

Welcome

The Idaho Transportation Department has begun a multi-year planning process to improve Interstate 15 between Pocatello and Idaho Falls. The work will address the growing population and increased travel across the region.



The purpose of this meeting is to:

- Introduce the multi-year planning process for the I-15, Pocatello to Idaho Falls Corridor
- Share design options for widening I-15 between the Northgate Parkway Interchange and Blackfoot
- Gather information, concerns and input from the community



NORTHGATE TO BLACKFOOT

I-15, Pocatello to Idaho Falls

Interstate 15 between Pocatello and Idaho Falls is aging and nearing capacity in some areas. As traffic volumes continue to increase, ITD plans to widen I-15 and rebuild multiple outdated structures to increase safety and capacity in the future. The 51-mile corridor will be divided into smaller project areas for planning purposes.

Initial projects:

- 5th Avenue to Northgate (Exit 67 – Exit 73)
- Northgate to Blackfoot (Exit 73 – Exit 93)

Future project:

- Blackfoot to Idaho Falls (Exit 93 – Exit 116)

ITD will inform the public as they identify additional projects along the corridor.





Northgate to Blackfoot

The Northgate to Blackfoot Project is located on I-15 beginning at the Northgate Parkway Interchange (Exit 73) and ending approximately 1 mile north of the Blackfoot/US 26 Interchange (Exit 93) in Blackfoot.



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Process & Schedule for Northgate to Blackfoot



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Several steps are involved with developing a project and preparing for construction.

Begin environmental evaluation, gather traffic and geotechnical information, survey and develop improvement concepts **2021**

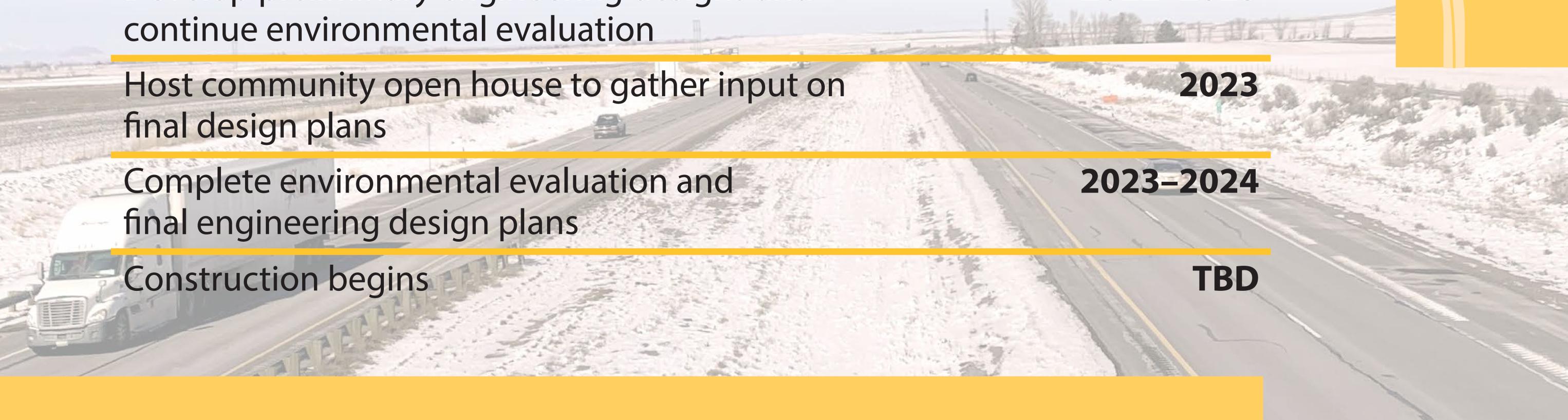
Host community open house to gather input on preliminary project designs **Summer 2022**

Develop preliminary engineering designs and continue environmental evaluation **2022–2023**

Host community open house to gather input on final design plans **2023**

Complete environmental evaluation and final engineering design plans **2023–2024**

Construction begins **TBD**



Local Coordination

ITD will coordinate with community members, local city and county officials and underserved populations. Local knowledge about the area will help ITD when designing improvement plans.

