



Morton County

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

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Temporary Bypass coming June 1 as new Almont Bridge is constructed

Mandan, ND – The Morton County Highway Department will begin construction of a temporary bypass road near the Almont Bridge on June 1 that will allow traffic to flow as the old, structurally-deficient bridge that crosses Big Muddy Creek on County Road 86 in Almont is replaced.

Once the bypass is constructed, the old bridge will be demolished and the site will be graded in preparation for the new bridge. Crews will then begin driving piling, or supports, into the ground for the foundation of the piers and abutments. Once the piers and abutments are constructed, pre-stressed concrete girders will be set and construction will start on the forms for the bridge deck. The concrete for the deck will be placed just prior to Labor Day. After the deck is done, crews will complete the railing, place asphalt for the roadway, remove the bypass and perform the final grading. (See diagram.)

“We are excited to get this project completed as the current bridge is very narrow and restrictive,” said Morton County Engineer John Saiki. “We will take the bridge from being only 20 feet wide to the new County standard of 32 feet which will allow better traffic flow, particularly for farm machinery. The new standards will also provide a safe, structurally-sound bridge to take us well into the future.”

The current bridge was built in 1950 and is restricted to a load rating of 8 tons. The new bridge will increase the load rating to 36 tons. The new bridge will also be built longer at 176 feet, compared to the current 130 feet length.

The \$1.9 million project is being paid for through an 80/20 percentage match federal grant administered by the North Dakota Department of Transportation.

The bridge project is expected to be completed by October 5, 2019.

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