

**CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE
TRANSPORTATION BOND ISSUE
PROGRESS REPORT – February 2012**

The Transportation Bond Issue consists of projects that will be designed, contracted, and administered by City Staff or consultants/contractors working for the City, along with 3 projects that will be designed and administered by the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD). Six (6) projects have been completed; most of the other projects are underway and are in various stages of design or construction. A summary of the status of these projects follows.

- 1) **Wilson Park/Washington Willow Area Traffic Calming**
 - a. **Project Summary/Status**
 - Complete. Original Budget: \$384,000 Final Cost: \$205,000

- 2) **Intersection improvements at Gregg Ave. and North Street**
 - a. **Project Summary/Status**
 - Complete. Original Budget: \$1,082,000; Final Cost: \$690,000

- 3) **Zion Road (N. College to Vantage)**
 - a. **Project Summary/Status**
 - Complete. Original Budget: \$2,540,000; Final Cost: \$2,272,000

- 4) **College Avenue (Rock to Maple)**
 - a. **Project Summary/Status**
 - Complete. Original Budget: \$1,740,000; Final Cost: \$1,841,000

- 5) **Mount Comfort Road (I540 to Ruppel Road)**
 - a. **Project Summary/Status**
 - Project includes 2 construction contracts:
 - Contract 1: Intersection improvements at Mount Comfort/I540/ Shiloh/Deane Solomon Rd.
 - Contract 2: Widening of Mount Comfort Road, from Ruppel Rd. to Alpine Ave.
 - Total Estimated Cost: \$10.5 million
 - Construction is complete on both projects.
 - b. **Upcoming Activities:**
 - Contract closeout tasks.

- 6) **Cato Springs Road (U of A Technology Corridor)**
 - a. **Project Summary/Status**
 - Project consists of reconstruction and widening to 2 and 3 lanes, with curb and gutter and sidewalks, from Hwy 71B to Razorback Road.
 - Total Project budget: \$6.02 million

- Federal funding expected: \$2.88 million
- Construction Contract: \$3,815,172 with Dean Crowder Construction

b. Recent Actions:

- City Council approval of the payment to Arkansas and Missouri Railroad for railroad crossing work to be completed by the railroad. Work includes realigning and adjusting the rails to create a smoother crossing, and upgrading the signal crossing to make a safer crossing.
- Utility relocation by AT&T is complete
- Water and sewer relocation work has been suspended pending relocation of SWEPCO poles and Arkansas Western Gas lines.
- SWEPCO and Arkansas Western Gas relocations are continuing..

c. Upcoming Activities:

- Continued coordination with local utilities for relocation of their facilities. AWG is planning to be complete by the end of March, SWEPCO by mid-April. Cox Communications and a University of Arkansas communications line will have to be moved onto the new poles once SWEPCO has completed their work.
- Coordination with Arkansas and Missouri Railroad for upgrades to the railroad crossing.
- Resumption of water and sewer relocations after other utilities are clear.

7) Fayetteville Expressway Economic Development Corridor

a. Project Summary/Status

- Federally funded project that is intended to provide better access to the retail centers and restaurants in the Northwest Arkansas Mall area and to Washington Regional Hospital and adjacent medical park.
- Federal Funds expected: \$8 million
- Total Project Budget: \$10 million
- 3 projects have been selected for funding in the project area by the Street Committee and City Council: Extension of Van Asche Drive from Gregg Avenue to Hwy 112, westbound “flyover” from Hwy 71B to Fulbright Expressway, and intersection improvements at Fulbright Expressway/Shiloh/North Hills Blvd. Design on the flyover and roundabout projects is ongoing by Jacobs Engineering. Design of Van Asche Drive is underway by City Staff.

b. Recent Actions:

- **Roundabout Project**
 - Final revised plans have been submitted to AHTD for permitting review.
- **Flyover Project**
 - AHTD approval of preliminary plans was received. Work on the next stage of plan development is underway.
- **Van Asche Drive**
 - The environmental report is complete. Requests for reviews by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) and State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) have been made.

c. Upcoming Activities:

- **Roundabout Project**
 - Advertisement for bids after authorization to bid is received from AHTD. This authorization is expected by the end of February.
- **Flyover Project**
 - Consultant submittal of 90% complete roadway plans and 90% complete bridge plans by the end of March.

- **Van Asche Drive**
 - Submittal of environmental documents to AHTD for review after responses from the USACOE. The review request to the COE was made in May 2011.
 - Review of preliminary alignments and cross sections by the Street Committee.

8) Ruppel Road (6th St. to Persimmon)

a. Project Summary

- Extension of Ruppel Road as a 4-lane boulevard from south of Owl Creek School to 6th Street.
- Total project budget: \$8.155 million

9) Garland Avenue (I540 to Howard Nickell Road)

a. Project Summary/Status

- Project includes widening to 5 lanes, with curb and gutter and sidewalks. Design firm: Jacobs Engineering
- Estimated Project Cost: \$3.66 million.
- This project is on hold at this time

10) Maple and Lafayette Street Historic Bridges

a. Project Summary/Status

- Study complete. Funding in the amount of \$1 million through the Federal-aid bridge program administered by AHTD has been secured.

b. Recent Actions:

- Scope of work for design has been drafted, for use with the request for letters of interest from consultants.
- The scope of work has been reviewed and approved by AHTD.

c. Upcoming Activities:

- Advertisement for letters of interest from consultants.
- Selection of a design consultant for rehabilitation design.

The following projects in the Bond Program will be designed, contracted, and administered by AHTD or its consultants/contractors. The schedules for these projects are established by AHTD based on their workloads and available funding.

11) Crossover Road (Hwy 265)-Mission to Joyce

- Estimated construction cost was \$15.4 million, City's share is 50% of cost, up to \$7.7 million
- AHTD letting date: **September 2011**; low bid received was \$12,612,320.32
- City share of contract is \$6.3 million
- Water and sewer relocations, along with other utility relocations, are ongoing.
- Work on the roadway is continuing by the contractor for AHTD:
 - The contractor is placing fill between the two box culvert crossings north of Old Wire Road, and is also working on construction of the box culverts. Work in the bottom of the channel of Niokaska Creek to install the box culvert bottom is set to begin soon.
 - Pipe installation on the east side of the roadway both north and south of Old Wire Road will begin as soon as the water line relocation is completed in that area, which is expected by Mid-March.

12) Hwy 16 Improvements-Armstrong to Stonebridge Rd.

- AHTD scheduled letting date: **Fall 2012**
- Current agreement with AHTD for 50% of project costs to be paid by the City, up to \$5 million.
- AHTD right of way acquisition is complete
- Acquisition of the utility easements by the City is underway. City staff is also working with Arkansas Western Gas to acquire easements for use by both the City and AWG to expedite acquisition and reduce costs to both utilities. Acquisition is approximately 87% complete (33 of 38) as of February 23, 2012.
- City Council approval for condemnation of the remaining easements will be requested in March.

13) Garland Avenue (North to Melmar)

- Total project cost originally estimated at \$6.7 million
- City Share originally estimated at \$5.2 million, current estimate is \$ 4.04 million
- AHTD scheduled letting: **Fall 2012**
- A revised agreement with AHTD for this project has been developed whereby AHTD will pick up the cost of the project now, with the City paying their agreed upon share of the project cost towards another project in 2013.
- Engineering staff is currently preparing water and sewer relocation designs.
- Utility easement acquisition by the City is underway. As of February 23, 2012, acquisition is approximately 86% complete (50 of 58 tracts acquired)
- City Council approval for condemnation of the 8 remaining easements will be requested in March.