As the first design-build pavement project for Weld County, this was also the largest single contract awarded in the county’s history. The design-build team was challenged to eliminate the sight distance issues; provide acceleration/deceleration lanes at most of the project’s 19 county road intersections; eliminate overtopping of the roadway; establish both a general purpose and passing lane in both directions; and create a full-length 16 ft. center turn lane.

The total project length was 19.96 miles and included 937,000 SY of concrete paving over 19.96 miles. The project called for 500,000 tons of aggregates for the concrete. Transporting the materials to the project site would have created an enormous environmental impact, so Interstate Highway Construction (IHC) worked with a local aggregate supplier to use an existing aggregate and sand pit on the project site. This change had a significant sustainability benefits, eliminating about 1.26 million truck miles, 2,347 tons of CO2 emissions, and almost 21,000 truck trips from state roadways. Mining the aggregates on-site also improved the mix design optimization.

Over the span of 14 months, the contractor’s crews removed and replaced 20 miles of outdated pavement, dirt, drainage and utilities. The complete 27-month project duration included design, construction, acquiring remaining right of way, working with 17 utility companies and Union Pacific Railroad. Despite a delayed start to the project, the reconstruction of this important roadway under budget and almost 30 days ahead of schedule.
County Roads