

PROJECT OVERVIEW

While beautiful and iconic, MT Highway 78 has a crash rate 65% higher than the statewide average. To make this rural roadway safer, the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) is designing two adjacent projects, known as Highway 78 - Red Lodge to Luther.

There are numerous areas on MT Highway 78 where the steep road traverses hills and valleys, and drivers have limited sight distance and time to react to upcoming obstacles. The Highway 78 - Red Lodge to Luther project will reduce the roller coaster driving experience and increase lines of sight, helping drivers make better decisions.

The projects will start five miles northwest of Red Lodge, north of Summit Lane, and end east of Butcher Creek Road near Luther. In total, nearly 11 miles of MT Highway 78 will be improved.

CURRENT PROJECTIONS ESTIMATE THE PROJECT WILL COST

\$17 MILLION



INCREASED SIGHT
DISTANCE TO SEE
BEYOND CURVES



REPLACE BRIDGE
CROSSING AT LOWER
LUTHER ROAD



FLATTEN STEEP
HILLS



WIDEN SHOULDERS TO
4 FEET ON BOTH SIDES
OF THE HIGHWAY



ADD VEHICLE
TURNOUTS

STAY IN THE KNOW



Email: Contact Takami at
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SMS Text Updates: Text
HIGHWAY78 to 41411 to subscribe



Mail: Highway 78 Project C/O BSPR,
PO Box 732, Bozeman MT 59771



Project hotline: 406-207-4484 during
business hours



Visit: <http://bit.ly/2PWRyBK>

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The Montana Department of Transportation cares deeply about community input and ensuring that the public is well-informed before moving forward with a design. MDT encourages any and all input while adjustments can be made to project plans. Though the budget might not accommodate every change, all ideas are welcome and considered.



VISION ZERO
zero deaths · zero serious injuries

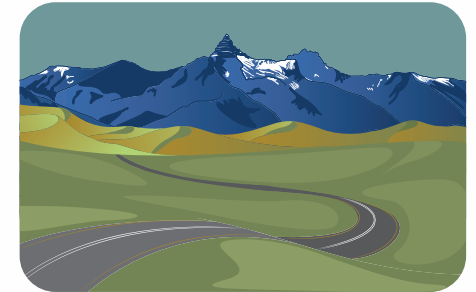
MONTANA DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION

LEARN MORE ABOUT VISION ZERO AT

www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero

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HIGHWAY 78

RED LODGE TO LUTHER



87%

OF FUNDING COMES FROM
THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

WHY CAN'T CONSTRUCTION START SOONER?

Highway 78 – Red Lodge to Luther is in the design phase, which means that certain aspects of the project could change as MDT continues moving forward with plan development. This phase of the planning process is rigorous and takes time. Construction will not begin until at least **2025**.

Design phases for every project are extensive. They require ample time so that staff can properly create and review potential project plans. Below are just some of the tasks that project teams perform during the design phase:



Reviewing past research from surveys of the project area



Mapping and assessment of surrounding terrain (both above & below ground)



