



# NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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## Corps celebrates the opening of Interstate 29 south of Exit 50

**ST. PAUL, Minn.** – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, along with the Metro Flood Diversion Authority and the North Dakota Department of Transportation, announced that the Interstate-29, or I-29, construction in the Oxbow, Hickson, and Bakke area has finished work on all lanes of traffic. The Corps is opening both the northbound and southbound lanes, today, in addition to all ramps that access the Interstate in this area.

“We appreciate the residents’ patience as this vital part of the project was completed,” said Mathew Andersen, resident engineer. “The road raise will allow the Interstate to stay open for residents during most flood events.”

The I-29 grade raise project is part of the Fargo, North Dakota / Moorhead, Minnesota, Metropolitan Area Flood Risk Management Project. It consists of a grade raise of I-29 for approximately 4 miles to bring the roadway out of the 500-year flood elevation. The project extends from south of Exit 50 (Hickson Interchange) to north of Exit 54 (Davenport/Oxbow Interchange) and includes an up-and-over where I-29 crosses the southern embankment near the Wild Rice River, bridge construction and replacement, as well as work on adjacent County Roads 18 and 81 in the vicinity of Oxbow.

The roughly \$3 billion Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area Flood Risk Management Project is a 30-mile-long stormwater diversion channel in North Dakota with upstream staging of flood waters.

This project, once complete, will provide flood risk management for nearly 260,000 people and 70 square miles of infrastructure in the communities of Fargo, Moorhead, West Fargo, Horace, and Harwood.

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**ABOUT US:** The nearly 700 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, employees working at more than 40 sites in five upper-Midwest states serve the American public in the areas of environmental enhancement, navigation, flood damage reduction, water and wetlands regulation, recreation sites and disaster response. Through the St. Paul District Fiscal Year 2022 \$261 million budget, nearly 3,795 non-Corps jobs were added to the regional economy as well as nearly \$400 million to the national economy. Learn more at [www.mvp.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil) or visit our social media sites at:



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