

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Scott E. Bennett
Director
Telephone (501) 569-2000
Voice/TTY 711



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Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261
Telefax (501) 569-2400
www.arkansashighways.com

May 31, 2017

Mr. Angel Correa
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
700 West Capitol, Room 3130
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-3298

Re: Job Number BB0411
FAP Number IM-NHPP-540-1(80)64
Hwy. 16/112 Spur Intchng. Impvts. (S)
Washington County
Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion

Dear Mr. Correa:

The Environmental Division has reviewed the referenced project and it falls within the definition of the Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion as defined by the AHTD/FHWA Memorandum of Agreement on the processing of Categorical Exclusions. The following information is included for your review and, if acceptable, approval as the environmental documentation for this project.

The purpose of this project is to add capacity to the I-49/Hwys. 16/112 Spur Interchange (Exit 64). Total length of the project is 1.15 miles on I-49 and 0.59 mile on Highways 16/112 Spur. A project location map is enclosed.

The main travel lanes on I-49 will not be altered by these improvements. A deceleration lane will be added for the southbound off-ramp and an auxiliary lane will be added between the northbound on-ramp and the exit ramp for Exit 65, approximately one mile north. Existing Highways 16/112 Spur consist of four 11-foot wide travel lanes with a 12-foot center left turn lane. Widening of Highways 16/112 Spur will result five to eight 11-foot travel lanes with curb and gutter with a center concrete median in some areas and a green median in other areas. The median provides access management and allows for left turns to only be made at the signalized intersections of Salem Road, Steamboat Drive,

Ramp 3/Shiloh Drive/Ramp 4, and Ramp 1/Futrall Drive. Approximately 6.96 acres of additional right of way will be required for this project. An additional 0.87 acres of temporary construction easement is also needed for driveway improvements outside the right of way. Additional improvements include the following:

- 1) Addition of a dual-lane loop ramp (Ramp 5) to accommodate eastbound to northbound movements from Hwy. 16 onto I-49.
- 2) Addition of right- and left-turn lanes on the southbound off-ramp of I-49 (Ramp 3).
- 3) Merging of northbound off-ramp (Ramp 1) with Futrall Drive and the southbound on-ramp (Ramp 4) of I-49 with existing frontage roads to reduce the number of signalized intersections along Hwys. 16/112 Spur.
- 4) The replacement and widening of the Hwys. 16/112 Spur Bridge (Bridge Number 05628) over I-49 will consist of expanding to eight 11-foot travel lanes, a 5-foot concrete center median, and a 14-foot shared use path with a 5-foot concrete buffer on the north side of the bridge.

Design data for this project is as follows:

Design Year	Route	Average Daily Traffic	Percent Trucks	Design Speed
2016	I-49	70,200	12	70 mph
	Hwys. 16/112 Spur	36,800	2	40 mph
2040	I-49	94,600	12	70 mph
	Hwys. 16/112 Spur	59,200	2	40 mph

There are no environmental justice issues, prime farmland, wetlands, relocatees, or wellhead protection areas associated with this project. Field inspections found no evidence of existing underground storage tanks or hazardous waste deposits. The Section 106 clearance is enclosed.

An unnamed intermittent tributary that flows through the existing interchange will be impacted due to the reconfiguration of the interchange and realignments of Shiloh Road and Futrall Drive. Stream impacts include the extension of a reinforced concrete box culvert near Station 166+01 to a point west of the relocated Shiloh Drive and the addition of double 66" reinforced concrete pipe culverts for increased hydraulic capacity. The extension of a quintuple reinforced concrete box culvert at Station 196+00 will cause relocation of 1,473 linear feet (646 feet west and 827 feet east of I-49) of the intermittent

stream channel. The relocated channel will include a double 8' x 6' x 66' reinforced concrete box culvert constructed near the intersection of Jewel Road and Shiloh Road, a double 8' x 6' x 115' reinforced concrete box culvert under Ramp 5 and a triple 7' x 5' x 256' reinforced concrete box culvert under Ramp 1 and Futrall Drive. Construction should be allowed under the terms of a Section 404 Standard Individual Permit. Compensatory mitigation for unavoidable impacts to waters of the United States will be provided at an approved mitigation bank.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) IPaC database determined that five threatened and four endangered species could be located within the project boundaries. The northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), Ozark big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii ingens*), Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Ozark cavefish (*Troglichthys rosae*), Neosho mucket (*Lampsilis rafinesqueana*), rabbitsfoot (*Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica*), and Missouri bladderpod (*Physaria filiformis*) were identified as listed species that may occur within the project area. Based on the lack of available/suitable habitat, disturbed environment, and distance to any known species location it has been determined that the project will have no effect on the non-bat species and not likely to adversely affect the bat species. Concurrence from the USFWS was received on May 16, 2017, and is enclosed.

