

Mitchell Region Office

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MEMORANDUM:

TO: Craig Smith, Director of Operations

FROM: Joseph Sestak, Access Management Engineer

DATE: July 10, 2025

SUBJECT: Transportation Commission Consideration of Access Approach

Reconstruction and Expansion in Minnehaha County on

Minnehaha County Highway 114.

The Department of Transportation (SDDOT) has receive a request to reconstruct an access currently located approximately 316 feet east of the northbound I-29 off ramp at Exit 94 on the south side. This shared access location is in the control of access acquired during the original construction of the interchange with I-29 west of Baltic.

SDDOT has reviewed this location and agrees this is an acceptable change as the new design will accommodate traffic better than the existing condition or the original condition. The Mitchell Region Engineer requests to create a break in the control of access that is 40 ft wide to replace the existing 24 ft wide break in control of access to allow the reconstruction of the access with Minnehaha County approval.

All costs related to the reconstruction including removal of the existing access outside the limits of the new access will be the responsibility of the owner requesting the change in control of access. The owner has been in discussions with Minnehaha County and SDDOT has received concurrence from Minnehaha County that they would grant the access permit to create the 40 foot wide shared access at the proposed location. This work will be completed to the standards set forth in the access permit by Minnehaha County.

This proposal has been discussed with the Right of Way Office, Project Development Office, Legal Office, Road Design Office, and Sioux Falls SDDOT Area Office as well as Minnehaha County. All parties concur that the request for the reconstruction of the access should be approved.

The Mitchell Region Engineer supports the request for the reconstruction. SDDOT Environmental has no concerns with the access location. SDDOT Legal Office concurs

with the proposed changes. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) South Dakota Division has been notified and agrees with the request for the reconstruction and there is an appraisal completed that will be the responsibility of the owner to pay to the State of South Dakota if the resolution is approved.

The new access design will cause traffic to approach the county highway from the south rather than from the southwest which should help to keep exiting vehicles from blocking entering vehicles.

A traffic study was required by the county and completed by the owners with SDDOT participation and the results show the change of use will not negatively affect the traffic on Minnehaha County Highway 114 or the I-29 ramps.







