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PROJECT OVERVIEW

The project is located in Johnson County at the junction of Interstate 80 (I-80), Interstate 380 (I-380) and United States Highway 218 (U.S. 218). The Systems Interchange is located within the cities of Coralville and Tiffin and serves the greater Iowa City metropolitan area.

As one of the busiest interchanges in the region, it is a vital link to the overall system for connectivity, mobility, freight travel and economic well-being. However, the current interchange is outdated and does not have capacity to reliably handle projected regional traffic and freight growth. Continued growth in the region poses a challenge that is being addressed through redesign and reconstruction.

The project replaces the four loops in the interchange with directional ramps. Interstate 380 will be widened to six lanes (and auxiliary lanes) from I-80 to approximately one mile north of the new Forevergreen Road Interchange, and U.S. 218/IA 27 will be widened to six lanes from I-80 to one mile south of I-80. The existing ramps, on which numerous rollovers and crashes have occurred over the years, will be replaced to improve mobility, safety and travel reliability.

Project Benefits

The Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT) recognizes that the I-80/I-380 Systems Interchange is a major crossroads for the state of Iowa and the rest of the nation. As such, this project will:

- Increase capacity and improve operations within the region
- Reduce excessive congestion and improve safety
- Improve travel reliability
- Support regional employment and economic growth

Major Accomplishments

- Completion of Forevergreen Road Interchange
- Realignment of Kansas Avenue SW
- Substantial completion of the widening of eastbound I-80 bridge over Clear Creek
- Steel girders set for a portion of the I-80 eastbound to I-380 northbound ramp
- Steel girders over I-80
- Increase capacity and improve operations within the region
- Reduce excessive congestion and improve safety
- Improve travel reliability
- Support regional employment and economic growth
CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

Construction efforts significantly increased in 2019 with the realignment of Kansas Avenue SW, widening of the eastbound I-80 bridge over Clear Creek, pier construction and setting of girders for the I-80 eastbound to I-380 northbound ramp. The adjacent coordinated interchange project at Forevergreen Road was completed in November 2019. Construction continues throughout the interchange into 2020, and the full System Interchange construction is anticipated to be completed in late 2023. Construction activities are prioritized by available funding, potential to enhance safety and improve traffic operations. The map on page 4 illustrates the construction activity locations from 2019.

To learn more about construction activities during 2019, view the spring and fall Construction Activity video series at www.iowadot.gov/I80-I380.
By the Numbers

- 4,659 cubic yards of concrete poured
- 2,039 tons of reinforcing steel
- 702,986 cubic yards of earthwork moved
- 21 piers for new ramps and bridges
- 42,696 tons of structural steel for bridges

2019 ANNUAL REPORT | 65 | I-80/I-380 SYSTEMS INTERCHANGE
During 2019, the East Central Iowa Council of Governments continued its partnership with Iowa DOT to offer the 380 Express bus service. The bus service provides alternate transportation options for commuters. Passengers who ride the 380 Express enjoy the convenient bus route, the ability to use the free wifi, read and/or answer email utilizing the power ports as they commute. A user study was performed in September 2019, and user feedback adjustments were incorporated into the bus services. The stop times were adjusted, additional early morning and late evening operating times were added, and Saturday Seasonal Service was offered from September through December.

The 380 Express bus service was also the recipient of the Iowa Association of Councils of Governments (ICOG) 2019 Innovative Project Award. Congratulations for this honorable recognition and support of safe travel throughout the Systems Interchange.

Did you know?
With 18,533 riders in 2019, the bus stop at Kirkwood Community College for southbound bus service was the most utilized, peaking in the fall as University of Iowa classes resumed.

In December, all lanes of I-80 were closed over four nights to allow construction crews to move cranes into position and safely set the steel girders across I-80 for the I-80 eastbound to the I-380 northbound flyover ramp. During 2019, Iowa DOT observed travel speeds and behaviors in and around the construction work zones and concluded that officially reducing the speed limit would help keep travelers and construction crews safe throughout the system. In December 2019, the speed limit was reduced to a regulatory 55 MPH along I-380 to help accommodate travel conditions during construction. The public’s patience in the area is appreciated.

To keep the public and stakeholders up to date, traffic impact and project updates were communicated via 511ia.org, shared on social media and email notifications were sent to the Johnson County Traffic Incident Management (TIM) working group and general public subscribers.
Stakeholder Meetings

In addition to the public meeting and online meetings, several stakeholder meetings were held throughout the year. Representatives from the project team have provided updates to interested stakeholders. These meetings provided one-on-one opportunities for stakeholders to learn more about the project and construction activities.

2019 Spring Public Meeting

The 2019 spring public meeting was held on Tuesday, April 30 at the Coralville Public Library to provide an update on the project. Project team members were available throughout the meeting to answer questions regarding construction. Notice of the meeting was provided to the public via postcard, press release, newspaper advertisement, email invitation and social media. Materials are archived and available online at iowadot/i80-i380.