The City of Fayetteville participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. All of the floodplain encroachments within this highway construction project will be designed to comply with Fayetteville's local flood damage prevention ordinance. The project will impact two Special Flood Hazard Area crossings. These crossings are the South Fork Hamestring Creek and Hamestring Creek. Both the South Fork of Hamestring Creek and Hamestring Creek are in a Zone AE studied stream with a floodway. These Special Flood Hazard Areas are shown on FIRM Map Number 05143C0205F revised May 16, 2008. See the enclosed flood insurance rate map. The final project design will be reviewed to confirm that the design is adequate and that the potential risk to life and property are minimized. Adjacent properties should not be impacted nor have a greater flood risk than existed before construction of the project. None of the encroachments will constitute a significant floodplain encroachment or a significant risk to property or life.

The proposed project may result in noise impacts to sensitive noise receptors. A noise impact and barrier analysis will be completed according to AHTD's "Policy on Highway Traffic Noise Abatement" once information for this project and associated projects on Interstate I-49 is available. If noise abatement recommendations for this project and associated projects are found to meet the reasonable and feasible criteria, the noise abatement measures will be implemented.

Public involvement meetings for this project were held on March 20, 2014 and March 9, 2017 in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Both public involvement synopses are enclosed.

AHTD Job Number BB0411
Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion
Page 4 of 4

An Interchange Justification Report was approved for this design on July 14, 2015.

If you have any questions, please contact the Environmental Division at 569-2281.

APPROVED
[Signature]
Environmental Specialist
Federal Highway Administration
Date: 6/1/2017

Sincerely,

John Fleming

John Fleming
Division Head
Environmental Division

Enclosures

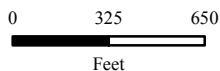
JF:TT:fc

c: Program Management
Right of Way
Roadway Design
Bridge Division
District 4
Master File



Job BB0411
 Hwy. 16/112 Spur
 Intchnng. Impvts. (I-49)
 Washington County

- Project Limits
- Roadway To Be Obliterated



AHTD Environmental GIS - Strawn
 May 8, 2017

Photography: Washington County 2014

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY
AND
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

98221
FHWA

Scott E. Bennett, P.E.
Director
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www.arkansashighways.com

May 3, 2017

Ms. Stacy Hurst
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
1100 North Street
Little Rock, AR 72201

AHPP

MAY 04 2017

RE: AHTD Job No. BB0411
Hwy. 16/112 Spur Intchng.
Impvts. (I-49) (S)
Washington County

Dear Ms. Hurst:

Enclosed for your review is a Project Identification Form regarding the above referenced project. Please provide your effect finding as soon as possible. If you have any questions, contact Richard Jenkins of my staff at 569-2357.

Sincerely,

John Fleming
Division Head
Environmental Division

Enclosure
PIF

JF:DW:RJ:ym

RECEIVED
AHTD
MAY 11 2017
ENVIRONMENTAL
DIVISION

MAY 04 2017

Date: _____

No known historic properties will be affected by this undertaking. This effect determination could change should new information come to light.

Arkansas State Historic Preservation Office

MAY 04 2017



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office
110 South Amity Suite 300
Conway, AR 72032-8975
Phone: (501) 513-4470 Fax: (501) 513-4480
<http://www.fws.gov/arkansas-es>

In Reply Refer To:

May 15, 2017

Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2017-SLI-0775

Event Code: 04ER1000-2017-E-01042

Project Name: Hwy. 16/112 Spur Intchng. Impvts.

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies endangered, threatened, proposed, and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). **This letter only provides an official species list and technical assistance; if you determine that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected in any way by the proposed project, even if the effect is wholly beneficial, consultation with the Service will be necessary.**

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 et seq.), federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found on our website.

Please visit our website at <http://www.fws.gov/arkansas-es/IPaC/home.html> for species-specific guidance to avoid and minimize adverse effects to federally endangered, threatened, proposed, and candidate species. Our web site also contains additional information on species life history and habitat requirements that may be useful in project planning.

If your project involves in-stream construction activities, oil and natural gas infrastructure, road construction, transmission lines, or communication towers, please review our project

specific guidance at <http://www.fws.gov/arkansas-es/IPaC/ProjSpec.html>.

The karst region of Arkansas is a unique region that covers the **northern third of Arkansas** and we have specific guidance to conserve sensitive cave-obligate and bat species. **Please visit <http://www.fws.gov/arkansas-es/IPaC/Karst.html> to determine if your project occurs in the karst region and to view karst specific-guidance.** Proper implementation and maintenance of best management practices specified in these guidance documents is necessary to avoid adverse effects to federally protected species and often avoids the more lengthy formal consultation process.

If your species list includes any mussels, Northern Long-eared Bat, Indiana Bat, Yellowcheek Darter, Red-cockaded Woodpecker, or American Burying Beetle, your project may require a presence/absence and/or habitat survey prior to commencing project activities. Please check the appropriate species-specific guidance on our website to determine if your project requires a survey. We strongly recommend that you contact the appropriate staff species lead biologist (see office directory or species page) prior to conducting presence/absence surveys to ensure the appropriate level of effort and methodology.

Under the ESA, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or its designated representative to determine if a proposed action "may affect" endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or designated critical habitat, and if so, to consult with the Service further. Similarly, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or project proponent, not the Service, to make "no effect" determinations. If you determine that your proposed action will have "no effect" on threatened or endangered species or their respective critical habitat, you do not need to seek concurrence with the Service. Nevertheless, it is a violation of Federal law to harm or harass any federally-listed threatened or endangered fish or wildlife species without the appropriate permit.

