

**CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE  
TRANSPORTATION BOND ISSUE  
PROGRESS REPORT – January, 2014**

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 4 projects that will be designed and administered by the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD). Seven projects have been completed; all projects in the original program are underway and are in various stages of design or construction. In April 2013, several additional projects were approved by the City Council. A summary of the status of all projects in the program follows below.

Funding for the Bond Program includes \$65.9 million in bonds along with federal aid funding and additional sales tax funding from the City’s Capital Improvements fund. To date, bonds have been issued totaling approximately \$57 million. This leaves approximately \$9 million in bonds to be issued.

- 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 Phase I (N. College to Vantage)**
  - a. **Project Summary/Status**
    - **Complete.** Original Budget: \$2,540,000; Final Cost: \$2,272,000
  
- 4) **College Avenue Phase I Enhancements (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**
    - **Complete.** Original Budget: \$10,413,000; Final Cost: \$10,220,000
  
- 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:**

- All work is **complete**. Final closeout and determination of final payment amount is in progress.

**c. Upcoming Activities:**

- Final closeout, payments to contractors and reimbursement from federal aid balance.

**7) Fayetteville Expressway Economic Development Corridor****Project Summary**

- 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

**a. Roundabout Project:**

- Construction on the roundabout is **complete**.

**b. Flyover Project:**

- The Highway 71B Flyover Project is under construction by Emery Sapp and Sons of Springfield, MO. The contract time began running on January 28, 2013, with 18 months allotted for construction. Current and upcoming activities include:
  - The bridge deck has been prepared for placement of concrete. No work has occurred in the past several weeks due to weather. The contractor's schedule includes a winter time shutdown, so the weather is not impacting the overall schedule and the project is still expected to be completed on or before the contract deadline of July 2014.

**8) Van Asche Drive:****a. Project Summary:**

- Widening and alignment of Van Asche Drive, from Gregg Avenue to Garland Ave. (Hwy 112)
- Project Construction Budget: \$4.56 million
- Construction scheduled to begin in early 2014, as the weather allows.

**b. Recent/upcoming actions**

- Contract approval by the City Council.
- Contracts and related bonding and insurance documents have been received, and the contract is in the process of being signed by the Mayor as of January 10, 2014.
- AHTD permit has been secured for the work under I540; the permit for the intersection with Highway 112 has not yet been finalized.
- Utility relocation work (water/sewer and electric lines) will begin by the end of January.

**9) Ruppel Road (MLK Blvd to Mt. Comfort)****Project Summary**

- Includes Extension of Ruppel Road as a 4-lane boulevard from south of Owl Creek School to Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd, widening between Persimmon Rd. and Starry Night View, and new location, bridge, and intersection between Starry Night View and Mount Comfort Road. The project will be completed in three separate segments
- Total project budget: \$13.5 million; includes \$2.5 million in federal-aid funding.
- A public meeting was held on May 30<sup>th</sup> to allow citizens to view the conceptual plans and cross sections and provide comments.

**a. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd-Persimmon**

- This is a new segment that will extend Ruppel Road to MLK Blvd. Upcoming activities

include:

- Development of a traffic study by Jacobs Engineering, to provide data for decision making on the cross section, construction phasing, and roundabout/signal selection at Persimmon and Ruppel. The draft study has been received and reviewed by City staff. The consultant is revising and completing the study per staff comments.
- Transportation Committee review of the traffic study at the February meeting.
- Final decision on the road cross section, and commencement of design after the traffic study is complete.

**b. Persimmon-Starry Night View**

- Major elements of this segment include widening with a center median from Persimmon to Wedington, intersection alignment and improvements at Wedington, and completion of the west side of the boulevard section north of Wedington. Upcoming activities:
  - Final decision making on the cross section to be utilized.
  - Design by engineering staff.

**c. Starry Night View-Mount Comfort Road**

- This is a federal-aid project; federal funds will supply up to 80% of the funding for the segment. This segment includes a new bridge and a realignment of Ruppel so that it connects to the existing signal at Mount Comfort Road and the segment of Ruppel Road north of Mt. Comfort.
  - Garver Engineers has been selected as the design consultant. A revised contract based on AHTD comments has been sent to the AHTD for review.

**10) Maple and Lafayette Street Historic Bridges**

**a. Project Summary/Status**

- Funding in the amount of \$1 million through the Federal-aid bridge program administered by AHTD has been secured. The project is in the design phase. McClelland Consulting Engineers (MCE) of Fayetteville is the design consultant.

