase 2 Schedule 2016 - 2018

- Finalize design with final public comment period
- Limited Access Control resolution
- Right-of-way acquisition
- Utility relocations

### Phase 3 Schedule 2019

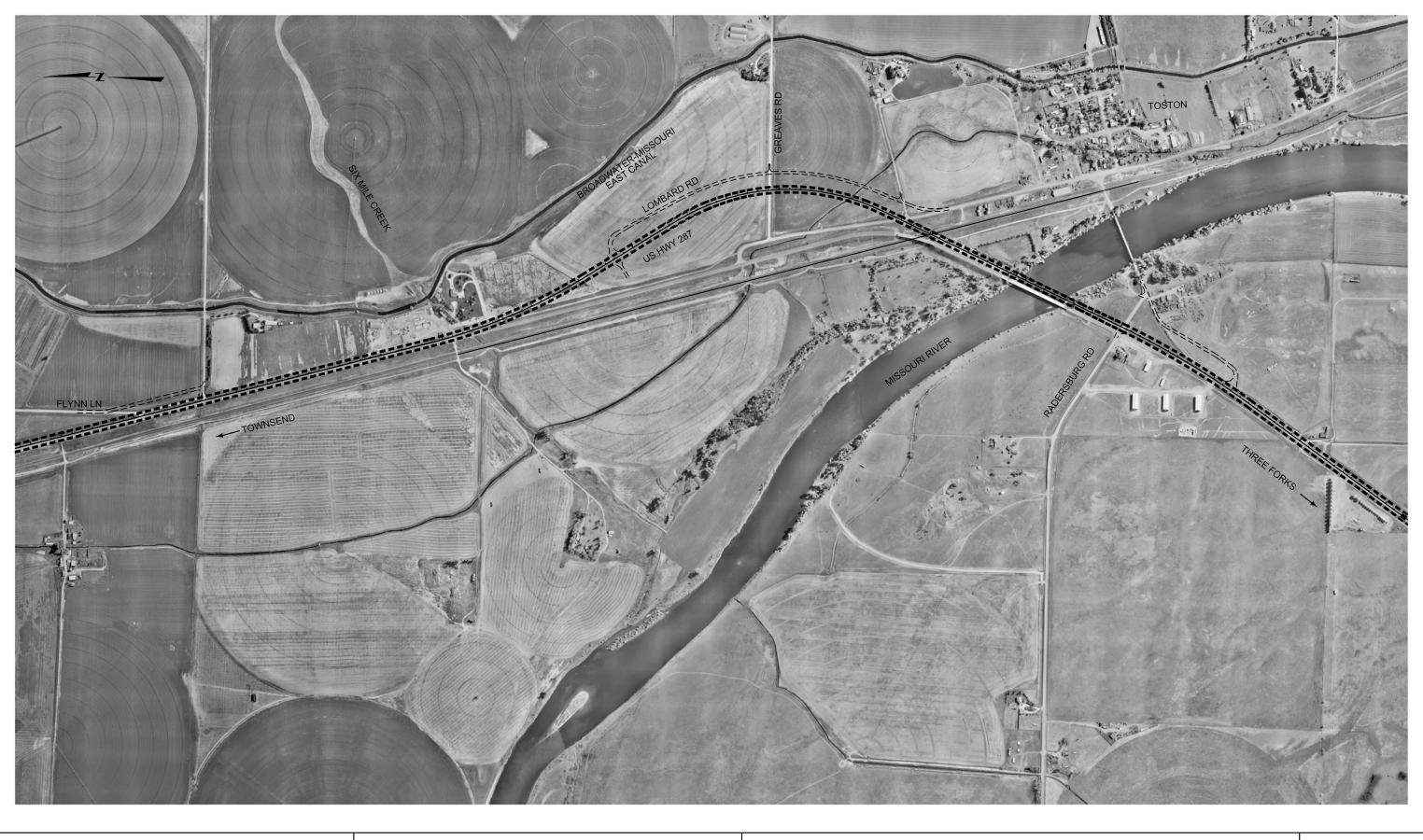
Begin construction (pending funding)

## **Questions and Comments?**

- Comment forms
- Website: <u>www.mdt.mt.gov/mdt/comment\_form.shtml</u>
- identify project UPN 7668 and submit comments by September 18, 2015.
- Personal contacts:



Jeff Ebert, P.E. District Administrator (406) 494-9600 or jebert@mt.gov MORRISON-MAIERLE, INC. Phill Forbes, P.E. Project Manager (406) 495-3450 or pforbes@m-m.net







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