Through the consultation process, we will analyze information contained in a biological assessment that you provide. If your proposed action is associated with Federal funding or permitting, consultation will occur with the Federal agency under section 7(a)(2) of the ESA. Otherwise, an incidental take permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA (also known as a habitat conservation plan) is necessary to harm or harass federally listed threatened or endangered fish or wildlife species. In either case, there is no mechanism for authorizing incidental take "after-the-fact." For more information regarding formal consultation and HCPs, please see the Service's Consultation Handbook and Habitat Conservation Plans at www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/index.html#consultations.

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, **the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days.** This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and

implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. **Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.**

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office

110 South Amity Suite 300

Conway, AR 72032-8975

(501) 513-4470

Project Summary

Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2017-SLI-0775

Event Code: 04ER1000-2017-E-01042

Project Name: Hwy. 16/112 Spur Intchng. Impvts.

Project Type: TRANSPORTATION

Project Description: Reconstructing interchange, moving ramps and service roads

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps:

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/36.077320325158695N94.20079317272709W>



Counties: Washington, AR

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 9 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on your species list. Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
<p>Gray Bat (<i>Myotis grisescens</i>)</p> <p>No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6329</p>	Endangered
<p>Indiana Bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>)</p> <p>No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949</p>	Endangered
<p>Northern Long-eared Bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>)</p> <p>No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045</p>	Threatened
<p>Ozark Big-eared Bat (<i>Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii ingens</i>)</p> <p>No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7245</p>	Endangered

Birds

NAME	STATUS
<p>Piping Plover (<i>Charadrius melodus</i>)</p> <p>Population: except Great Lakes watershed There is a final critical habitat designated for this species. Your location is outside the designated critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039</p>	Threatened

Fishes

NAME	STATUS
<p>Ozark Cavefish (<i>Amblyopsis rosae</i>)</p> <p>No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6490</p>	Threatened

Clams

NAME	STATUS
Neosho Mucket (<i>Lampsilis rafinesqueana</i>) There is a final critical habitat designated for this species. Your location is outside the designated critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3788	Endangered
Rabbitsfoot (<i>Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica</i>) There is a final critical habitat designated for this species. Your location is outside the designated critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5165	Threatened

Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Missouri Bladderpod (<i>Physaria filiformis</i>) No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5361	Threatened

Critical habitats

There are no critical habitats within your project area.

From: [Lewis, Lindsey](#)
To: [Bailey, William](#)
Subject: Re: BB0411 ES Concurrence
Date: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 7:08:24 AM

Bill,

The Service does not have any information indicating that there are any federally listed species in the affected area of this action due to the habitat type, disturbed environment, and distance to any known species locations. Therefore, the Service concurs with AHTD's assessment and determination.

Thanks,

Lindsey Lewis
Biologist

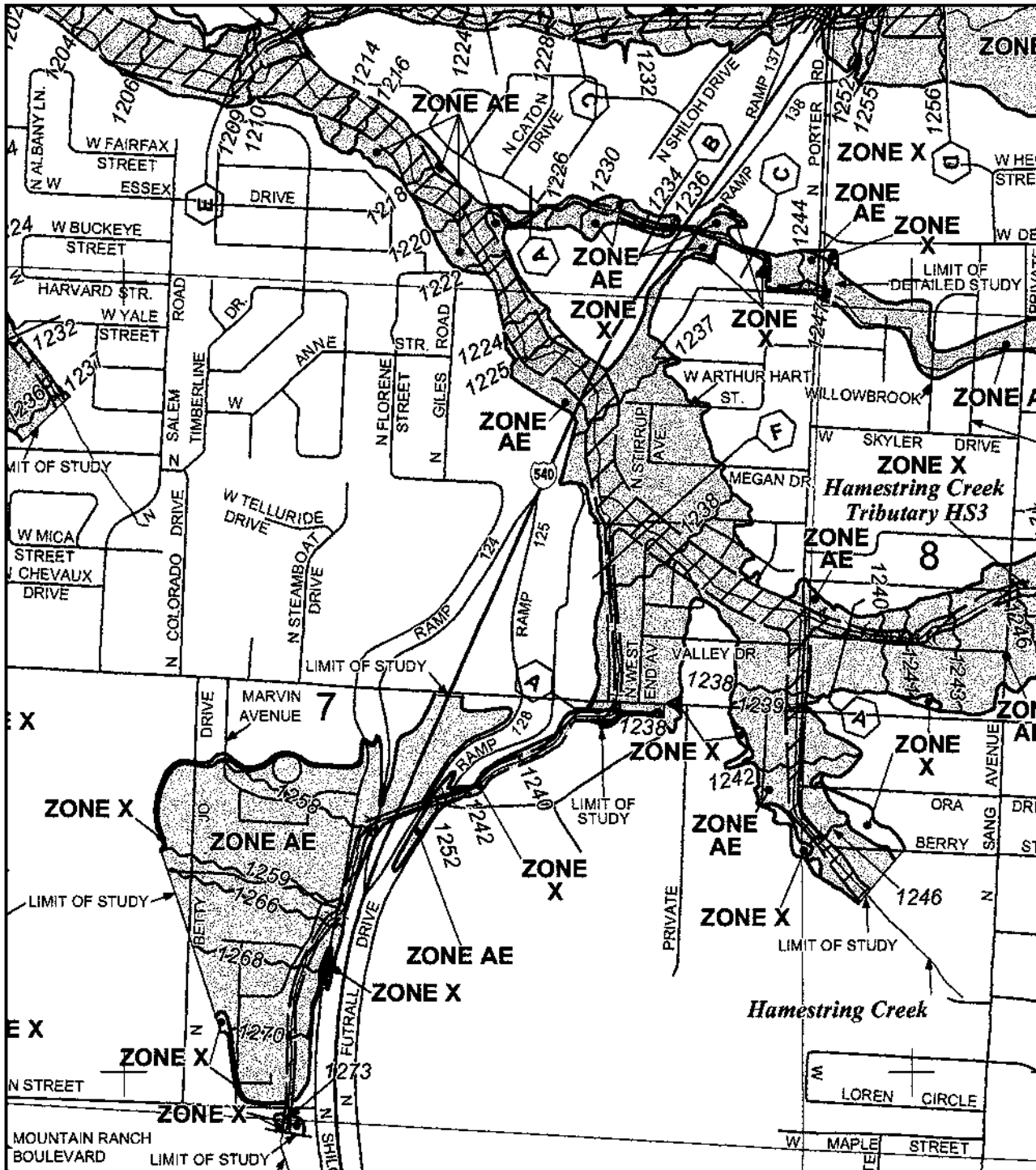
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Arkansas Field Office
110 South Amity Rd., Suite 300
Conway, Arkansas 72032

