



Iowa Department of Transportation

Scott Suhr from the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on February 28. He talked about the Silver Creek bridge replacement, the Y interchange at L55 and highway 6, and the Council Bluffs Interstate changes.

The DOT has a five step plan for Interstate work in Council Bluffs. The stages are:

- 1 – bridges
- 2 – additional lanes and off-ramps on I-80
- 3 – South I-29 changes
- 4 – I-480 and Broadway interchange
5. – Madison Avenue I-80 interchange

HDR is the lead for the project. It has been in the planning stage for 10-15 years. The total cost is \$874 Million. \$130M has been spent, \$523M has been committed, and \$351M is left.

The DOT found that they could save \$28M by cutting three years off the schedule. They do a lot of work at night to minimize traffic impacts.

Some of the bridges look like they are rusting. They used weathered steel which will not corrode further and doesn't need paint.

Today the interstate handles about 90,000 vehicles per day. By 2040 they expect to see 150,000 vehicles per day.

Further information can be found at: <http://councilbluffsinterstate.iowadot.gov/>.

Work on the Silver Creek bridge will begin in June. The bridge will be built offsite to minimize traffic impact. The bridge is expected to be closed a few weeks in September or October.

Work on the Y intersection at L55 and Highway 6 North of Treynor will begin this spring. It will be converted to a T intersection with a stop sign. They will add new turn lanes on Highway 6 to minimize traffic impacts for people heading South at the intersection.