There were approximately 50 attendees including students of the University of Iowa urban planning department. During the meeting, the I-80/I-380 drive through visualization videos were shared with the public. The visualizations were well-received by area travelers and are available on the photo/video gallery on the project website.

Overall, the project continues to be viewed favorably by the public and area stakeholders. Comments were received on the planned improvements and work scheduled over the next few years.

Public Meeting Outreach/Invitations

- **Postcard invitations distributed**: 390
- **Email invitations distributed**: 319
- **Advertisement Cedar Rapids Gazette**: 1
- **Open rate on email**: 45.2%
- **Press release**: 1
- **Public meeting social media posts**: 4

Local Jurisdiction Coordination

- **Iowa City**, 1/14/2019
- **City of Tiffin**, 11/25/2019
- **Johnson County**, 11/25/2019
- **City of North Liberty**, 12/17/2019
- **City of Coralville**, 12/17/2019

Kiwanis Program Presentation

- 3/12/2019 — Iowa City
- 4/2/2019 — Coralville

DOT Commissioners Meeting

- 5/13/2019

ACEC – Iowa Presentation

- 9/11/2019

ASCE Presentation – System Interchange Project Update

- 11/6/2019
### Website
- 14,834 total website visitors
- 89,051 total page views
- 19,382 unique page views
- 3:48 min average time on page

**Most visited pages:**
- Homepage
- Project Schedule
- Forevergreen Road

### Video

#### Spring Construction Update
- 528 views to date
- 2:19 min average view length
- 4 drive through simulations

#### Fall Construction Update
- 95 views to date
- 1:42 min average view length

#### Program Overview Video
- 4,200 views to date
- 2:19 min average view length

### Online Meetings
- 1,530 Meeting site views

**Topics of Interest:**
- Traffic changes/detours
- Design of the proposed interchange

### Social Media
- 24 Total Posts
- 102,175 Impressions
- 2,058 Engagements
- 404 Post Reactions
- 33 Comments
- 140 Post Shares

### Hotline
- 34 calls received in 2019
- 8 messages received

### Project Update Emails
- 7 total emails
- 356 recipients (average)
- 152 opens (average)
- 8 unsubscribers (total)

### Online Comment Form
- 15 comments received

### Media Coverage & Mentions
- 27 articles

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### 2019 Engagement Summary

By offering multiple methods of communication, Iowa DOT was able to maximize the power of communication and reach for the project. As construction activities ramped up, so too did the communication efforts. In 2019, public and stakeholder outreach was increased to include more social media, media interviews, stakeholder presentations, monthly e-updates, and traffic impact notifications. Regular project updates provide opportunities for stakeholders to learn more about the project and construction activities.

Follow Us on Facebook!

New in 2019 is the I-80/380 Systems Interchange project Facebook page. The page allows travelers to follow the news and activities of the project.

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Engagement from public meeting and social media posts
TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT

Crashes on the interstate not only cause extra congestion, delays and frustrations, but they are also dangerous for passing motorists, crash victims and emergency responders. That's why Traffic Incident Management (TIM) is a major focus during construction. The goal of TIM is to improve multi-disciplinary processes and coordination to detect, respond to, and clear traffic incidents to restore traffic flow safely and quickly. When crashes or incidents occur, TIM practices reduce the duration and impacts of traffic incidents so that the movement of people and goods can continue to flow.

The Johnson County Area TIM Working Group meets regularly to discuss best practices, debrief past incidents, develop tools and refine techniques that ultimately improve roadway clearance times, reduce secondary crashes and enhance overall system safety and reliability. As one of the busiest interchanges in the region, safe and quick clearance is vital to improving the overall corridor safety, restoring transportation reliability, reducing vehicle emissions and improving the overall corridor safety.

New Kid on the System
In September 2019 the Department rolled out their new Highway Helper trucks in the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City area.

Move Over Enforcement Event
The “Move Over” law was promoted by media partners and law enforcement officers who explained risks to highway workers and first responders when drivers don’t move over or slow down. Every year, over one hundred law enforcement officers, fire/EMS personnel, DOT workers and tow and recovery operators are struck and killed on the nation’s roadways. The most frequently struck responder, towing partners, teamed with law enforcement to highlight the risk.

6 agencies participated
16 Move Over warnings
66 Move Over citations

Move Over

The Iowa City Area TIM group was created to achieve an unprecedented level of coordination and cooperation between emergency response stakeholders including:

Law Enforcement
Fire & Rescue
Emergency Medical Services
Federal, State & Local Engineering & Maintenance
911 & Public Safety Communications
Emergency Management
Towing & Recovery

I-80 Traffic “Moving Over” to allow space for safe roadside activity
LOOKING AHEAD

Overview of 2020 Activities

As we review the accomplishments of the system interchange project through 2019, we are already into the planned activities for the new year. Look ahead to discover what is in store for 2020.