In addition, the I-15, Northgate to Blackfoot project falls within the tribal boundaries of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation. ITD will coordinate with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes throughout the project to identify and address potential impacts.



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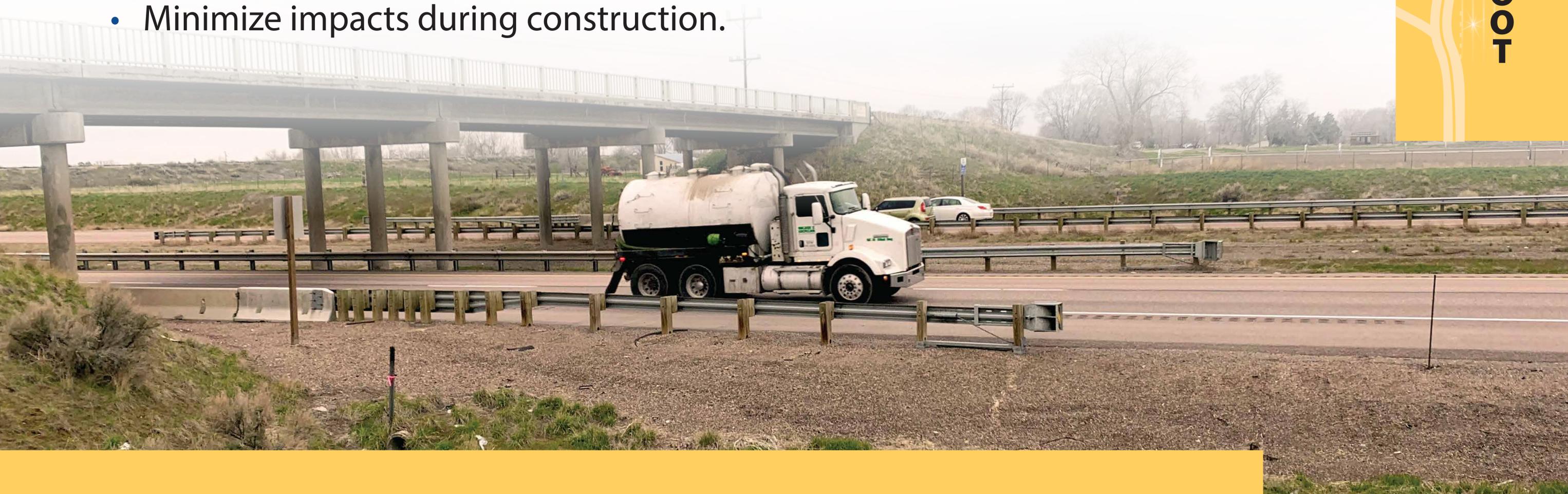
Considerations

ITD is identifying and evaluating options for widening Interstate 15 based on the following criteria:

- Ensure safety along the I-15 corridor.
- Maximize the ability to complete routine maintenance on the interstate without major impacts to traffic.
- Design improvements that plan for future growth.
- Minimize the acquisition of right-of-way.
- Minimize impacts during construction.