Presenting and adjusting plans based off of public input



Determining the feasibility of construction features



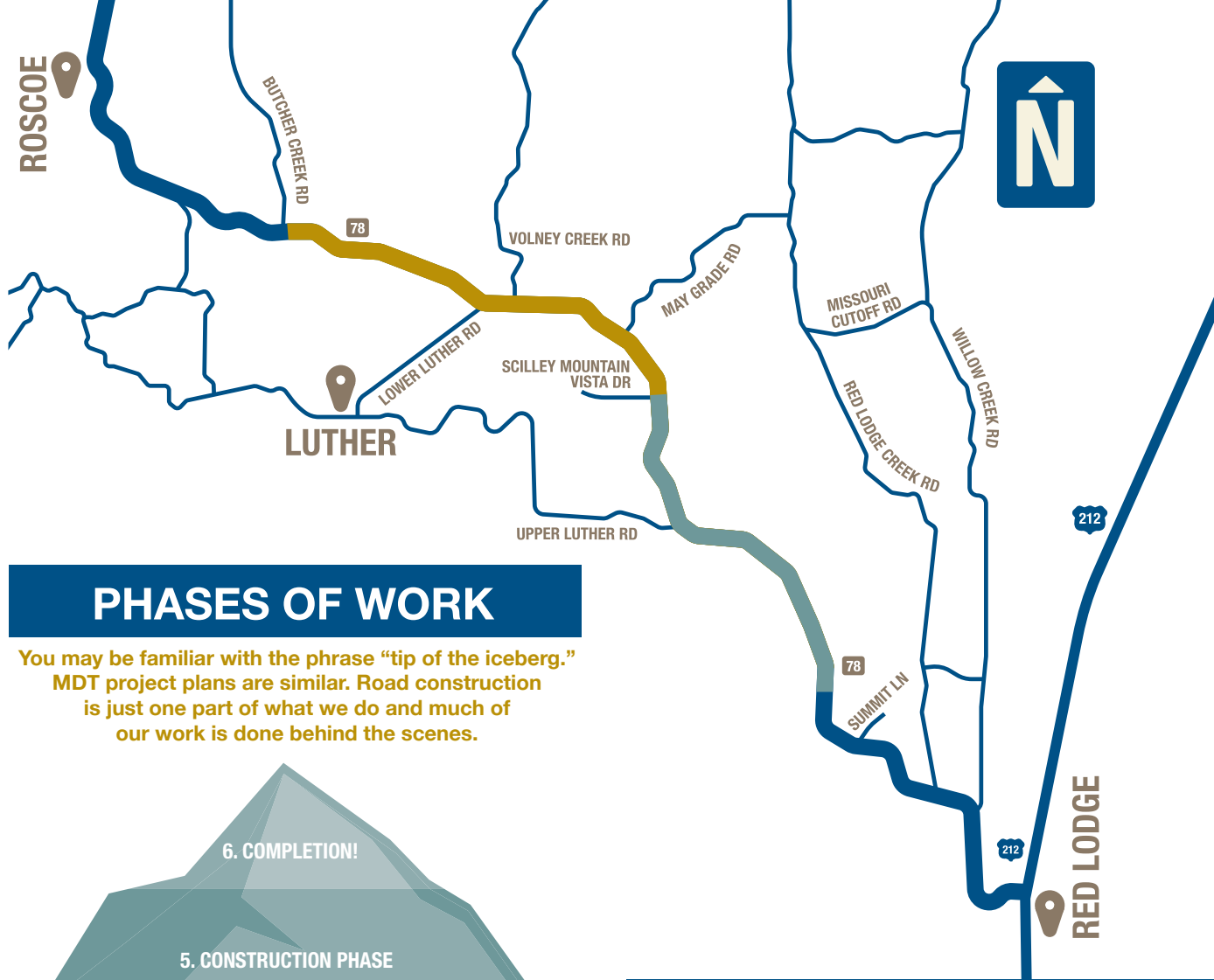
Research and permitting to ensure environmental impacts are kept to a minimum



Creating detailed plans to guide construction

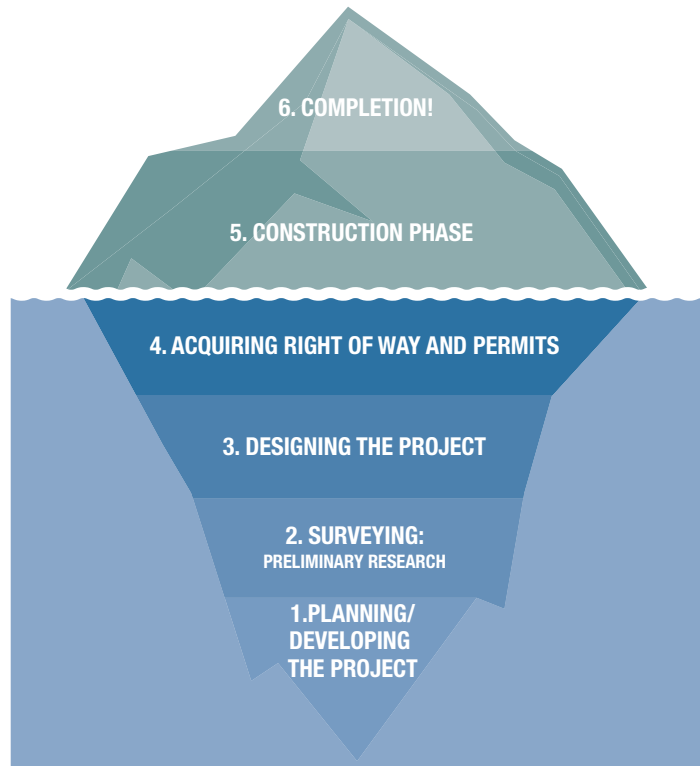


Securing federal funding



PHASES OF WORK

You may be familiar with the phrase “tip of the iceberg.” MDT project plans are similar. Road construction is just one part of what we do and much of our work is done behind the scenes.



PROJECT KEY

Highway 78: Butcher Creek Road to Scilley Mountain Vista Drive

Highway 78: Scilley Mountain Vista Drive to north of Summit Lane