

SP 5202-58 TH 14 (Nicollet to New Ulm) Weekly Project Update

June 28, 2022

- *** The Department of Transportation hopes that everyone has a safe and fun Independence Day celebration. We want to support all of the various local communities to the extent possible with providing reasonable and safe access for all of the planned events. However, we would like to remind everyone that historical and typical traffic patterns are being impacted by the detour on TH 68, and access to and from the various cities on TH 14 within and surrounding the closed section will not be available until the completion of the project in October 2023. Specifically, parking on the shoulder of TH 68 for local fireworks is strongly discouraged due to the increase in vehicle usage associated with the detour and is not a good idea regardless.**
- The work efforts are primarily focused on excavation and embankment in the area of CSAH 37 and TH 14. The areas requiring the placement of significant embankment, for the planned bridges at CSAH 37/TH 14 and CSAH 24/TH 14 (north of the City of Courtland) have reached its prescribed height. Once the settlement of the new embankment has stabilized, the construction of the new bridge may start. Finally, work on the eastside of project involves drainage (culvert and tile) and placement of grading materials for the new TH 14 WB alignment.
- The relocation of various utilities is commencing, and this work will occur over the entire 12.5 mile stretch of the project at numerous locations. The intention of this utility relocation work is to assure that all utilities will be relocated from the existing locations in order to allow for the expansion of the new TH 14 roadway with little to no disruption to the impacted customers. It is expected to take approximately a month (by August) before all of the utilities associated with TH 14 to be either permanently or temporarily relocated.
- The work involving the reconstruction at CSAH 24 (in the City of Courtland) is complete and the intersection is open to the traveling public. ***The Public should note that while historically, vehicles have been required to stop on**

CSAH 24 with TH 14 traffic being allowed to proceed without stopping. Please be aware of the Stop Condition change with the new alignment as part of the new TH 14 configuration, that vehicles will now NOT be stopping on CASH 24 and instead, will be stopping on the existing TH 14. Proceed with caution and adhere to the new traffic signage.

The public will notice various utility companies adjusting electric and communication cable the week. The public is encouraged to travel with caution in the area where work is being prosecuted (intersection of CSAH 24 & TH 14) and be aware of the potential of debris, equipment, and workers throughout this location.

- Access to CSAH 37 from TH 14 is no longer an option as of May 2, 2022. This condition is expected remain in place until the spring of 2023. This was done in order for the construction forces to begin the critical work in this area involving embankment, roadway realignment and the construction of the new bridge over TH 14. Access for local traffic will be essentially provided from the entrance of New Ulm Quartzite Quarry(MPM) toward the City of Courtland until the spring of 2023.
- The traveling public and specifically local traffic are encouraged to use the official detour to the extent possible and not to enter the construction areas whenever there are other options.
- The local traveling public (the people that are living or visiting the City of Courtland or residents along TH 14) are requested to stay on TH 14, CSAH 24 and CSAH 25 in the City of Courtland, and not use the various side or city streets, except for local specific destinations. All Commercial Truck traffic should use the intended Detour as much as possible.
- REGARDING THE USE OF CSAH 25; Local traffic, and others, will notice the implementation of dynamic “This Is Your Speed” signage placed approximately 1 mile east and west of the church/school. In addition, there will be an increased number of Nicollet Sheriff Department vehicles and Mn. State Patrol, as well as Commercial Vehicle Enforcement patrolling CSAH 25 for the remainder of the project.
- The public and local traffic is encouraged to travel with caution within the project limits. Please be aware that construction activities may require changes of roadway conditions within a relatively short period of time.

- Hoffman Construction and MnDOT understand the inconvenience that highway construction projects cause for the public and we appreciate everyone's patience and understanding as well as your flexibility in allowing us to make important and timely project schedule adjustment as situations may dictate.
- The public is welcome to attend a Public Meeting each Tuesday at 1:00 at the Courtland Community Center in order to ask questions and share concerns with Hoffman Construction and MnDOT.
- **The Department recognizes that the public may have questions or are curious as to the progression of the TH 14 construction. The project staff (Hoffman Construction Co. & MnDOT) urges the public to not to travel within the project limits unless absolutely necessary, which is to say, to your residence or that of an acquaintance or a local business. Please avoid conversations or interactions with construction workers or vehicles as much as possible, the distraction may prevent the progression of work and be very dangerous for everyone. Finally, the public is being asked to please don't access or otherwise visit or explore within the construction work area when construction activities are not actively occurring. This has been happening specifically for Evenings, Holidays or Weekends. Construction projects are inherently dangerous and changing conditions are typical. The project staff appreciates the public understanding in this matter.**