(501) 513-4489 - voice
(501) 513-4480 - fax
Lindsey_Lewis@fws.gov
<http://www.fws.gov/arkansas-es/>

NOTE: This email correspondence and any attachments to and from this sender is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and may be disclosed to third parties.

On Mon, May 15, 2017 at 12:51 PM, Bailey, William <William.Bailey@ahtd.ar.gov> wrote:

Lindsey....please take a look at the attached map and let us know if you concur with our determination. The project is located in Fayetteville, Washington County, Arkansas. The project proposes to reconstruct the existing interchange (moving, adding ramps and realigning service roads). Due to the urban location and the lack of habitat, we have determined that the project is "not likely to adversely affect" threatened/endangered bat species.



MAP SCALE 1" = 1000'



PANEL U205F

FIRM
FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP
WASHINGTON COUNTY,
ARKANSAS
AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 205 OF 575
 (SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:

COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL SUFFIX
WASHINGTON COUNTY	050212	0205 F
FAYETTEVILLE, CITY OF	050216	0205 F
JOHNSON, CITY OF	050218	0205 F

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

Notice to User: The Map Number shown below should be used when placing map orders; the Community Number shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.



MAP NUMBER
05143C0205F
MAP REVISED
MAY 16, 2008

Federal Emergency Management Agency

This is an official copy of a portion of the above referenced flood map. It was extracted using F-MIT On-Line. This map does not reflect changes or amendments which may have been made subsequent to the date on the title block. For the latest product information about National Flood Insurance Program flood maps check the FEMA Flood Map Store at www.msc.fema.gov

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT MEETING SYNOPSIS
Job Number BB0410
Highway 62 and I-540 Interchange Improvements
&
Job Number BB0411
Highway 16/112 Spur and I-540 Interchange Improvements
Washington County
March 20, 2014

A public involvement meeting for the proposed projects was held at Asbell Elementary School in Fayetteville, AR from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 20, 2014. A Public Officials Meeting was also held on the same day from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) residential engineer (RE) office in Fayetteville, AR. Public Involvement efforts to notify the general public and minority communities of the meetings included the following.

- Display advertisement placed in the NWA Media on Sunday, March 9, 2014.
- Public Service Announcement (PSA) to EZ Spanish Media which aired on Monday, March 17, 2014.
- Distribution of English flyers in the project area.

The following information was available for inspection and comment.

- Handouts for the public that included a comment form, a fact sheet, and an 11”X17” map of the job locations.
- One exhibit showing a project area location map.
- Two exhibits for each option (flyover and loop ramp) for the Highway 62 and I-540 (now I-49) interchange.
 - Typical sections for each option (board mounted).
- Two exhibits showing loop ramp for the Highway 16/112 Spur and I-540 (now I-49) interchange.
 - Typical sections (board mounted).

Public Participation	Totals
Attendance at the Public Officials Meeting (including AHTD staff)	21
Attendance at the Public Involvement Meeting (including AHTD staff)	106
Total comment forms received (Job BB0410 and Job BB0411)	52

The following table shows the responses to the comment forms.

