



Frequently Asked Questions

Updated January 2022

Where is the Downtown Access Project (DAP)?

- I-515/US 95 through downtown, from Mojave Road (east of Eastern Avenue) to Rancho Drive. Major exits include Eastern Avenue, Las Vegas Boulevard, Casino Center Boulevard and, MLK Boulevard, and Rancho Drive.

What is the DAP?

- DAP is a project created by the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT). It is the long-term solution to address the aging bridge infrastructure, improve safety, improve freeway operations, add freeway capacity and High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) access, and meet the community needs in this corridor.

Why is the DAP needed?

- This portion of I-515/US 95 consists of two separate bridges that are 1.6 miles in length. The bridges are getting older, and a long-term solution is needed.
- The volume of cars continues to increase in the Las Vegas Valley, reducing travel time reliability.
- The merging and weaving between interchanges are a safety issue and crashes have increased above the state average over the last three years.

Which agencies are involved in project development?

- The Nevada Department of Transportation is the lead agency.
- The Federal Highway Administration provides project oversight.
- The City of Las Vegas is a key partner in project development, given that the project is located within City limits.

What's the timing of this project?

- The project is estimated to be 10-13 years in total. NDOT is about two years into the environmental process. The following tasks will be pursued: final design and property (right-of-way) acquisitions (approximately 4 years), and construction (4-5 years).

Is the project funded?

- We are currently in the environmental phase of the project, which is the only phase that is funded.
- Final design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction are not funded yet.

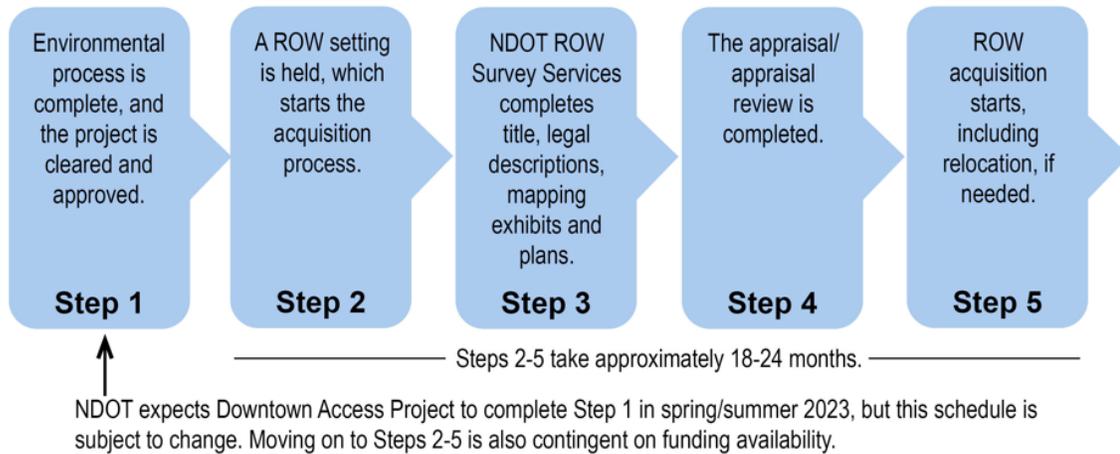
What occurs during the environmental phase?

- The Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process allows transportation officials to make project decisions that balance engineering and transportation needs with social, economic, and natural environmental factors. During the process, a wide range of partners including the public, businesses, interest groups, and agencies at all levels of government, provide input into the project and environmental decisions.

- As part of the environmental process, NDOT is evaluating potential alternatives, performing environmental studies, and receiving public and stakeholder input. The preferred alternative will be determined at the end of the environmental process, in spring/summer 2023.

Will NDOT have to acquire property (right-of-way) to build this project?

- Yes, some property acquisitions will be required. Acquisitions will not be pursued until the environmental studies have been completed, which is scheduled for late 2022 or early 2023. See the graphic below illustrating NDOT’s process for acquisition.



How will my travel routes change because of this project?

- The final design depends on the preferred alternative selected.
- All entry/exit points to/from US 95 will be maintained. Two new access points are proposed – High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) interchanges at City Parkway and Maryland Parkway.
- In the north and south alternative, NDOT is proposing to permanently close three surface streets that currently cross under US 95: 8th, 14th, and 16th.
- In the recessed alternative, NDOT is proposing to permanently close four surface streets that currently cross under US 95: 8th, 14th, and 16th, and 19th.

Which surface streets are proposed for permanent closure?

- After an extensive street closures campaign in March/April 2021, where NDOT received more than 450 comments from residents, businesses, and users of the surface streets, NDOT reduced the proposed number of surface street closures from 8 or 9 to 3 or 4.
- In the north and south alternative, NDOT is proposing to permanently close three surface streets that currently cross under US 95: 8th, 14th, and 16th.
- In the recessed alternative, NDOT is proposing to permanently close four surface streets that currently cross under US 95: 8th, 14th, and 16th, and 19th.

Will the public have any say in what happens?

- Yes, NDOT will be seeking public input, as part of the environmental process.
- The first opportunity for the public to provide feedback was during the virtual public meeting from August 24 to September 22, 2020.
- In 2021, NDOT conducted a street closures campaign to gather feedback on proposed surface street closures.
- In late 2021/early 2022, NDOT conducted a survey to better understand what type of community enhancements those near the freeway would like to see.

- The second public meeting is being held virtually (Jan. 17 – Feb. 15, 2022, at www.ndotdap.com) and in person (Jan. 25, 4-7pm, at the East Las Vegas Library)
- A public hearing will be held in October/November 2022, after the preferred alternative is selected.
- Sign up for project updates at www.ndotdap.com to stay informed.

Will there be multilingual staff to communicate with residents and businesses?

- Yes, our team can communicate with you in Spanish, and all materials are provided in English and Spanish.

How can the public stay up to date on what's happening with the project?

- Email us at info@ndotdap.com to be added to our email list or sign up on our website at www.ndotdap.com

Why is NDOT proposing to extend the HOV system onto this stretch of US 95?

- Expanding the HOV system and improving connectivity to the surface streets encourages usage.
- Two HOV interchanges with direct access to City Parkway and Maryland Parkway (from the center lanes of the freeway) will provide better connectivity and access into and out of downtown.

Why is NDOT doing work on this stretch of freeway right now?

- As noted above, these bridges are getting older, and DAP is a long-term project. NDOT needed to perform improvements to extend the service life of the bridges until the long-term solution can be built.
- The current project is also adding a southbound auxiliary lane from the Spaghetti Bowl to Eastern Ave to assist with the current back-ups that occur when merging from I-15 NB/SB onto US 95 SB.

Does NDOT have any other projects planned for this area?

NDOT has several other projects along this stretch of freeway. Visit dot.nv.gov/nv515 to learn more.