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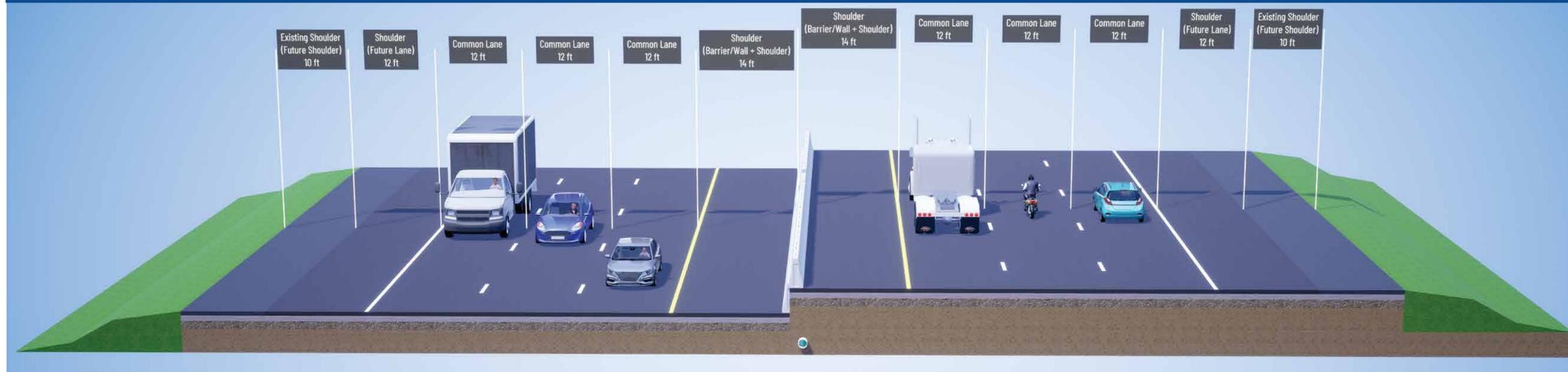


Design Option 1 For widening I-15

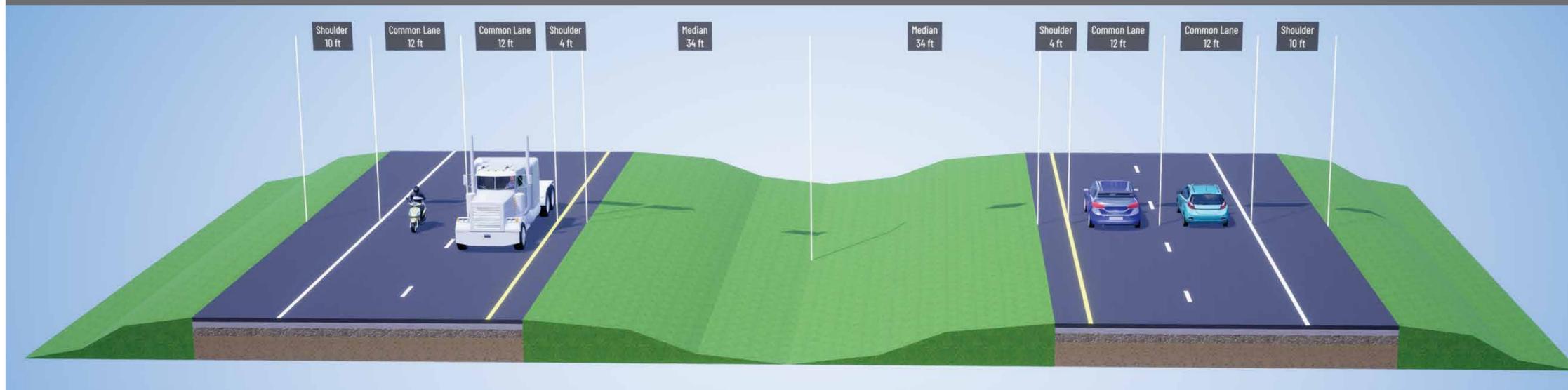


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Design Option 1 – Closed Median



