

City of Fremont Update

Date: July 2, 2021

To: City Employees/ City Boards/ Mayor & City Council

Wind Storm Topples City Transmission Lines

Winds topping 80 mph hit the northside of Fremont last Thursday morning toppling 1.5 miles of the City's 69,000-volt transmission lines. The picture on the right shows a portion of the transmission line along Luther Road, west of Ritz Lake, that received damage. As shown, some of the wood poles were snapped off by the strong wind, others broke at ground level.

Not shown, but also severely damaged, was the 69,000-volt transmission line that extends up North Somers Ave. and crosses Highway 30, just west of the Highway 77 and 275 interchange. In this stretch, the wind toppled 12 poles, causing Highway 30 to be closed most of the day last Thursday.

In total, 26 transmission poles (14 on Luther Road and 12 on N Somers Ave.) were toppled by the wind. The estimated cost of repairs to the transmission lines is \$1,725,000.

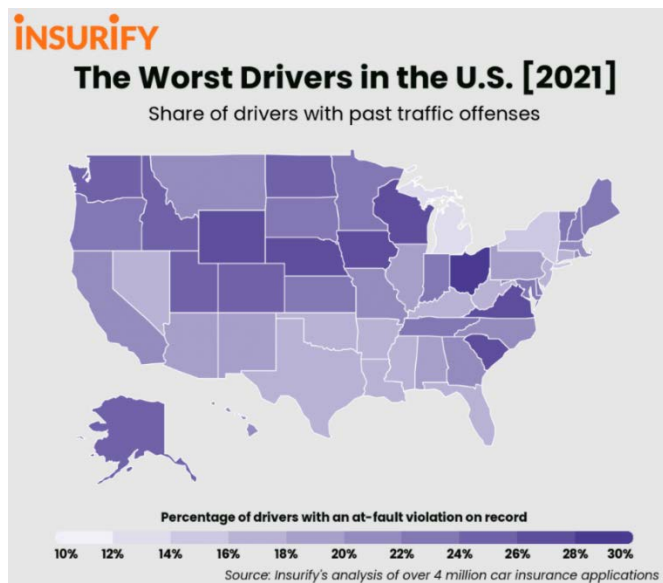


Nebraska Drivers Ranked in Top 10 Worst Drivers

According to Insurify's analysis of over 4 million car insurance applications, Nebraska's Drivers rank (26.72%) third worst in the U.S. Only Ohio (28.18%) and Iowa (26.74%) ranked worse. The national average ranking was 21.34%.

The rankings looked the percentage of at-fault violations (accidents and other incidents) on record. Nine of the top ten states also made up Insurify's list of the top 10 states with the worst drivers in 2019.

On the bright side, the study found that the rate of drivers reporting a previous accident and the number of traffic deaths per 100,000 population are NOT significantly correlated. Within the top ten states with the worst drivers, only two are in the top ten states with the highest rates of traffic deaths, which suggests higher incident rates do not necessarily cause higher fatality rates.



There is no job so important and no service so urgent that we cannot take the time to do the work safely!

South Entrance into City Warehouse Temporarily Closed

The South entrance into the City warehouse on East First Street will be closed for several weeks as the concrete is replaced. Work started this week and will not be completed until the second week in July. CR Menn is replacing the concrete driveway into the warehouse. Signs will direct deliveries and customers wanting service to use the east entrance off of Johnson Road to access the warehouse.

Lineworkers Train on Pole Top Rescue Techniques

Annually, City lineworkers practice both pole top and bucket truck rescue techniques. The picture on the right is Apprentice Lineworker, Conner Jenkins performing pole top rescue on a manikin. The manikin is similar in size and weight of a real person, so the rescue simulates an actual rescue on a pole.



City's Bond Refinancing Will Save Millions

Last week I wrote about the AA- credit rating we received from S&P Global and how this credit rating would help the City refinance \$66 million of City utility bonds. Well I'm happy to report that the bonds sales went very well and because of the refinancing, the City will save millions of dollars. Here are the results from the bond refinancing. Please note that the row highlighted in yellow is information about the old bonds, while the row highlighted in green is information about the bonds that were issued to replace the old bonds.

| Bond Issue | Total Principal & Interest | Average Term | Average Interest Rate | Annual Savings |
|---|----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Series 2018 (old) | \$54,619,012 | 11.68 years | 3.965% | N/A |
| The Series 2018 Bonds were replaced with the 2021B bonds below: | | | | |
| Series 2021B (new) | \$50,215,734 | 10.78 years | 2.25% | \$199,000/year |

| Bond Issue | Total Principal & Interest | Average Term | Average Interest Rate | Annual Savings |
|--|----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Series 2014B (old) | \$41,838,175 | 9.06 years | 4.464% | N/A |
| The Series 2014B Bonds were replaced with the 2021A bonds below: | | | | |
| Series 2021A (new) | \$33,299,389 | 9.17 years | 1.678% | \$563,000/year |

As shown above, by refinancing these two bond issues, the City will save \$762,000 in debt service payments each year or more than \$7.3 million over the term of the bonds. This is significant savings for the City's ratepayers!

There is no job so important and no service so urgent that we cannot take the time to do the work safely!