BB0410				
Question	Yes	No	No Response	
Do you experience traffic congestion at the Highway 62 interchange?	34 (65%)	12 (23%)	6 (12%)	
Do you bicycle or walk along or across the Highway 62 interchange?	7 (13%)	41 (79%)	4 (8%)	
Do you feel there is a need to widen Highway 62 east and/or west of the interchange?	17 (33%)	21 (40%)	14 (27%)	
Question	Beneficial	Adverse	No Response	
Do you think the proposed improvements to the Highway 62 interchange will have beneficial/adverse impacts to your property and/or community?	23 (44%)	8 (15%)	31 (41%)	
Question	Flyover	Loop	No Preference	Neither Option
Which alternative do you prefer at the Highway 62 interchange?	18 (35%)	14 (27%)	18 (34%)	2 (4%)
BB0411				
Question	Yes	No	No Response	
Do you experience traffic congestion at the Highway 16/112 Spur interchange?	46 (88%)	4 (8%)	2 (4%)	
Do you bicycle or walk along or across the Highway 16/112 Spur interchange?	8 (15%)	41 (79%)	3 (6%)	
Do you feel there is a need to widen Highway 16/112 Spur east and/or west of the interchange?	24 (46%)	13 (25%)	15 (29%)	
Question	Beneficial	Adverse	No Response	
Do you think the proposed improvements to the Highway 16/112 Spur interchange will have beneficial/adverse impacts to your property and/or community?	31 (60%)	5 (10%)	16 (30%)	

Congestion Issues

There was a variety of opinion regarding congestion issues at the Highway 62 interchange. Those claiming that they experience congestion (65%) typically suggested that it was rather significant. However, several attendees (23%) stated that there is really no problem at this interchange. The variability in opinion may be due in part by the variability in the time of day that the attendees are traveling the interchange, the route choice, and the meeting location.

Most of the attendees (88%) stated that they experience congestion on Highway 16/112 Spur during peak traffic times. Several complaints were aimed at the traffic

signals. The comments indicated that the signals were spaced too closely together and were not well-coordinated. Others mentioned that the University of Arkansas ball games exacerbated the congestion issues.

Access Issues

The City of Fayetteville, five nearby business owners/leaders, and six attendees expressed their concerns regarding the raised median at both interchange locations. They believe that the limited access will hurt business revenues and prevent emergency vehicles from getting to their destination. They like the idea of limiting left turns but still want a well-balanced network with enough access to avoid perceived diminished business activity.

One business owner with property located near the University Square Shopping Center just north of Highway 62 and west of Shiloh Drive claims that 20 businesses (including theirs) would be adversely impacted by the flyover and raised median. One attendee, who claims to be the owner of most of Westwood Plaza (south of Highway 180, east of Futrall Drive), stated that westbound travelers on Highway 62 would be unable to access their businesses. Although more attendees prefer the flyover option on Highway 62, the impacted businesses as well as the City believe that the loop ramp is a better solution since it would not block business visibility from I-49. They prefer the Loop Ramp alternative with breaks in the median to allow better access to their facilities. They also prefer that the Shiloh Drive and Highway 62 intersection allow for U-turns to go from eastbound to westbound.

On Highway 16/112 Spur, four business owners (including the same business owner mentioned above) expressed concern regarding the raised median. The business leaders suggested the installation of a median break and traffic signal at Tahoe Place to provide more access. They also suggested connecting Steamboat Drive to Shiloh Drive in order to improve connectivity. All impacted businesses on both interchanges approve of the additional lanes.

Pedestrian and Bike Issues

Fayetteville citizens made it very clear that safety is the most important aspect they want to be considered, particularly for pedestrians and cyclists. Three attendees stated that a raised median would be a safety benefit because it restricts left turns. Of the 35 people who made additional comments, 19 (54%) of them requested that pedestrians and cyclists be separated from the vehicular traffic. Four attendees stated that they would bike or walk if the conditions were more appealing. Nearly all of the citizens who currently bike or walk through these interchanges stated that they are not safe.

The City of Fayetteville has also expressed the importance of bicycle and pedestrian access across I-49. They believe separating cyclists and pedestrians from vehicular traffic by providing a shared-use path is the best option for both interchanges.

Summary of the City of Fayetteville's Comments

The following comments were made by the City of Fayetteville.

Job BB0410

- Prefers the Loop Ramp Option because of potential access and visibility impacts to adjacent businesses and properties with the Flyover Option.
- If the Flyover Option is chosen, then the following comments should be considered.
 - Increase grade of the flyover ramp to reduce its length on Highway 62.
 - Provide adequate access to Wal-Mart to avoid congestion at the Finger Road/One-Mile Road intersection. If a median break at the Wal-Mart driveway cannot be done, consider improvements to the Finger Road/One-Mile Road intersection.
 - Add cross connections between businesses to avoid U-turns and indirection.
 - Prefer multi-use trail on the south side of Highway 62 instead of bike lanes. The City did not specify a width. However, the City prefers a setback from the back of curb of 10 feet where possible, and a parapet wall “if there is not adequate greenspace.”
 - Include accommodations for existing and future north-south trails in the project area.
- If Loop Ramp Option is chosen, then the following comments should be considered.
 - Consider reducing radius or acquire additional ROW to avoid shifting I-49 lanes.
 - Same comments as the Flyover Option, except the City prefers the trail on the north side of Highway 62.
 - Include accommodations for existing and future north-south trails in the project area.
- Include accommodations for existing and future north-south trails in the project area.

