

2023 Construction Highway 34, CR 29 to west of Osage

Project summary

The Minnesota Department of Transportation will be completing a resurfacing project on Highway 34, from Becker County Road 29 (four corners) to County Road 26/47 (old MN225), west of Osage.

Project details

- 21-miles of full depth reclamation and resurfacing
- Culvert and cattle pass work
- Bridge/box culvert replacement at Shell River
- Left turn lanes at intersection of County Road 47

Benefits

- Smoother, longer-lasting pavement surface
- Bridge and drainage improvements

Cost Estimate

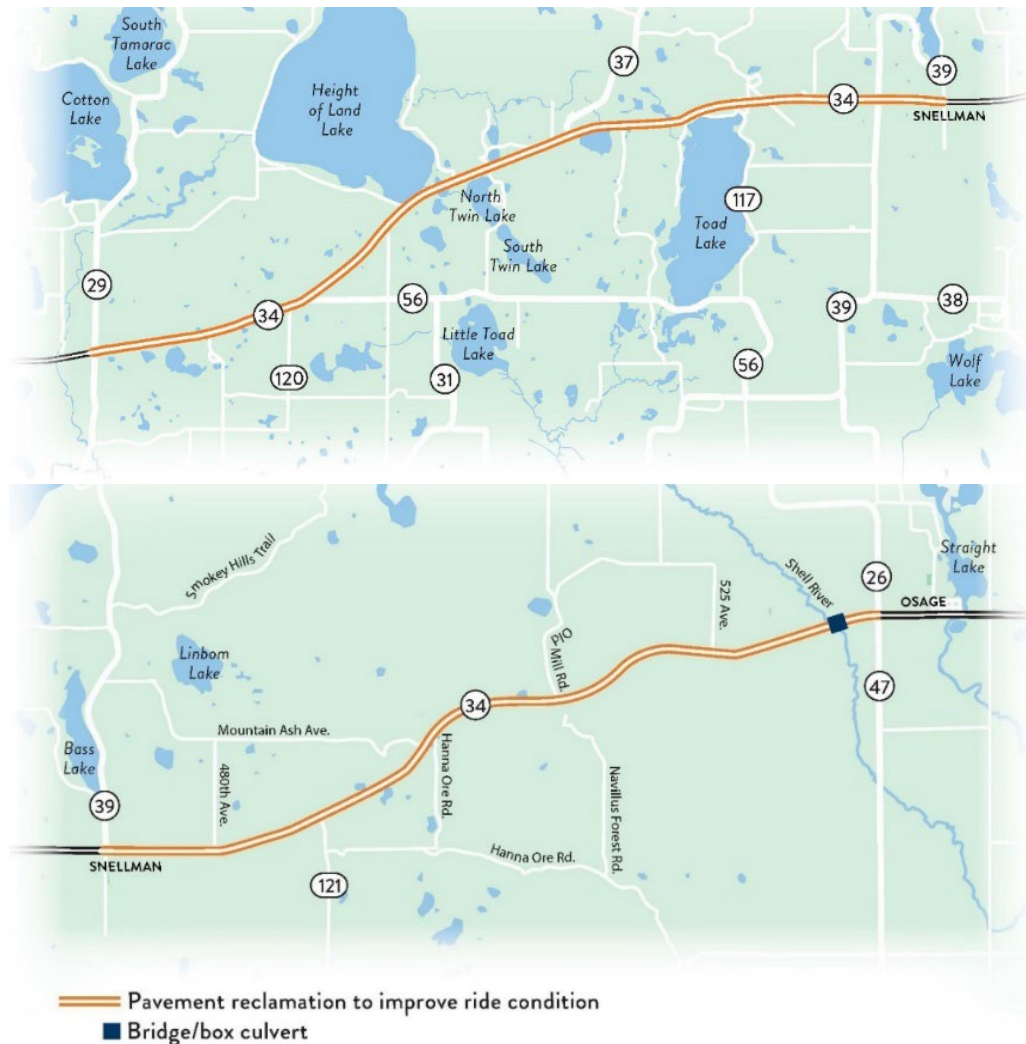
- \$15.7 million

More information

Learn more about the project and sign up for project email updates at mndot.gov/d4/projects/hwy34.

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Project schedule

- Construction begins after Memorial Day, May 30.
 - The change to the start date (originally planned for May 15) is due to spring load restrictions, which are expected to be lifted in mid- to late-May.
 - **Expected completion: October**

Traffic impacts & staging

- Highway 34 will be detoured to thru-traffic.
 - **Official detour route: CR 29, Hwy 87, CR 47**
 - From one end of the project to the other, the detour could add 20 extra miles to your drive. Please plan accordingly.
- **Local traffic ONLY:** Only those who have a destination within the work zone (home or business) should use Highway 34 during construction.
 - **North/south residents:** If you live north or south of Highway 34 and you need to access Highway 34 to get to your road, you can still do so. Just be aware there will be delays, flaggers and periodic stops in the areas where crews are working. It is advised to use an alternate route or the detour if you can.
 - Portions of Highway 34 will be impassable at times during bridge and culvert replacements.
 - Driveway access for residences and businesses along Highway 34 will be maintained at all times. Please anticipate some temporary/daily restrictions in the areas where crews are working.
- **Construction staging:** Toad Lake is located approximately at the center of the project. The work is currently planned to begin in the areas **west** of Toad Lake.
 - Crews will start by replacing entrance pipes and centerline culverts.
 - Shell River bridge/box culvert replacement tentatively scheduled for August
 - All schedules and work plans are subject to change at any time based on weather, contractor schedules or other unforeseen circumstances or issues.



Updates about tree removals

- **Complete:** Removal of trees and vegetation within the clear zone was completed in March 2023.
- **Current, 2023-24:** MnDOT is conducting a study with the University of Minnesota ahead of selective logging to gather data on sunlight and pavement temperature.
- **Fall/winter 2024-25:** Shade tree reduction on the south side of the highway between Snellman and Osage, excludes wetlands and residences.

You can find more information about tree work on Highway 34 at mndot.gov/d4/projects/hwy34/trees.html