

**To:** Darrel Pyle, City Manager  
**From:** Scott Sturtz, Interim Director of Public Works  
**Subject:** Weekly Report  
**Date:** August 7, 2024

## **Major Transportation Projects:**

### **James Garner Avenue Phase 2 – Acres Street to Flood Avenue:**

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation conducted a bid opening on October 20, 2022, for the James Garner Avenue Norman Forward Project. The low bidder was Redlands Contracting, LLC of Warr Acres, Oklahoma, with a construction cost of \$7,820,000. Approximately \$4.8 million of this will be paid from federal grant funds. The remainder is paid for with Norman Forward funding.

ODOT awarded the project on November 7, 2022. This project has a 460-calendar day construction schedule, which will likely result in summer 2024 completion. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation is administering the construction of this project, with the assistance of Smith Roberts Baldischwiler.

The project involves the following items:

- Construction of a new roadway extension of James Garner Avenue beginning from just north of Acres Street adjacent to the Norman Municipal Library and extending north of Robinson Street to connect to Flood Avenue.
- New multilane roundabout intersection between the Flood Avenue and the new James Garner extension
- A new vehicular and pedestrian bridge over Robinson Street with aesthetics honoring James Garner as the roadway's namesake.
- Reconstruction and extension of the Legacy Trail with improved pedestrian lighting.
- Low Impact Development such as plantings and landscaping in the roadway medians and at bridge abutments to filter runoff and help prevent erosion.
- Reconfigured connections between local streets from Johnson Street to Himes Street.
- Decorative roadway lighting and landscaping.

As of the last pay application on 7/15/2024, 96% of the total contract amount has been expended. Through 7/15/24, 85% of the contract time had expired.

The contractor is currently working on the following construction items this week and next week:

- OG&E to begin installation of light fixtures
- *Bridge lighting and signage in fabrication*
- *Art installation begins 8/8/2024*



*Bridge railings are complete*

**Porter Avenue Streetscape – Alameda Street to Robinson Street:**

On April 2, 2019, the citizens of Norman voted in favor of a Bond Issue to finance the local share of nineteen transportation improvement projects. Two of the nineteen 2019 bond projects are the Porter Avenue and Acres Street Intersection Bond Project and the Porter Avenue Streetscape 2019 Bond Project. The Porter Avenue Streetscape 2019 Bond Project consists of design and construction of streetscape elements along the Porter Avenue corridor between Robinson Street on the north and Alameda Street on the south. The total construction cost for the project is approximately \$5.1 million. Of that, approximately \$2.8 million will be paid by federal grant. The remaining \$2.3 million will be paid for through the City of Norman 2019 Bond Program. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation conducted a bid opening on October 20, 2022, for the Porter Avenue Streetscape 2019 Bond Project. The low bidder was SAC Services, Inc. of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. ODOT awarded the project on November 7, 2022. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation is administering the construction of this project, with the assistance of Atkins.

Proposed improvements include:

- New sidewalks
- Driveway consolidation or elimination (access management)
- Decorative roadway and pedestrian lighting
- Landscaping
- New curb and gutter
- New Decorative Traffic Signals
- Pedestrian safety improvements

As of the last pay application on 6/30/2024, 92% of the total contract amount has been expended. Through 6/30/2024, 169% of the contract time has been expended.

The city has imposed a number of restrictions on the contractor in an effort to reduce the impact of the construction on local businesses and traffic along Porter Avenue. Although these restrictions have been successful in mitigating disruption to individual property owners and have allowed larger portions of the roadway to stay open at a given time, they have resulted in extending the overall project duration beyond what was expected at bidding. *The final project change order will address this by adding 160 calendar days to the contract.* Once that change is implemented, the time used percentage will more closely align with the contract completion.

The contractor is working on the following construction items this week and next week:

- Continue landscaping installation
- Final inspection walkthrough scheduled for August 19<sup>th</sup>.



Planting of landscaped beds continues

**Gray Street Two-Way Conversion – University Boulevard to Porter Avenue:**

On April 2, 2019, the citizens of Norman voted in favor of a Bond Issue to finance the local share of nineteen transportation improvement projects. The Gray Street Two-Way 2019 Bond Project consists of the conversion of Gray Street from a one-way street to a two-way street between University Avenue and Porter Avenue, and the installation of streetscape elements along Gray Street. The intersection with James Garner Avenue will be entirely reconstructed to accommodate the future James Garner Phase 3 2019 Bond Project. In addition to the roadway and streetscape work, improvements are required to the railroad crossing just east of James Garner Avenue.

The total construction cost for the project is approximately \$7.5 million. Of that, approximately \$4.9 million will be paid by federal grants. The remaining \$2.6 million will be paid for through the City of Norman 2019 Bond Program.

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation conducted a bid opening on March 21, 2024, for the Gray Street Two-Way 2019 Bond Project. The low bidder was Ellsworth Construction, LLC of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. ODOT awarded the project on April 1, 2024. Construction started on Monday, August 5, 2024, and there are 360 calendar days in the project. This timeframe will likely require just over a year to complete. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation is administering the construction of this project, with the assistance of WSB.