Job BB0411

- Consider a median break and signal at Tahoe Place/Marvin Avenue, including accommodations for pedestrians. Marvin Avenue is offset approximately 100 feet west of Tahoe Place.
- Consider the conversion of Shiloh Drive to a two-way street from Highway 16 to Persimmon Street (currently one-way), a distance of approximately 700 feet.
- Prefer a multi-use trail on the north side of Highway 16 instead of bike lanes. The City prefers a multi-use trail width of 16 feet on the I-49 bridge with a parapet wall and 12 feet everywhere else. The City prefers a setback from the back of curb of 10 feet, if possible.
- Consideration of reduced curb radii where appropriate at street intersections to “provide a more walkable environment.”
- Include accommodations for existing and future north-south trails in the project area.

HIGHWAY 62 AND HIGHWAY 16/112S I-540 INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS AHTD JOBS BB0410 AND BB0411 WASHINGTON COUNTY

Need for Improvements

Traffic congestion occurs at the Highway 62/MLK Blvd. (Exit 62) and Highway 16/112S/Wedington Dr. (Exit 64) interchanges during peak travel times. Traffic congestion is expected to worsen as the area continues to grow.

Purpose of Proposed Improvements

The purpose of the proposed improvements is to address current and future traffic needs at the Highway 62 and Highway 16/112S interchanges along I-540 for all modes of transportation. Two alternatives have been developed for the Highway 62 interchange, while one alternative for the Highway 16/112S interchange was developed. The 2006 *I-540 Improvement Study* was used as a planning guide when developing the alternatives.

Purpose of this Meeting

The purpose of this meeting is to obtain public input for the proposed improvement alternatives, particularly regarding the two alternatives shown for the Highway 62 interchange. We also would like to hear about any congestion or safety concerns at the two interchange areas, including access to nearby driveways and side streets, traffic backups, and bicycle and pedestrian accessibility.

Next Step

Comments will be considered when refining the alternatives. AHTD will work with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to obtain approval. If approval is given for a change of access to the Interstate, then project development will continue and another public meeting may take place to give further opportunity for public comment.



Job No. BB0411
Highway 16/112 Spur Interchange Improvements (S)
FAP No. IM-540-1 (80)64
Highway 16/112 Spur (W. Wedington Drive)

Job No. BB0410
Highway 62 Interchange Improvements (F)
FAP No. IM-540-1 (79)62
Highway 62/180 – Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.



ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT (AHTD)

CITIZEN COMMENT FORM

**AHTD JOB BB0410 – HIGHWAY 62 INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS (I-540)
&
AHTD JOB BB0411 – HIGHWAY 16/112 SPUR INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS (I-540)**

**LOCATION:
ASBELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
1500 N. SANG AVE.
FAYETTEVILLE, AR
4:00 – 7:00 P.M., THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2014**

Make your comments on this form and leave it with AHTD personnel at the meeting or mail it within 15 days to: Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department, Environmental Division, Post Office Box 2261, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261.

How many days in a typical week do you drive through the Highway 62 (MLK Blvd.) (Exit 62) interchange?

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

How many days in a typical week do you drive through the Highway 16/112S (Wedington Dr.) (Exit 64) interchange?

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Do you experience traffic congestion or stop-and-go traffic at the Highway 62 (MLK Blvd.) interchange? If so, please describe when and where. _____

Do you experience traffic congestion or stop-and-go traffic at the Highway 16/112S (Wedington Dr.) interchange? If so, please describe when and where. _____

Do you bicycle or walk along or across Highway 62 (MLK Blvd.) near the interchange? If so, please describe where and if you have any concerns. _____

Do you bicycle or walk along or across Highway 16/112S (Wedington Dr.) near the interchange? If so, please describe where and if you have any concerns. _____

Please See Back

Which alternative do you prefer at the Highway 62 (MLK Blvd.) interchange? Please explain.

Flyover Ramp Alternative

Loop Ramp Alternative

No preference

Do you feel there is a need to widen Highway 62 (MLK Blvd.) east and/or west of the I-540 interchange? Please explain. _____

Do you feel there is a need to widen Highway 16/112S (Wedington Dr.) east and/or west of the I-540 interchange? Please explain. _____

Do you think the proposed improvements to the Highway 62 (MLK Blvd.) interchange will have any impacts (Beneficial or Adverse) on your property and/or community (economic, environmental, social, etc.)? Please explain. _____

Do you think the proposed improvements to the Highway 16/112S (Wedington Dr.) interchange will have any impacts (Beneficial or Adverse) on your property and/or community (economic, environmental, social, etc.)? Please explain. _____

Do you have a suggestion that could improve the Highway 62 (MLK Blvd.) interchange that is not shown? Please explain. _____

Do you have a suggestion that could improve the Highway 16/112S (Wedington Dr.) interchange that is not shown? Please explain. _____

Please make additional comments here.

