

**CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE  
TRANSPORTATION BOND ISSUE  
PROGRESS REPORT – April 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.
  
- 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:**

- Arkansas Western Gas relocations are complete.
- SWEPCO relocations are continuing, and are about 75% complete.
- Tentative settlement of the final condemnation case on the project.

**c. Upcoming Activities:**

- Continued coordination with local utilities for relocation of their facilities. Staff will continue to keep in contact with SWEPCO to provide as many resources to the project 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; this date is currently estimated to be June 1, 2012.

**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**
  - Bids have been received; Sweetser Construction was the low bidder on the project.
  - City Council approved the bids April 17<sup>th</sup>.
- **Flyover Project**
  - Completion of 90% complete design plans.
- **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**
  - Notice to proceed and commencement of construction by Sweetser Construction.
- **Flyover Project**
  - 90% complete plans will be submitted to AHTD for review the week of April 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- **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:**

- Request for Letters of interest has been advertised.

**c. Upcoming Activities:**

- Selection of a design consultant for rehabilitation design. The procurement process consists of review of letters of interest, developing a short list of potential consultants to request proposals from, and final consultant selection from proposals received.

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 mostly completed.
- The AHTD will be issuing a change order for approximately \$300,000 to reflect revised quantities from field measurements. The City will be responsible for half of this cost.
- 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 in progress. The drainage work consists 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
- 34 of 38 utility easements needed on the project have been acquired, with one additional settlement

likely to occur prior to condemnation

- The City Attorney will soon initiate condemnation proceeding for remaining easements.
- Advertisement for construction bids will be issued in late April/early May.

### **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 is complete. 52 easements were acquired by negotiation; the remaining 6 by condemnation.
- Bids for construction of water and sewer relocations were received, and will be presented to the City Council for approval on May 1<sup>st</sup>.