



I-40 Crosstown Project Reaches Milestone with Commission Award

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Oklahoma Transportation Commission voted November 2 to award the last dirt work project on the new I-40 Crosstown, a \$22.5 million project, to a joint venture of Sherwood Construction, Allen Contracting and Manhattan Bridge Company. The award was extremely close to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's engineering estimate.

The project is expected to last about a year and involves work in the vicinity of Pennsylvania Ave. The project marks a significant milestone in building the new I-40 Crosstown because it is the last dirt work along the corridor which means once this work is complete, it allows for the beginning of paving operations to start on the new I-40 surface. This project also completes ODOT's rail work in the corridor and will finish work on Pennsylvania Ave. over the Oklahoma River.

Twelve in the series of some 20 construction projects required to rebuild the I-40 Crosstown have been awarded and are at various stages of progression. "There has been a tremendous amount of work in the corridor and it is exciting to move forward with the project that will complete dirt work for the corridor and prepare us for a new phase of paving and tie-in connections," said ODOT Director of Engineering David Streb.

While this project is not expected to impact interstate traffic, it will likely cause lane shifts for drivers on Reno Ave. Working closely with the City of Oklahoma City, transportation officials caution drivers of ongoing I-40 Crosstown construction that is affecting travel near downtown Oklahoma City. Visit the ODOT Web site at www.okladot.state.ok.us, then click Traffic Advisories.

- Western Ave. is closed between S.W. 5th St. and Wheeler Park through early spring. Detour is Walker Ave. Access to Wheeler Park will be maintained via Walker Ave./S.W. 11th St. throughout the project.
- Eastbound I-40 lanes are narrowed slightly, but remain open, between Portland Ave. and I-44 through summer 2010.
- Pennsylvania Ave. is closed between Reno Ave. and Exchange Ave. until late 2010.
- S.W. 7th St. is closed between S. Broadway Ave. and Santa Fe Ave. until further notice.

It will be about a year until the next set of projects will be ready to go out for bid. The new interstate, being built approximately 5 blocks south of the existing highway, is expected to be open to traffic in 2012.

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(Editors and News Directors: For more information call the ODOT Media & Public Relations Division at 405-521-6000.)

INFORMATION RELEASE

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