



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Tim Conklin

Phone: 479-751-7125

E-mail: tconklin@nwarpc.org

NWARPC ANNOUNCES TRANSPORTATION FUNDING GRANTS

SPRINGDALE, AR August 24, 2022 — The Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission Board of Directors has approved funding to the following applicants for FFY 2023 Surface Transportation Block Grant Program-Attributable (STBGP-A) and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grants in Northwest Arkansas.

STBGP-A and TAP are Federal-aid programs that NWARPC awards on a competitive basis to its member jurisdictions. Both programs require a 20-percent match by the grantee.

Fourteen projects totaling \$11.3 million were awarded to seven existing projects along with seven new projects. Five of the projects, totaling \$1.7 million in funding, will go toward improving ARDOT State Highways. NWARPC continues to fund Complete Street and “Vision Zero” projects that improve the region’s active transportation network and safe mobility. The NWARPC anticipates obligating an additional \$8.6 million in federal funds this month on 13 projects awarded in FFY 2022.

In addition to the STBGP-A and TAP funding, NWARPC anticipates around \$2 million of additional FFY 2022/2023 funding coming to the region for projects designed to reduce carbon emissions through the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP), a new federal-aid program. FFY 2022/2023 CRP funding is expected to be awarded by the NWARPC Board of Directors in November of 2022.

Jurisdiction	Project	Funding Amount
Bella Vista	Mercy Way Bridge and Road Improvements and Razorback Greenway Extension	\$326,845
Benton County	Wagon Wheel Road Bridge Replacement	\$800,000
Centerton	Hwy 102 Sidepath (Hwy 279 S to Hwy 102B)	\$600,000
Fayetteville	College Avenue Complete Street (North St to Township St)	\$1,800,000
Fayetteville	Millsap Road & College Avenue Intersection Improvements, and N. Hemlock Avenue Construction	\$320,000
Lowell	US-71B/HWY264 Intersection Improvements	\$240,000
Lowell	Hwy 264/Bellview/Spring Creek Road Roundabout	\$560,000
Lowell	Monroe Avenue Extension from S. Oak Street to Hwy 265	\$439,258
Rogers	W. Pleasant Grove Road & 1 st Street (Hwy 265) Roundabout	\$168,000
Rogers	W. New Hope Road (Hwy 94) & S. 1 st Street (Hwy 265) Roundabout	\$200,000
Springdale	Don Tyson Parkway Extension	\$4,500,000
Bentonville	I-49 Razorback Greenway Relocation and Reconnection	\$500,000
Farmington	Creekside Park Trail	\$500,000
Gravette	Gravette Trail System Phase II	\$408,974
	Total	\$11,363,077

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NWARPC is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the region. For more information on these projects, see the following descriptions or visit www.nwarpc.org.

STBGP-A Awards

Mercy Way Bridge and Road Improvements and Razorback Greenway Extension (Existing Project)

Bella Vista has been awarded \$326,845 toward completing an existing project for bridge and corridor improvements. The project expands the Mercy Way bridge over Little Sugar Creek to four (4) lanes for traffic and extends the Razorback Greenway into the City of Bella Vista. The project includes a 16-foot, two-way, shared-use paved trail with a barrier wall between the roadway on the northside, and a 6-foot sidewalk on the southside over Little Sugar Creek. Off-bridge road improvements include a 10-foot trail on the northside and a 6-foot sidewalk on the southside.

Wagon Wheel Road Bridge Replacement (Existing Project)

Benton County has been awarded \$800,000 toward completing an existing project for a two-lane bridge on Wagon Wheel Road over Spring Creek. The project replaces the former single-lane bridge and has been designed to accommodate required stormwater flows.

Centerton Blvd (Highway 102) Sidepath – Hwy 279 S (N. Vaughn Rd) to Hwy 102B (Main Street) (New Project)

Centerton has been awarded \$600,000 toward the construction of a 10-foot sidepath on the south side of Highway 102/Centerton Blvd from Highway 279/Vaughn Road to Highway 102B/Main Street. The project is in partnership with the proposed ARDOT widening of Highway 102 to five lanes in this area, including a proposed roundabout at the intersection of Highway 102 and Highway 279/Vaughn Rd.

College Avenue Complete Street – North Street to Township Street (Existing Project)

Fayetteville has been awarded \$1,800,000 toward the construction of complete street improvements on College Avenue from North Street to Township Road. Proposed improvements include lane width reduction to 11 feet; addition of medians where possible; continuous, wider sidewalks; reduced number of driveways; improved intersection geometry of Green Acres Road; the connection of East Colt Drive to College Avenue; the redesign of the intersection of Poplar Street and College Avenue; and streetscape enhancements such as street trees, landscaping, and new street lighting.

Millsap Road & College Avenue Intersection Improvements, and N. Hemlock Avenue Construction (New Project)

Fayetteville has been awarded \$320,000 toward intersection improvements at Millsap Road & N. College Avenue and new road construction of N. Hemlock Avenue between Millsap Road and Sain Street. The project seeks to improve the level of service (LOS) of the intersection and to provide improved access from Sain Street to Millsap Road, east of N. College Avenue.