**b. Recent Actions:**

- Design work is continuing.
- Draft plans and the proposed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that will establish the design parameters for the project have been reviewed by the AHTD and the State Historic Preservation Office.
- A public meeting to allow citizens to review the draft plans and MOA was held on December 17, 2013.
- Revised plans and updated MOA have been prepared based on stakeholder review and comments.

**c. Upcoming Activities:**

- Review of the updated MOA by the Transportation Committee is planned for January.
- The MOA will be presented to the City Council for approval after approval by the AHTD and State Historic Preservation Office.
- The next level of plan development will begin after the MOA is finalized and approved.

**11) Old Wire Road (Mission to Crossover)**

**a. Project Summary/Status**

- Includes signalization at Mission and Old Wire, installation of bike lanes and sidewalks, widening at intersections, and a roundabout at Old Missouri Road.
- Design work (by AHTD) for the Mission/Old Wire Intersection is nearing completion; a conceptual design of the other portions of the project has been completed.

- The estimated construction cost for the proposed intersection work has increased from original estimates. Additional funding will be provided by federal aid funding that has recently been secured.

**b. Recent Actions:**

- The intersection project was recently awarded an additional \$850,000 in federal aid funding.
- Staff has reviewed the plans for the intersection and have submitted comments to the AHTD in an effort to reduce the footprint of the project and impacts to property owners.
- City staff have begun design and layout for the segment between the Mission Blvd. intersection and Ash Street.

**c. Upcoming Activities:**

- Design revisions and acquisition of right of way for the intersection project.
- Continued preliminary design on the segment between Mission and Ash.

**12) Zion Road Phase II (Vantage to Crossover)**

**a. Project Summary/Status**

- Includes addition of curb and gutter, bike lanes, and sidewalks. Also includes widening to three lanes at major intersections.

**b. Recent Actions:**

- Development of a scope of services for design.

**c. Upcoming Activities:**

- Selection of a design consultant and contract negotiations with the selected consultant.

**13) Regional Park Access Road**

**a. Project Summary/Status**

- Access to the regional park, along Judge Cummings Road from Cato Springs Road into the park.
- Design and construction will be scheduled to coincide with the park development schedule.

**b. Recent Actions:**

- None

**c. Upcoming Activities:**

**14) College Avenue Enhancements (Maple St. to North St.)**

**a. Project Summary/Status**

- Continuation of sidewalk and landscaping enhancements along College Avenue to match recently completed improvements south of Maple St.

**b. Recent Actions:**

- Preliminary survey work and development of base drawings has been completed.

**c. Upcoming Activities:**

- Submittal of proposed typical cross sections to the AHTD for permitting review. Narrowed lane widths through this segment will be proposed to allow for wider sidewalks.

**15) Intersections and Pedestrian Crossing Improvements**

**a. Project Summary/Status**

- Projects (to be determined) to improve pedestrian service and safety at intersections.

**b. Recent Actions:**

- None

**c. Upcoming Activities:**

- Selection of projects to received safety enhancements

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.

**16) 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.
- All work is complete and the project is fully open.
- Final resolution of project costs is still to be completed.

**17) Hwy 16 Improvements-Armstrong to Stonebridge Rd.**

- Construction Start: November 2012. Completion: Fall 2014.
- Current agreement with AHTD for 50% of project costs to be paid by the City, up to \$5 million.
- Water and sewer installation is complete.
- Sweetser Construction is the roadway construction contractor for the AHTD and began work in December 2012 with an estimated completion date of November 2014.
- Little work has occurred over the past month due to weather. Work is scheduled to begin east of Happy Hollow Road as the weather allows.

**18) 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
- Utility relocations are complete on the project.
- Sweetser Construction is the roadway construction contractor for the AHTD and began work as of February 2013 with an estimated completion date of Spring 2014.
- Little work has occurred over the past month due to weather. Construction will resume as the weather allows.

**19) Razorback Road (Hwy 112)-MLK Blvd. to Leroy Pond Dr.**

- Project Estimate of \$2.6 million.
- Federal aid will fund \$2.08 million of this amount; the City and UA will share the remainder of the cost.
- Utility relocations are underway.
- Roadway construction (By AHTD) scheduled to begin in early 2014.