Existing Conditions

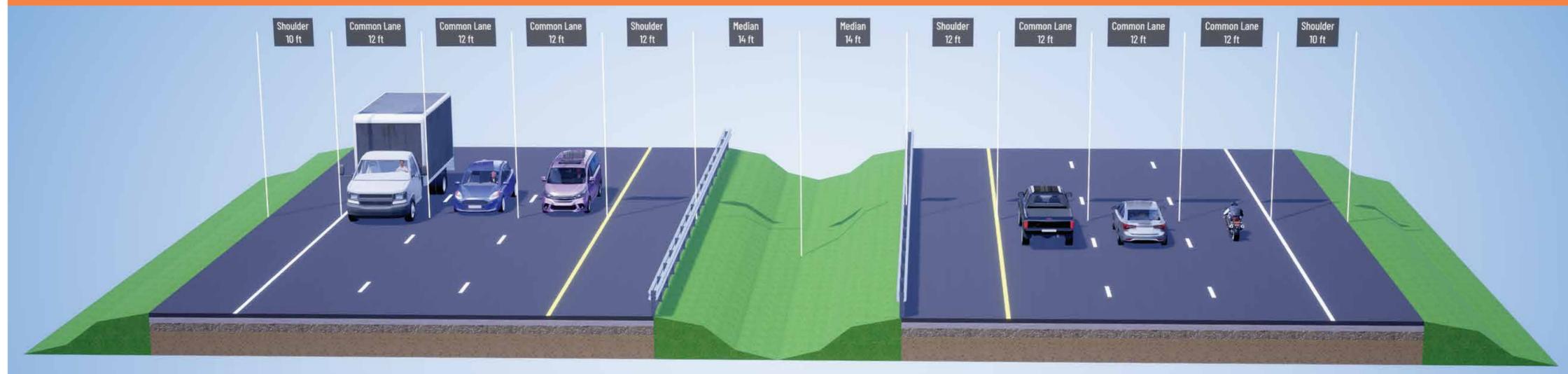


Design Option 2 For widening I-15

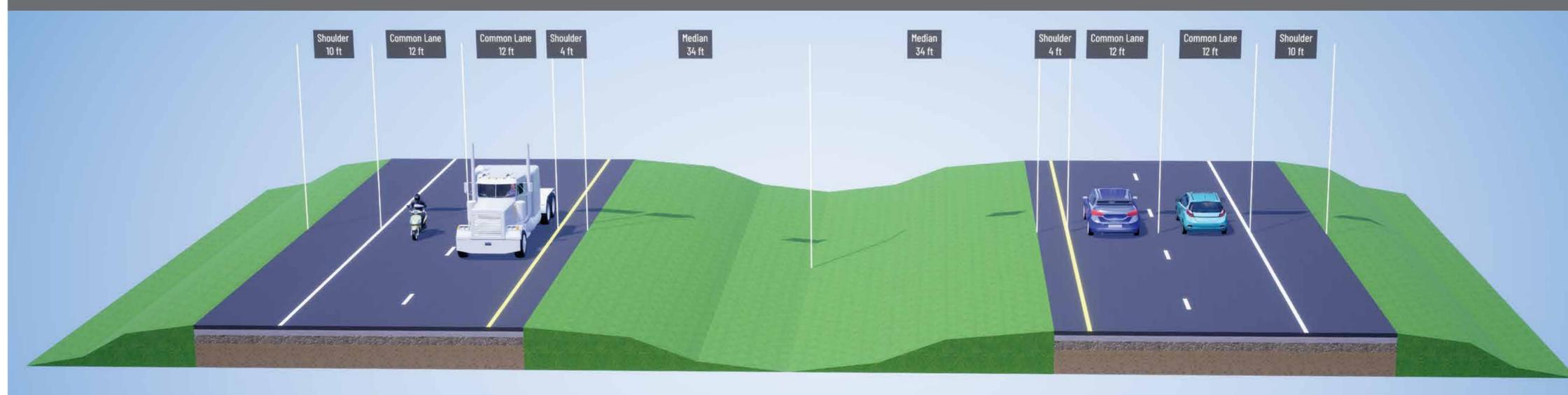


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Design Option 2 – Open Median



Existing Conditions



Recommendation

ITD's design recommendation for adding a third lane is Design Option 1 (Closed Median) because of the following:

- Fewer potential environmental impacts
- More cost effective
- Minimizes right-of-way acquisition
- Simplifies construction and minimizes traffic impacts during construction
- Accommodates future growth and expansion



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ITD's Recommendation: Design Option 1 – Closed Median





