

Frequently Asked Questions – Hwy 15 Project

What are the details of the Highway 15 project in Hutchinson?

There are two parts to the Highway 15 project.

1. Highway 15 through downtown Hutchinson will be fully reconstructed. All sidewalks and pedestrian crossings in the project area will be updated to meet Americans with Disabilities (ADA) standards. In addition to the work the state is doing, the City of Hutchinson is replacing utilities (sanitary sewer lines, water mains and storm sewers) under the road.
2. Highway 15 from 5th Ave. S to just north of the roundabout at CR 115/Airport Road will be resurfaced. A left turn lane will be added at Highway 15 and Linden Avenue. All sidewalks and pedestrian crossings in the project area will be updated to meet Americans with Disabilities (ADA) standards.

What is the cost of the project?

The current estimated project cost (state and city) is \$8 million dollars.

Will there be a detour?

Yes, the reconstruction of the Highway 15 through downtown will necessitate a detour (see below). Access to downtown businesses and access to businesses & residences south of 5th Ave. will be maintained during the project.

The resurfacing of Highway 15 from 5th Ave. S to just north of the roundabout at CR 115/Airport Road will be done under traffic and will not be detoured.

PROJECT AREA & OFFICIAL DETOUR



When will the project start and how many construction seasons will it take?

The reconstruction of downtown Hutchinson will start in the spring of 2020 and will last the entire season. Highway 15 through downtown will be detoured.

Resurfacing of Highway 15 from 5th Ave. S to north of the roundabout at CR 115/Airport Road will be done under traffic and will not require a detour.

Will downtown look different when the project is finished?

There are several new features that are part of the final design of the downtown, but there are also several amenities that are being re-used.

Bump-outs will be used at key locations to help pedestrians safely cross the highway. New portable planters are being designed and will be located near business windows and other locations throughout the downtown. Bollards will also help to designate off street parking areas. Colored concrete will be used on a portion of the sidewalk where amenities (benches, light poles, etc.) are located.

The same style of metal benches and trash receptacles will be refurbished or replaced. Existing light poles will be refurbished and reused with LED lighting.



Why are the sidewalks being reconstructed?

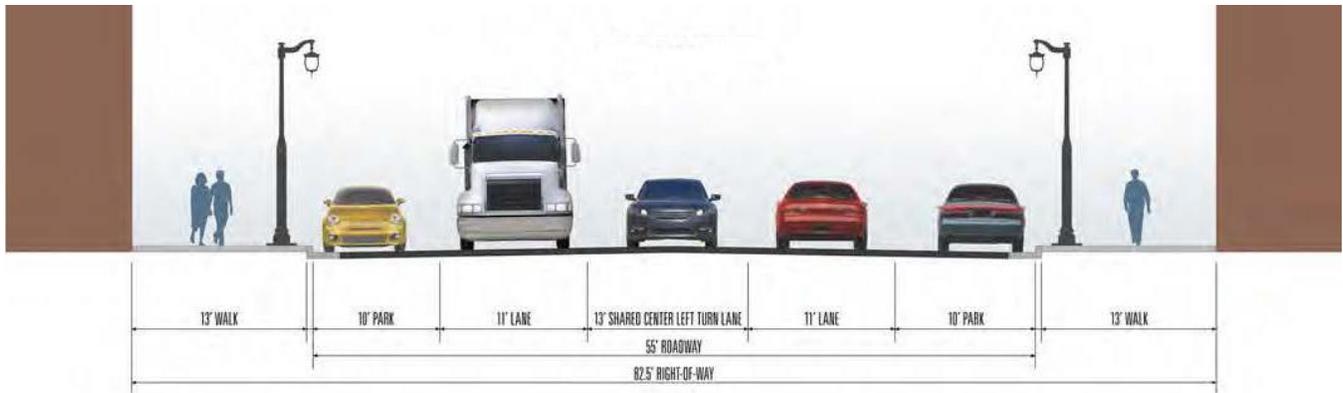
There are two reasons why sidewalks are being reconstruction. First, all MnDOT projects must include an evaluation to ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The sidewalks do not meet standards and require a full replacement of the current sidewalk.

Second, city utility replacement will require the removal of much of the existing sidewalk.

What will the road look like?

Driving lanes on Highway 15 through downtown will be 11 feet wide. They will be the same width as the driving lanes on Highway 7 in Hutchinson. Eleven feet is a common travel lane width.

Due to the amount of parking in downtown Hutchinson and the desire to make it comfortable to park and safely exit the vehicle, 10 foot parking lanes are planned. The center (left) turn lane will be 13 feet wide.



Will I be assessed for utility work?

For questions on assessments, please contact Hutchinson City Engineer, Kent Exner.

If I have questions, who do I contact?

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