

To the Mayor and Members of the City Council**November 1, 2016**

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**SUBJECT: HARMON ROAD IMPROVEMENTS**

This Informal Report provides an update on proposed improvements to Harmon Road from Golden Triangle on the north through the interchange at US81/287.

The City, in partnership with TIF 7 or North Tarrant Parkway TIF, is moving forward with improvements to Harmon Road that will provide a 4-lane divided arterial from Golden Triangle south to the northern frontage road with US81/281. Improvement are being accelerated whereby the design, right of way and partial construction are accomplished through forward funding from the City with TIF funds reimbursement. It is anticipated that roundabout intersection improvements can be deployed in phase one construction at Golden Triangle and Heritage Trace. Phase two will follow with full 4-lane construction as additional financing is provided by the City, likely through the passage of the next Bond Program scheduled for 2018. This sequencing will allow the constraining capacity sections of the roadway, the intersections, to be improved as quickly as possible prior to additional development occurring in the area. It is estimated that the roundabout improvements will be completed in the summer of 2019, but could be finished earlier relative to ROW acquisition and utility relocation occurring faster.

In addition to these improvements, the City is coordinating with Tarrant County to rehabilitate the existing section of Harmon from Heritage Trace south to US 81/287 in CY 2017. In addition to this rehabilitation by Tarrant County, the City will make improvements to the northern roundabout at US 81/287 to improve capacity and operations. An interlocal agreement with the County for these improvements should be brought to City Council in the month of December.

The City is also working with TxDOT as they initiate studies to improve US81/287 including the interchange at Harmon Road and other interchanges north of this location. Harmon interchange improvements study will include defining a specific alignment for North Tarrant Parkway across the freeway so that it can connect with the planned extension of Baily Boswell, creating a continuous east/west major roadway. The newly updated Master Thoroughfare Plan includes this alignment goal.

Because the Harmon Road bridge over US 81/287 study has not been completed, no definitive alignment or size for a future bridge has been determined. As study alternatives are finalized and environmental clearances are obtained, a phased improvement program will be developed.

If you should have questions, please contact Douglas Wiersig, TPW Director, at 817-392-7801.

David Cooke
City Manager