Other I-15 Projects

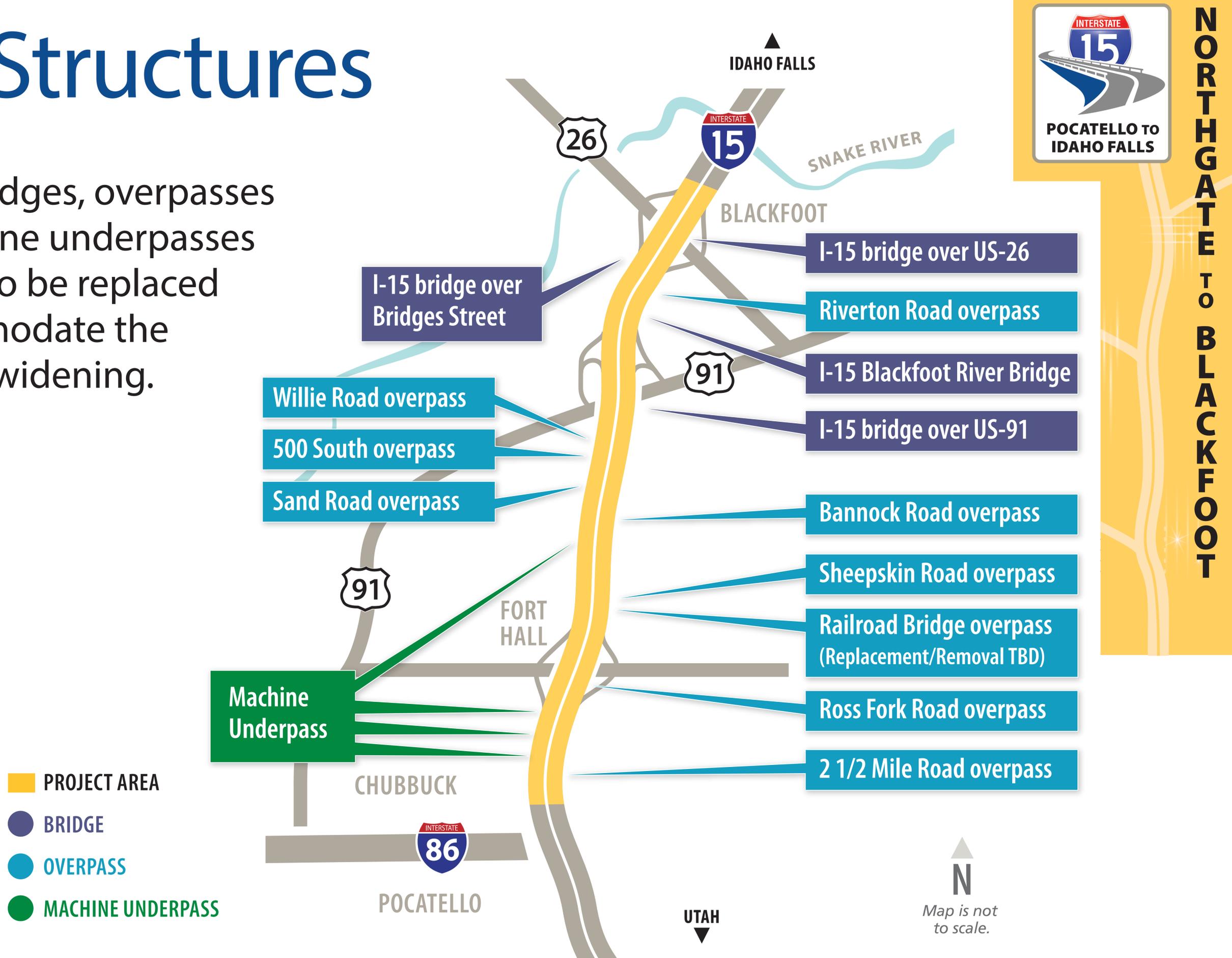
Over the last several years ITD has replaced and repaired many miles of pavement, bridges and interchanges on I-15. Several more reconstruction and routine maintenance projects will take place to extend the life of the roadway prior to major rehabilitation work.



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I-15 Structures

Several bridges, overpasses and machine underpasses will need to be replaced to accommodate the interstate widening.



Next Steps

ITD will review input from the community, analyze additional technical and environmental data, and begin work on preliminary design plans. Another open house is expected to be held in 2023 to share updated design plans.



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Thank you!

Thank you for your participation.

Please fill out a comment form and submit your input to the project team.

For more information:

VISIT

itdprojects.org/i15corridor

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