



Final construction phase of I-44 Riverside-Yale widening in Tulsa approved
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 2, 2012
PR# 12-031

The much-anticipated fourth and final construction phase of the I-44 widening project between Riverside Dr. and Yale Ave. in Tulsa is a step closer to getting underway. On Monday, July 2, the Oklahoma Transportation Commission approved a \$50 million bid by Manhattan Road and Bridge Co. and Allen Contracting, Inc. for the Lewis Ave. corridor.

“This is the beginning of the end for one of the most challenging reconstruction projects in the history of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation,” Oklahoma Secretary of Transportation Gary Ridley said. “We have already transformed several other sections of I-44 into a modern interstate and a showcase for Tulsa, and we are excited to be at the final phase in this corridor.”

The I-44/Lewis Ave. project will widen the interstate from four lanes to six between Peoria Ave. and Harvard Ave., and the main line will shift to the south of the existing highway. Other work includes safety improvements to the ramps and frontage roads, replacement of the functionally obsolete Lewis Ave. bridge and further aesthetic work in the corridor.

Plans for the widening project gathered traction around 2003 as Oklahoma’s Congressional delegation worked to secure funding for the nearly \$400 million project. Property clearance and utility relocations began in 2007 before the first construction phase began in 2009.

Construction projects already completed for the I-44 improvements include the 2009 Perryman Ditch construction between the Arkansas River to just west of Lewis Ave. and the 2010 I-44 Harvard Ave. interchange reconstruction. Work from the I-44 Riverside Dr. to Peoria Ave. corridor is nearly finished, with an overall completion date scheduled for early 2013. Lewis Ave. will close during the upcoming construction and both the Harvard Ave. and Peoria Ave. interchanges will accommodate the detour traffic.

The I-44/Lewis Ave. project is expected to start in early fall 2012 and mainline work is expected to complete by late 2013. Incentives will be in place to expedite the project. Lane and ramp closures will be noted in the Traffic Advisories section of www.okladot.state.ok.us.

—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

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, MEDIA & PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION
200 N.E. 21ST ST. OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73105-3204 PHONE 405-521-6000





The fourth and final construction phase of the I-44 widening between Riverside Dr. and Yale Ave. in Tulsa was approved by the Oklahoma Transportation Commission July 2. This project will widen the final section of the interstate at Lewis Ave. from four lanes to six, replace the Lewis Ave. bridge and make safety improvements to the ramps and frontage roads.