THANK YOU

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SYNOPSIS

Job Number BB0411
Hwy. 16/112 Spur (Intchng. Impvts.) (I-49)
Washington County
Thursday, March 9, 2017

An open forum Public Involvement meeting for the proposed project was held at Asbell Elementary School (Cafeteria), 1500 N. Sang Avenue, in Fayetteville, Arkansas from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 9, 2017. Efforts to involve minorities and the public in the meeting included:

- Display advertisement placed in *Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, Sunday, February 26, 2017 and Sunday, March 5, 2017.
- Spanish Public Service Announcement placed in EZ Spanish Media La Zeta 95.7 FM.
- Letters mailed to Public Officials.
- Distribution of flyers in the project area.

The following information was available for inspection and comment.

- Displays included two aerial photographs at a scale of 1" = 250', illustrating the project.
- Preliminary design of the proposed project shown at a scale of 1" = 100'.
- A Right of Way information poster was displayed.
- A lap top computer with the proposed design using Google Earth applications.

Handouts for the public included a comment sheet and a small-scale map illustrating the project. Copies of these handouts are attached to this synopsis.

Table 1 summarizes public participation at the meeting.

TABLE 1	
Public Participation	Totals
Attendance at meeting (including AHTD staff)	123
Total comments received	48

AHTD staff reviewed all comments received and evaluated their contents. The summary of comments listed below reflects the personal perception or opinion of the person or organization making the statement. The sequencing of the comments is random and is not intended to reflect importance or numerical values. Some of the comments were combined and/or paraphrased to simplify the synopsis process.

Table 2 provides a summary of responses to Citizen Comment Form questions.

TABLE 2	
Survey Results	Totals
Supports interchange improvements	48
Does not support interchange improvements	0
Knowledge of historical, archeological or cemetery sites	0
Knowledge of area environmental constraints	1
Home or property offers limitations to the project	0
Suggestions to better serve the needs of the community	4
Beneficial impacts due to the proposed project	24
Adverse impacts due to the proposed project	8

Suggestions regarding how the proposed project could better serve the needs of the community and/or additional comments included:

- Three individuals wanted the project to be pedestrian/bike friendly.
- One individual wanted traffic lights to be synchronized in the area.
- One individual wanted a diverging diamond interchange.
- One individual requested that the curbs be taller than 6 inches.
- One individual wanted street plantings or anything with height along the highway.
- One individual wanted a roundabout.
- One individual wants larger drainage culverts that could be used as walkways in dryer weather.
- Three individuals wanted Dorothy Jeanne Street connected to Steamboat Drive.
- One individual wanted N. Shiloh Drive connected to Steamboat Drive.
- One individual wanted a traffic signal at N. Marinoni Drive.
- One individual wanted a traffic signal at Tahoe Place.
- One individual wanted an expedited schedule for completion of the project.
- One individual did not want to limit access to the IHOP and other businesses near I-49 and Wedington Drive.
- One individual wanted better access to West Oaks Animal Hospital.
- One individual was concerned about the impacts to prairie ecosystems in the area.

Job Number BB0411 Public Involvement Synopsis

March 9, 2017

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- One individual was concerned about traffic conditions getting worse during construction.

Attachments:

Blank Comment Form

Small-Scale Project Location Map

RJ BJ

DN DN

TT: fc

**ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT (AHTD)
CITIZEN COMMENT FORM**

**AHTD JOB NUMBER BB0411
Hwy. 16/112 Spur (Intchng. Impvts.) (I-49)
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**LOCATION:
ASBELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (CAFETERIA)
1500 N. SANG. AVE.
FAYETTEVILLE, AR
4:00 – 7:00 P.M.
THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2017**

Make your comments on this form and leave it with AHTD personnel at the meeting or mail it by 4:30 p.m. on **Friday, March 24, 2017** to: Arkansas Highway and Transportation Dept., Environmental Div., P.O. Box 2261, Little Rock, AR, 72203-2261. Email: environmentalpimeetings@ahtd.ar.gov.

Yes No
 Do you feel there is a need for the proposed Hwy. 16/112 interchange improvements in Washington County? Comment (optional)_____

 Do you know of any historical sites, family cemeteries, or archaeological sites in the project area? Please note and discuss with staff. _____

 Do you know of any environmental constraints, such as endangered species, hazardous waste sites, existing or former landfills, or parks and public lands in the vicinity of the project? Please note and discuss with AHTD staff. _____

 Does your home or property offer any limitations to the project, such as septic systems, that the Department needs to consider in its design? _____

Yes No

 Do you have a suggestion that would make this proposed project better serve the needs of the community? _____

Do you feel that the proposed improvements project will have any impacts (Beneficial or Adverse) on your property and/or community (economic, environmental, social, etc.)? Please explain. _____

It is often necessary for the AHTD to contact property owners along potential routes. If you are a property owner along or adjacent to the route under consideration, please provide information below. Thank you.