- Storm sewer work for the realignment of 340th Street SW began in 2019. Construction of the new alignment is anticipated to begin in spring 2020.
- Construction of the I-80 eastbound to U.S. 218, southbound bridge continues into 2020. The bridge is anticipated to be complete fall 2020 and is anticipated to open to traffic fall 2020 or spring 2021.
- Construction started in the fall 2019 on three ramp bridges over Clear Creek: I-80 westbound to I-380 northbound, U.S. 218 northbound to I-80 eastbound and I-80 southbound to I-80 eastbound. Construction of these bridges will continue through 2020.
- Widening of the I-80 bridges over U.S. 6 and Iowa Interstate Railroad started in the fall 2019 and will continue into 2020.
- Construction of some of the I-380 median bridges began in the fall of 2019 and will continue through 2020. The remaining median bridges, including the I-380 over I-80 median bridge, and the nearby southbound to eastbound pier in the I-80 median, will begin in early 2020 and continue through 2020.
- Other work such as utility relocations, concrete box culvert construction, roadway pipe culverts, storm sewer, grading and soils stabilization, soils settlement mitigation, and other off roadway work is continuing.

LEGEND

- Subject to Change
- Ongoing 2020 Construction Activities
- Ongoing 2020 Grading Work
- Planned Construction Activities 2020
- Ongoing Bridge Work
- Completed Construction

CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

340th St SE
Roberts Ferry Rd
Ireland Ave SW
I-380
I-80
Iowa Interstate Railroad
340th St SW
Jasper Ave NW
Park Rd
Clear Creek
RAMP B

Ongoing 2020 Construction Activities

Storm sewer work for the realignment of 340th Street SW began in 2019. Construction of the new alignment is anticipated to begin in spring 2020.

Construction of the I-80 eastbound to northbound flyover Ramp H began in 2018 and is anticipated to complete in fall 2020, and may be open in 2021.

Construction of the I-80 eastbound to U.S. 218, southbound bridge continues into 2020. The bridge is anticipated to be complete fall 2020 and is anticipated to open to traffic fall 2020 or spring 2021.

Construction started in the fall 2019 on three ramp bridges over Clear Creek: I-80 westbound to I-380 northbound, U.S. 218 northbound to I-80 eastbound and I-80 southbound to I-80 eastbound. Construction of these bridges will continue through 2020.

Widening of the I-80 bridges over U.S. 6 and Iowa Interstate Railroad started in the fall 2019 and will continue into 2020.

Construction of some of the I-380 median bridges began in the fall of 2019 and will continue through 2020. The remaining median bridges, including the I-380 over I-80 median bridge, and the nearby southbound to eastbound pier in the I-80 median, will begin in early 2020 and continue through 2020.

Other work such as utility relocations, concrete box culvert construction, roadway pipe culverts, storm sewer, grading and soils stabilization, soils settlement mitigation, and other off roadway work is continuing.

This map is intended to show current contracted work occurring during 2020 and will be updated in the fall of 2020 following award of the next construction contracts. For more information about future construction activities please visit https://iowadot.gov/MD-1380/ Breakdown-Staging-Summary.pdf
Looking Ahead

New I-380 median grading and paving is anticipated to start in spring 2020 and is anticipated to be complete by the end of 2020. The median will be graded and paved from approximately just south of the interchange to just north of U.S. 6. Some of this work will be as much as 7 feet higher than the adjacent roadway. The new median pavement and bridges will be used to stage traffic during reconstruction of the adjacent roadway.

1. Park Road bridge over I-80 is anticipated to be removed during the summer of 2020. The new bridge is anticipated to be completed in 2023.

2. Eastbound I-80 ramp to U.S. 218 southbound is anticipated to be paved during 2020. Traffic may be switched from the old ramp to the new ramp and bridge in the fall of 2020 or spring of 2021.

3. Interstate 80 eastbound to I-380 northbound ramp is anticipated to be paved by fall 2020. Traffic may be switched from the loop to the new ramp in 2021.

4. As part of the reconstruction of I-80 eastbound and westbound near U.S. 6, the eastbound I-80 off-ramp to Coral Ridge Avenue is anticipated to be reconstructed by end of 2020.

5. Throughout the entire project area, construction of temporary pavement along I-80, I-380, and U.S. 218, for traffic staging, is underway and will continue through the spring and summer of 2020.

6. Other ongoing and new work will take place in 2020 such as: concrete box culvert construction, roadway pipe culverts, storm sewer, grading and soils stabilization, soils settlement mitigation, erosion control and mitigation.
CLOCKWISE, PAGE 19
(BEGINNING AT TOP LEFT):
Pier shape and aesthetics were determined through public and agency input
Steel girders for future I-80 eastbound to I-380 northbound flyover ramp
Pier and foundation construction, north of I-80 and east of I-380
Traffic on existing loop ramp during construction of new flyover ramp
Piers and girders set for future flyover of eastbound I-80 to northbound I-380

CLOCKWISE, PAGE 20, SEQUENCE OF GIRDER CONSTRUCTION
(BEGINNING AT TOP RIGHT):
(1) Overnight closure of all eastbound and westbound lanes of traffic on I-80 to set steel girders
(2) Crane lifting first girder beam in the final section over I-80
(3) Crane staged for girder setting over I-80
(4) Placement of first girder in final section of flyover ramp over I-80