US-71B & Highway 264 Intersection Improvements (Existing Project)

Lowell has been awarded \$240,000 toward intersection improvements at US-71B and Highway 264. The project will add lanes to the east leg of the intersection (Monroe Avenue) to allow the signal to function as a dual phase signal and optimize capacity. The project will also improve the return radii on all four corners of the intersection, relocate signal poles, and add crosswalks and accessible routes for pedestrians.

Highway 264 & Bellview/Spring Creek Road Roundabout (Existing Project)

Lowell has been awarded \$560,000 toward the construction of an existing project to upgrade the

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intersection of Highway 264/Monroe Avenue & Spring Creek Road/Bellview Road to a roundabout to improve traffic flow and safety for all users. The project seeks to upgrade the intersection to a single-lane roundabout with drainage, sidewalk, curb and gutter, lighting, and potentially to include right-turn bypasses off Highway 264 onto Bellview and Spring Creek.

Monroe Avenue Extension from S. Oak Street to Old Wide Road (Highway 265) (New Project)

Lowell has been awarded \$439,258 toward the extension of Monroe Avenue from S Oak Street to Highway 265/Old Wire Road to increase vehicular and pedestrian connectivity. The planned construction includes a three-lane section with sidewalks, creating connectivity to Ward Nail Park and the JB Hunt Senior Activity Center. The project provides added connectivity to help relieve traffic congestion on Hwy-264, US-71B, and Highway 265 and reduce turning movements at the intersection of Highway 264/Monroe Avenue and US-71B/Bloomington.

W. Pleasant Grove Road & S. 1st Street (Highway 265) Roundabout (New Project)

Rogers has been awarded \$168,000 toward the conversion of an existing signalized intersection to a roundabout at W. Pleasant Grove Road and Highway 265/1st Street, improving traffic capacity and safety. Pedestrian safety improvements and implementation of the City of Rogers access management standards are included in the proposal. Existing bike lanes are being incorporated into the design with sidepaths and refuge islands at the street crossings.

W. New Hope Road (Highway 94) & S. 1st Street (Highway 265) Roundabout (New Project)

Rogers has been awarded \$200,000 toward the conversion of an existing signalized intersection to a roundabout at Highway 94/W. New Hope Road and Highway 265/1st Street, improving traffic capacity and safety. Pedestrian safety improvements and implementation of the City of Rogers access management standards are included in the proposal. An existing sidepath is being incorporated into the design with refuge islands at the street crossings.

Don Tyson Parkway Extension (Existing Project)

Springdale has been awarded \$4,500,000 toward the extension of Don Tyson Parkway from Gene George Boulevard to Highway 112. The project will provide a limited access parkway with sidewalk and trail to accommodate pedestrian and bicycle traffic and will provide connectivity from Highway 112 to the I-49/Don Tyson Parkway interchange.

TAP Awards

I-49 Razorback Greenway Relocation and Reconnection (Existing Project)

Bentonville has been awarded \$500,000 toward the reconnection of a northern portion of the Razorback Greenway where it is currently interrupted due to the construction of the I-49 Bella Vista Bypass. The project will serve to reconnect Bentonville to Bella Vista and will be approximately 900 feet in length, consisting of two primary segments, one north and one south of the I-49 Bypass Bicycle and Pedestrian Tunnel. The Razorback Greenway, a 40-mile continuous greenway trail system stretching from Fayetteville, AR to Bella Vista, AR, draws tens of thousands of users from around the region and country annually. This portion of the Greenway had previously recorded over 10,000 users monthly prior to the construction of the I-49 Bypass.

Creekside Park Trail (New Project)

Farmington has been awarded \$500,000 toward the construction of 3,670 linear-feet of Creekside Trail,

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a trail section that will connect Farmington trails to Fayetteville and the regional trail network. The project will consist of a 10-foot shared use trail that begins in the heart of the city at Creekside Park, and terminates at the Farmington/Fayetteville city limits along Alberta Street. Along with regional connectivity, this project will provide the citizens of Farmington the first piece of the planned 6-mile trail loop around the city. The overall loop will connect over 2000 residences to Creekside Park, multiple schools, the public library, Kessler Mountain, and Centennial Park.

Gravette Trail System Phase II (New Project)

Gravette has been awarded \$408,974 toward the construction of 4,477 linear-feet of the Gravette Trail system, linking the west side of town to the east and creating a safe bicycle-pedestrian route across the city. The construction of the 8-foot-wide trail will include a flashing signal and crosswalk at the intersection of El Paso Street and Highway 59 and a pedestrian crossing at the railroad, both of which currently act as a barrier, separating the west and east sides of the community. The project will connect to the existing trail system and provide users a safe route to schools, historic Main Street, City Hall, baseball and soccer fields, local parks, banks, the grocery store, and a large section of residential housing. This project has the ability to easily link with the proposed regional network and Heritage Trail, which will provide connectivity to Bentonville, Bella Vista, and Rogers.