Proposed improvements include:

- New sidewalks
- Conversion to reverse angle parking for on-street spaces
- New decorative roadway lighting
- Landscaping
- Decorative paving elements
- New curb and gutter
- New decorative traffic signals
- Pedestrian safety improvements
- Revised signing and striping for two-way operation
- Reconstruction of the James Garner Avenue intersection
- New gates and controls for two-way operation of the railroad crossing

The contractor is working on the following construction items this week and next week:

- North lane closed between Peters Avenue and Porter Avenue
- Begin sawcutting and removal of parking pavement and sidewalks between Peters Avenue and Porter Avenue

**Development:**

**The Villages, a Planned Unit Development (PUD)**

The Villages, is generally located at the northwest corner of the intersection of Imhoff Road and Oakhurst Avenue. This final plat consists of 16.32 acres, 109 single family dwellings, and 5 common acres. The street layout consists of interior streets ending in a cul-de-sac. An emergency access is being provided as a secondary point of access during emergencies.

Public improvements consist of sanitary sewer, water line, storm sewer, curb and gutter, paving, and sidewalks. Stormwater runoff will be conveyed to 2 detention facilities that will be maintained by the property owners association. All public improvements have been installed and accepted by the City. The builders are currently constructing homes throughout the development.



The Villages – New Home Construction

### **Flint Hills Addition Section 2**

This residential development is generally located on the north side of West Tecumseh Road approximately ¼ mile west of 12<sup>th</sup> Ave NW. This development consists of 39 acres with 81 single family lots. There is a large common area with floodplain and Water Quality Protection Zone on the property.

New public improvements consist of sidewalk, water lines, sanitary sewer mains, and storm sewer systems. Stormwater runoff will utilize a series of existing privately maintained detention ponds. The dirt contractor is currently doing rough grading of the site.



Flint Hills Addition Section 2 – Rough Grading

### **Sidewalks:**

**Lindsey Street Sidewalk Repair Project** This project is 80% funded through an ACOG grant. Final plans have been completed, and ODOT has this project scheduled for a November 2024 bid opening. This project will include removal and replacement of sidewalks, ramps, driveways and pedestrian push button actuators along Lindsey Street from 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE to 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE on the north and south sides of Lindsey Street. Construction is anticipated to start in the spring of 2025.

**12<sup>th</sup> Ave NE and W Brooks Street Sidewalk Project** This project is 80% funded through an ACOG grant and is currently in design with Garver. 30% plans have been received and are in review at this time. This project will include placement of sidewalks, ramps, and driveways along 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE from E. Robinson Street to E. Rock Creek Road and W. Brooks Street from S. Pickard Avenue to Wylie Road. Construction is anticipated to start in the spring/summer of 2025.

**FYE 2025 Sidewalk Concrete Projects** This project was awarded to Arroyo's Concrete LLC on 7/23/2024 and will be under construction soon. This contract includes Citywide Sidewalk Reconstruction Projects, Sidewalk Accessibility Projects, Sidewalk Program for Schools and Arterials Projects, Downtown Area Sidewalks and Curbs, and Sidewalks and Trails. This contract will be on going through June of 2025.

**Flood Multimodal Path** This project was awarded to Parathon Construction and will be under construction in late August. This contract includes a 10' wide multi-use path along the west side of Flood Avenue from Robinson Street to Tecumseh Road. Construction is expected to be completed in December 2024.

**State Highway 9 Multi Use Path** This project is 80% funded through an ACOG grant and is currently in design. 30% plans have been completed and are in review at this time. This project will include the construction of a 10' wide Multi Use Path from 48<sup>th</sup> Ave SE to 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave SE along the north side of State Highway 9. Construction is anticipated to start in the summer of 2025.

## **Transit & Parking:**

### **New Route Network**

City Transit staff continue to monitor and ensure the smooth transition to the new route network by working with other City staff, EMBARK staff, citizens, local organizations, and Councilmembers to identify and resolve concerns arising from the new route network. A couple of areas have been identified to add bus stops to address some concerns with the route changes. Those are listed below and do not alter the times the routes operate. Updated service schedules have been printed and distributed on buses, at the Transit Center, and at various city offices, with these changes taking effect on July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Staff will continue working with community partners and EMBARK to analyze other changes that could be implemented.

- Add an outbound and inbound stop on Route 112 on University Blvd, just south of Symmes St. These stops will provide access to destinations in the area, including the McFarlin Food Pantry.
- Add two inbound stops on Route 111 on Triad Village Dr., one just east of 12<sup>th</sup> Ave SE and the other outside of Wyndam Place Senior Residences.

## **Traffic:**

For the week beginning Monday, August 12, 2024, the radar speed-feedback trailers will be deployed to the following locations:

- Lindsey Street between Creekside Drive and Biloxi Drive (splash pad area) [Ward 1]
- Lindsey Street between Pickard Avenue and Flood Avenue [Ward 4]
- Langley Drive between Everton Lane and Birmingham Drive [Ward 5]

There were no traffic calming inquiries during the past week.