



# BURLEIGH COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

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## Press Release

**Burleigh County is happy to announce the activation of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE and Centennial Road traffic signals on Tuesday, June 9, 2015 shortly after the morning rush hour.**

Background information: This project is the culmination of a series of projects to improve safety throughout the area. Recent development and the construction of the new Legacy High School has accelerated the reconstruction of existing roadways to accommodate new traffic levels in this area.

In 2011, Burleigh County reconstructed the intersection at 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE and Centennial Road adding both right and left turn lanes at all four legs of the intersection. The project was 100% County funded with State Gas Tax Funding and was finalized around \$980,000. In addition, we reduced the speed limit on Centennial Road from 55 mph to 45 mph improving the safety in the area.

In 2014, Burleigh County reconstructed Centennial Road from 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE to the Bismarck city limits. The project included: lowering the existing grade of the roadway to improve site distance, widening the roadway to add a center turn lane and improve shoulder widths, and the repaving of the roadway from the Bismarck city limits to State Highway #83. The project was 100% County funded using special funding allocated to counties during the 2013 Legislative session. The project was completed for around \$3,320,000.

Burleigh County and the City of Bismarck have now installed traffic signals at the intersection of 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE and Centennial Road. These signals will improve the safety of the area by managing the flow of traffic through the intersection. The project was let for \$297,999 and was split 80% Federal funding and 20% City of Bismarck funding.

These projects together have greatly improved the safety of the area. In 2011, the 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE and Centennial Road intersection was ranked the 7<sup>th</sup> worst Rural Intersection in the State of North Dakota. Improvements in the area have reduced this ranking to the 16<sup>th</sup> worst, and new projects will continue to improve the safety of the intersection.

For additional information, please contact Marcus J. Hall at 701-204-7748.

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Burleigh County Engineer