

NORTH MISSISSIPPI

Hernando identifies 16 street paving projects to tackle by end of year

By [Beth Sullivan](#), Daily Memphian

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Center Street from School Street to Mt. Pleasant Road in downtown Hernando is one of more than a dozen streets the city has identified for paving improvements in the coming months. (Beth Sullivan/The Daily Memphian)

The City of Hernando has identified a list of streets for paving that officials hope to begin by the end of this year.

On Tuesday, Sept. 19, Hernando's Board of Aldermen approved the city's consulting engineer advertising for bids for paving and other improvements on more than a dozen streets throughout the North Mississippi suburb.

Hernando's consulting engineer Joe Lauderdale presented a list of 19 streets at Tuesday's meeting, which carried an estimated total cost of \$1.42 million. Some of the projects are in residential areas, such as Fairway Oaks Drive near the Hernando Golf and Racquet Club, while other streets are scattered through the suburb's downtown area, including Panola Street south of the courthouse and Center Street between School Street and Mt. Pleasant Road.

The streets were identified by a 2018 engineering study, aldermen input and citizens' concerns, Mayor Chip Johnson said.

In the case of Panola Street, the section is okay for driving, Johnson said, but was flagged due to walking hazards. The mayor also cited walking concerns as a reason for leveling a low spot on Commerce Street near the courthouse, another project approved Tuesday.

Alderman Bruce Robinson suggested the removal of three projects — the three priciest improvements — to pursue next calendar year instead, including a roundabout at McIngvale Road and Holly Springs Road (estimated cost of \$500,000); Memphis Street from U.S. 51 to the Laurelwood subdivision (\$290,000); and Magnolia Drive from Oak Grove Road to the Hernando city limits (\$100,000). Other aldermen did not object to removing the trio, bringing the list to 16 projects.

Alderwoman Beth Rone Ross said the roundabout at McIngvale Road and Holly Springs Road is the best solution for the area, which currently only has a stop sign on McIngvale when turning onto Holly Springs Road.

“I drive it all the time, and I see near accidents all the time,” Ross said, adding it’s become more dangerous with the opening of a nearby business.

Per the city’s purchasing process, if a project is less than \$75,000, then the lowest of two quotes is accepted, Johnson said. Projects more than that must be advertised for bids. Individually, all of the projects approved for this calendar are less than \$75,000, though Johnson said some could be combined and advertised for bid. That decision will be up to Lauderdale, Johnson said.

“He’ll kind of look at them and see which ones might make sense to lump together in one project so we could get a better price and which ones we just need to take care of and just get two quotes on and move forward.”

Funding for the improvements is part of the \$3.3 million the city budgeted for street improvements in the upcoming fiscal year’s budget, which takes effect Oct. 1. “This obviously is just \$1.4 million, so as aldermen bring others to our attention, and we see other projects, we’ll go ahead and approve those,” Johnson said of future projects.

The \$3.3 million is funded by the Mississippi Infrastructure Modernization Act, according to Johnson.

Below is the list of paving and other improvement projects approved by aldermen Tuesday, Sept. 19:

Street	Feet of paving/scope of work	Estimated cost
McIngvale Road and Holly Springs Road	Installing roundabout	\$500,000
Fairway Oaks Drive	1,500 feet	\$75,000
Panola Street (south of the Hernando courthouse)	165 feet	\$9,000

Memphis Street (U.S. 51 to Laurelwood subdivision)	5,100 feet	\$290,000
Center Street (School Street to Mt. Pleasant Road)	1,100 feet	\$46,000
Hillshire Drive	1,400 feet	\$70,000
Magnolia Drive (Oak Grove Road to Hernando city limits)	2,000 feet	\$100,000
Drake Cove	600 feet	\$32,000
College Street (Oak Grove Road to Hill Street)	832 feet	\$40,000
Milton Kuykendall Sports and Fitness Park	Resurfacing parking lot	\$24,000
Broady Road	micro seal/2,640 feet	\$40,000
Commerce Street	leveling low spot near courthouse	\$5,000
Cedar Cove (east end)	210 feet	\$15,000
Oakhurst Drive (east end)	290 feet	\$20,000
Timber Lane (north end)	300 feet	\$16,000
Northwood West Drive (Northwood Hills Drive to intersecting creek)	700 feet	\$48,000
Ridge View Drive (east end)	500 feet	\$26,000
Mt. Pleasant Road (east of Milton Kuykendall Park)	700 feet	\$48,000
Pendulum Drive (Clepsyda Drive to Sundial Drive)	350 feet	\$20,000



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