

**CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE  
TRANSPORTATION BOND ISSUE  
PROGRESS REPORT – March 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 still planning to be complete by the end of March. It does not appear that SWEPCO will meet their schedule to complete relocations by mid-April. Staff will continue to keep in contact with SWEPCO to provide as many resources to the project as much as possible. 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**
  - AHTD approval to advertise for bids was received, and the advertisement was issued on March 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **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**
  - Bids for construction will be received on March 26, 2012. Reviews by the Street Committee and City Council should be complete by April 17<sup>th</sup>, so that construction can

begin in early May.

- **Flyover Project**
  - Consultant submittal of 90% complete roadway plans and 90% complete bridge plans is scheduled for 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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. The City's contractor will be working near Joyce Blvd. and Coy Kaylor Drive beginning the week of March 26<sup>th</sup>, to connect the new 36-inch waterline to the existing system.
- Work on the roadway is continuing by the contractor for AHTD:
  - Placement of fill between the two box culvert crossings north of Old Wire Road is continuing,

- as is work on construction of the box culverts near Old Wire.
- Major drainage work near Joyce and Coy Kaylor is set to begin soon, after completion of water line relocations in the area. The drainage work will consist of moving a segment of creek, similar to the work near Old Wire Road.

### **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 March 2012.
- City Council approval to proceed to condemnation of the remaining tracts was received at the March 20 Council Meeting.
- The advertisement for construction bids for water and sewer relocations on this project will be out in Mid April.

### **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 March 2012, acquisition is approximately 86% complete (50 of 58 tracts acquired)
- City Council approval for condemnation of the 8 remaining easements was received at the March 6 council Meeting.
- The advertisement for bids for water and sewer relocations is out. Bids are due by April 11, 2012.