



First of Four Paving Contracts Awarded for New I-40 Crosstown

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Oklahoma Transportation Commission voted Tuesday to award the new I-40 Crosstown's first in a series of four paving contracts.

The action signifies tremendous progress and the beginning of completion of the I-40 relocation. The \$28 million project will begin paving operations for the new interstate on the east end of the corridor from Lincoln Blvd. east into the I-35/I-40/I-235 Interchange, build the S. Lincoln Blvd. roadway over the new Crosstown and build a new interchange connection for W. Reno Ave. and S. Lincoln Blvd.

The project, awarded to Allen Contracting, Inc. of Oklahoma City, is expected to begin this fall. Two additional paving projects are tentatively scheduled to receive bids in August and one more in Spring 2011. All four paving projects are expected to complete in 2012.

The complete 4.5-mile reconstruction of I-40 in Oklahoma City is being built up to five blocks south of the existing interstate. When the entire corridor is complete, the new I-40 Crosstown will be 10 lanes between May Ave. and the I-35/I-235/I-40 Dallas Junction. The overall Crosstown project, which includes the downtown reconnection to the interstates, is currently estimated more than \$650 million and is programmed using a blend of dedicated and regular federal dollars as well as state funds.

The new highway is expected to be open to traffic in 2012. Once the new interstate is open to traffic, the old highway will be demolished to make way for projects to reconnect downtown Oklahoma City to the interstates.

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation wants drivers to realize that the paving project will shift mainline traffic at various points throughout construction. Other ongoing Crosstown projects along the corridor continue to affect travel on city streets near downtown Oklahoma City. For daily lane closures, visit the ODOT Web site at www.okladot.state.ok.us, then click Traffic Advisories.

--www.okladot.state.ok.us--

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

INFORMATION RELEASE

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