

WE WANT YOUR INPUT!

WHAT'S HAPPENING: The bridge over Dodson South Canal will be replaced with a new structure.

To maintain the safety and effectiveness of the route, the existing bridge, which has been identified as being in poor condition, will be replaced with a 14-foot by 10-foot double-cell concrete box culvert. The roadway next to the new structure will also be reconstructed and other minor enhancements will be considered to improve safety at the bridge location.

Different detour options are being explored for late Fall 2023 or early Spring 2024, depending when water is not in the canal. The length of construction depends on the detour option selected but could run as long as three months.



Please complete a comment card to give MDT feedback on the proposed detour options.

1 TEMPORARY, ON-SITE DETOUR



Single-lane bridge for on-site detour

A temporary bridge is identified as the best on-site option to safely allow vehicles to pass on this route during construction.



Longer construction duration

The temporary structure includes a bridge, earthwork, surfacing, etc. The construction timeline could take more than three months. This temporary structure and length of time of construction is anticipated to include production and removal of the bridge allowing vehicles to travel safely through the construction zone.



Approximate cost for detour bridge: \$150,000

A temporary bridge is identified as the best on-site option to safely allow vehicles to pass on this route during construction.

2 9.5-MILE DETOUR



Detour on South Wagner Road

South Wagner Road has been identified as the closest safe detour option.



Shorter anticipated construction duration

By closing the road completely, it allows construction crews to work more efficiently and without vehicle disturbances. This detour would last approximately one month.



Approximate cost for 9.5-mile detour: \$20,000

These costs are a broad estimation because the cost estimate includes traffic control, signing, anticipated safety requirements etc. The anticipated costs for the 9.5-mile detour is significantly lower than the bridge detour option.

PROJECT BENEFITS

DODSON SOUTH CANAL



The Montana Department of Transportation will replace the bridge over the Dodson South Canal on Secondary Highway 204 about 1.5 miles south of Dodson in Phillips County. The project is expected to extend approximately 0.5 miles from each end of the bridge replacement. During construction, traffic will be maintained using a temporary detour. Please complete a comment card to give MDT feedback on the proposed detour options.

THIS PROJECT WILL BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY AND TRAVELING PUBLIC BY:

- Increasing overall effectiveness by replacing the structure
- Enhancing safety of the route
- Upgrading traffic signage along the route



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1 WHEN IS CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULED FOR?

At this point, project construction will likely begin late Fall 2023 or early Spring 2024, depending on the availability of funding. The length of construction depends on which detour option is selected, but could run as long as three months.

2 WHAT IS THE FUNDING SOURCE?

Funding for this project is through the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program, administered by the Federal Highway Administration, which provides funding to States and localities for transportation improvement projects.

3 WHO IS WORKING ON THIS PROJECT?

This project is a joint effort between the Montana Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, Phillips County, the Bureau of Reclamation and other local, state and federal resource agencies.

4 WHY DOES THE BRIDGE NEED TO BE REPLACED?

The substructure of the existing bridge is deteriorating, which will compromise the safety of the route in the long-term.

5 WHEN WAS THE EXISTING BRIDGE BUILT?

This section of roadway, including the bridge, was constructed in 1955.

6 WILL ADDITIONAL RIGHT-OF-WAY BE NEEDED FOR THE PROJECT?

It has not yet been determined if new right-of-way acquisitions will be needed for this project; however, the need for construction permits is likely.

7 WHO CAN I CONTACT WITH OTHER QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Please feel free to call (877) 623-2663 or email dodsonsouthcanal@dowl.com with any questions or comments. More information about the project can be found at the project website:
<https://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/dodsonsouthcanal>.