

Newsletter

March 2021



Progress to date:

Construction has been underway for approximately one month. During this time, the following work has been completed (see map below for general locations):

- 1** Erosion and sedimentation controls have been set up and fencing has been removed to prepare for construction.
- 2** The I-90 eastbound on-ramp at Haines Avenue (Exit 58) has been closed. A detour has been set up which directs traffic north of the Rushmore Mall, east on Mall Drive for ultimate entrance to eastbound I-90 at Exit 60. The reason for this closure is to protect the traveling public and workers during demolition of parts of Maple Avenue Bridges.
- 3** Maple Avenue beneath I-90 was closed to vehicular traffic. A canopy was erected to provide safe access to pedestrians and bicyclists going to and from the Rushmore Mall area.
- 4** Demolition of the outside edges of the Maple Avenue Bridges commenced. This work is necessary to eventually widen the bridges to accommodate an auxiliary (third) lane in each direction on I-90.
- 5** Backfill is being imported to create temporary on/off ramps for the westbound direction at Exit 59 (I-90 and LaCrosse Street).

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The I-90 (Exit 59) LaCrosse Street Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) project will be the first of its kind in South Dakota. This type of interchange will provide much needed improvements for the I-90 (Exit 59) Interchange, including:

- Improved Safety (14 conflict points versus 26 for traditional diamond interchange)
- Increased capacity and efficiency by eliminating left turn signals on N. LaCrosse Street
- Reduced delay and congestion

This construction project kicked off in February 2021 and is expected to be completed by June 2023. A periodic newsletter will be sent out with an overview of the project and planned activities. The website and social media channels will also be updated with the latest news.

If you have any questions or concerns, we would be happy to meet individually with you. Please contact:



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Current Work Items



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

MARCH 2021

The contractor plans to continue importing fill to construct a temporary off-ramp at westbound I-90, LaCrosse Street (Exit 59). This temporary ramp will be used by exiting traffic while the permanent ramp is being constructed. Fill will also be imported for the LaCrosse Street I-90 westbound on ramp construction. Partial demolition activities will continue on the Maple Avenue bridges. The light tower at the westbound Exit 59 off ramp will be removed and replaced after permanent ramp construction.

APRIL 2021

Concrete and asphalt paving of the temporary Exit 59 westbound off ramp is planned. Traffic will be switched to the temporary exit ramp, while work continues on the permanent ramp which will include concrete paving.

MAY - JUNE 2021

Traffic will be switched to the new pavement on the Exit 59 westbound I-90 on ramp. Maple Avenue Bridge abutments will be extended and the bridge deck widening will commence.



Fill is being imported at the Interstate 90 LaCrosse Street (Exit 59) westbound off ramp to widen the ramp approach to ultimately connect with the interchange over the LaCrosse Street bridge.



Demolition of parts of the Maple Avenue bridges is required to widen the bridge decks to accommodate one auxiliary lane in each direction. This photo also shows the temporary pedestrian route created beneath the bridges, allowing pedestrians and bicyclists safe access to and from the Rushmore Mall area.

OVERALL PROJECT SCHEDULE

