

Boone County Transportation Update

January 26, 2012

Many projects are underway in Boone County presently with others to come in the future. Below is a summary of some of the latest developments with both state and local projects.

Richwood Road Interchange

The interchange at Richwood Road (KY-338) and Interstate 71/75 is planned for reconstruction which could begin in 2016. The current design for this interchange is proceeding forward as a double crossover diamond interchange (DCD) which will be the second of its type in Kentucky. This project also includes improvements to the intersection of Richwood Road with US 25 and along US 25. The two at-grade railroad crossings at KY 338 and Shorland Drive will be removed and KY 338 will be constructed under the railroad. Improvements on KY 338 are anticipated to extend to Triple Crown to the west, with access management measures implemented in the commercial area. Total cost for this reconstruction is estimated at approximately \$35 million.

Mount Zion Road Interchange

Like Richwood Road, the Mount Zion Road (KY-536) Interchange with Interstate 71/75 will also undergo major reconstruction. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet is proceeding forward in the preliminary designs for a DCD to also be installed at this interchange. The project also includes access management along KY-536 in the vicinity of the interchange. Project limits along KY 536 extend from Tiburon (west) to US 25 (east). This project is anticipated to begin in 2015 and estimated to cost approximately \$27 million.

Mount Zion Road (KY 536) Widening

Mount Zion Road from I-71/75 to US 42 is another project that is being considered by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. This project is estimated at \$50 million and currently needs additional funding for purchasing right-of-way along Mt. Zion Road. The project calls for expansion of Mt. Zion Road to five lanes including multi-use paths.

North Bend Road (KY 237) paving

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has a major pavement repair project in progress on KY 237 (North Bend Road) in Boone County. Work began in August on the \$5.4 million project, which is centered on the heavily traveled corridor between KY 18 (Burlington Pike) and Medical Arts Drive. The original concrete pavement is being overlaid with asphalt. The current driving surface is the asphalt base, not the finished surface. The final wearing surface will be placed in spring 2012. A new road is also planned to connect North Bend Road with Limaburg Road at Gateway Boulevard. This connector will relieve truck traffic from Limaburg Road.

Camp Ernst Road (KY 237)

Right of way acquisition is continuing for the section of Camp Ernst Road from the intersection with Rogers Lane to Burlington Pike (KY-18). Construction plans call for a single point urban interchange (SPUI) at the intersection of Burlington Pike (KY 18) and Camp Ernst (KY 237). Multi-use paths will be

included with this project. Construction is expected to begin in fall 2012. An interim left turn lane was constructed at the intersection of Camp Ernst Road and Rogers Lane to allow better traffic flow.

Pleasant Valley Road (KY 237)

The construction on Pleasant Valley Road (KY 237) to Camp Ernst Road (KY 237) has been divided into three separate phases. The first phase is near the intersection with US 42. This \$9.2 million project is currently underway and expected to be completed by November 2012. Multi-use paths are included with this project. For details on the second phase, see Camp Ernst Road notes above. The letting date for the third phase of the Pleasant Valley Road widening project is scheduled for October 2014. This project stretches from Valley View to Rogers Lane and is currently in need of right-of-way and construction funding.

South Airfield Road Project

Construction on South Airfield Road is well underway with an expected completion of late 2012. This road will connect Burlington Pike (KY 18) to Turfway Road (KY 1017) with additional connections to Zig Zag Road and Houston Road in Florence. South Airfield Road is funded from a variety of partners including the federal government and Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport. The county is administering this project. Engineers project daily traffic counts of 49,000 vehicles by 2030. Approximately 400 acres of land will be made available for future development.

Oakbrook Road Relocation

The intersection of Oakbrook Road and KY 18 will be moved east allowing a direct intersection with the new South Airfield Road project. This will yield a new traffic signal on KY-18. The relocation of Oakbrook Drive's intersection with KY-18 is anticipated to be completed by spring 2012.

Richwood Road and Grand National Boulevard Improvement

At the intersection of Richwood Road with Grand National Boulevard / Triple Crown Boulevard, there will be left turn lanes and a traffic signal installed. Construction is anticipated to be completed by spring 2012.

Turn Lane at Mall Road and US 42

Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality dollars have been set aside for an additional left turn lane from US 42 EB to Mall Road. The right-of-way necessary for this project is scheduled to be purchased in 2012 by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. Construction is anticipated early 2013.