



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Where is the project?

The Gore Hill Interchange (Exit 277) is located on Interstate 15 (I-15) in southwest Great Falls. The interchange provides access to the Great Falls International Airport.

2. What is the purpose of the project?

The project will reduce traffic delays, improve traffic flow, and enhance safety features on I-15 between the 10th Avenue South and the Gore Hill interchanges.

3. Why is this project necessary?

The interchange is an area of concern for the community due to increasing traffic volumes, the tight spacing of intersections near the interchange, and its proximity to the 10th Avenue South Interchange (Exit 278).

4. What improvements are being designed?

Proposed improvements include:

- Replacing the I-15 Gore Hill Interchange overpass bridge. The new bridge will be wider and include shoulders and a sidewalk.
- Adding two single-lane roundabouts with truck aprons on 31st Street Southwest at the I-15 southbound off-ramp and northbound on and off-ramps.
- Adding a sidewalk between the roundabout intersections.
- Adding a southbound lane to I-15 between the 10th Avenue South and Gore Hill interchanges. The lane will exit onto the southbound Gore Hill Interchange off-ramp.
- Relocating the Tri Hill Frontage Road and 31st Street Southwest intersection to the south.
- Modifying the northbound on-ramp.

5. How will these improvements benefit the area?

- Adding roundabouts at the I-15 on and off-ramp and 31st Street Southwest intersections will enhance safety at the intersections and reduce congestion on I-15.
- Relocating the Tri Hill Frontage Road will alleviate traffic and turning conflicts from an already-congested area.
- Adding a southbound auxiliary lane on I-15 will reduce congestion and make it easier for traffic to merge between interchanges and for trucks to get up to speed.
- Adding a sidewalk over the bridge between the two roundabouts will improve connectivity and enhance safety for pedestrians.

6. Will these new improvements accommodate large commercial equipment?

Yes. The new design will allow any vehicle that can currently pass through the interchange to pass safely through the interchange after the project is complete. MDT and RPA developed computer modeling and conducted field tests with several types of truck and trailer combinations to ensure the roundabouts would accommodate wide turning movements.

7. When will construction begin?

MDT is in the final phase of developing improvements for the interchange. The final design plans are anticipated to be presented to the public in 2025. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2027, depending on completion of design and the availability of funding.

8. How long does it take to develop and build a project?

It takes a significant amount of time to develop the plans and designs that solve the traffic, land, and development issues of each project. MDT's design process includes multiple phases to ensure each project meets the federal and state requirements necessary to be funded and begin construction. A typical project can take seven to 10 years to plan, design, and construct. To learn more about what goes into an MDT project, visit the [project development infographic here](#).

9. Who can I contact regarding this project?

Brandon Coates, Public Involvement Manager, RBCI
406-465-3350
Brandon@rbc.net