Name : _____ (Please Print)

Address: _____ Phone: (_____) _____ -- _____

E-mail: _____

Please make additional comments here. _____

For additional information, please visit our website at www.arkansashighways.com



Public Meeting Location
Asbell Elementary School (Cafeteria)

Fayetteville

N
0 250 500
Feet
AHTD Environmental GIS - Strawn
Map Date: February 27, 2017
Meeting Date: March 9, 2017
Public Involvement Display



Job BB0411
Hwy. 16/112 Spur
Intchg. Impvts. (I-49)
Washington County

Preliminary
Subject to Revision

— Project Location
▨ Roadway To Be Obliterated

Photography: Washington County 2014

AHTD ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSESSMENT FORM

AHTD Job Number BB0411 FAP Number IM-NHPP-540-1(80)64
 Job Title Hwy. 16/112 Spur Intchnq. Impvts. (S)

Environmental Impacts	None	Minor	Significant	Comments
Air Quality	X			
Construction Impacts		X		Temporary
Cultural Resources	X			SHPO approval attached
Economic	X			
Endangered Species	X			Concurrence received 5/16/2017
Energy Resources	X			
Environmental Justice/Title VI	X			
Fish and Wildlife		X		Temporary
Floodplains		X		Floodplain permit required.
Forest Service Property	X			
Hazardous Materials/Landfills	X			
Land Use Impacts		X		
Migratory Birds		X		Bird SP included
Navigation/Coast Guard	X			
Noise Levels	X			
Prime Farmland	X			
Protected Waters	X			
Public Recreation Lands	X			
Public Water Supply/WHPA	X			
Relocatees	X			
Section 4(f)/6(f)	X			
Social	X			
Underground Storage Tanks	X			
Visual Impacts	X			
Stream Impacts		X		During construction, 1,473' relocation
Water Quality		X		Temporary during construction
Wetlands	X			
Wildlife Refuges	X			

Section 401 Water Quality Certification Required? Yes
 Short-term Activity Authorization Required? Yes
 Section 404 Permit Required? Yes Type Individual Permit

Remarks: _____

Signature of Evaluator *Don Nuri* Date May 17, 2017

ROADWAY DESIGN REQUESTJob Number BB0411 FAP No. IM-NHPP-540-1(80)64 County WashingtonJob Name Hwy. 16/112 Spur Intchg. Impvts. (S)Design Engineer Burns & McDonnell Environmental Staff TT/RJ/BBBrief Project Description I-49 Interchange improvements & widening of Hwy. 16/112 Spur

A. Existing Conditions:

Roadway Width: 58 ft. Shoulder Type/Width: C & GNumber of Lanes and Width: 4, 11 ft. Existing Right-of-Way: 95 ft.
1, 12 ft.Sidewalks? Yes Location: Both Width: 5 ft.Bike Lanes? No Location: NA Width: NA

B. Proposed Conditions:

Roadway Width: 75-108 ft. Shoulder Type/Width: NANumber of Lanes and Width: 5-8, Proposed Right-of-Way: 115 ft.
11 ft.Sidewalks? Yes Location: Both Width: 5 ft.Bike Lanes? No Location: NA Width: NA

C. Construction Information:

If detour: Where: NA Length: NA

D. Design Traffic Data:

2016 ADT: 36,800 2040 ADT: 59,200 % Trucks: _____
Design Speed: 40 m.p.h.E. Approximate total length of project: 0.598 mile(s)F. Justification for proposed improvements: Capacity improvementsG. Total Relocates: 0 Residences: 0 Businesses: 0H. Have you coordinated with any outside agencies (e.g., FHWA, City, County, etc.)? YES

Agency/Official	Person Contacted	Date
City of Fayetteville	Chris Brown	01-05-17

Date Submitted to Environmental Division: _____

BRIDGE INFORMATION – PRELIMINARY OR FINAL (Choose One)

Job Number: BB0411 FAP Number: IM-NHPP-540-1(80)64 County: Washington
Job Name: Hwy. 16/112 Spur Intchg. Impvts. (S)
Design Engineer: Burns & McDonnell Environmental Staff: Tucker/Jenkins/Bailey

A. Description of Existing Bridge:

1. Bridge Number 05628 over I-49
2. Location: Rte.: Hwy. 16/112 Spur Section: _____ Log Mile: 13.350
3. Length: 262 ft Br. Rdwy. Width: 50 ft Deck Width (Out-to-Out): 58 ft
4. Type Construction: Steel continuous girder space with concrete-cast-in-place deck
5. Deficiencies: None
6. HBRRP Eligibility: Qualif. Code: NQ Sufficiency Rating: 95.0
7. Are any Condition Component Ratings at 3 or less? No

B. Proposed Improvements:

1. Length: 243 ft Br. Rdwy. Width: 100 ft Deck Width (Out-to-Out): 122.17 ft
2. Travel Lanes: 8 @ 11 ft. each (11'-11'-11'-11'-raised median-11'-11'-11'-11')
3. Shoulder Width: Raised curbs on WB direction and inside EB direction, 4 ft. on outside EB
4. Sidewalks? Yes Location: Outside WB direction Width: 14 ft. with 5 ft. paved buffer ft

C. Construction Information:

1. Location in relation to existing bridge: Centerline shifted 5 feet south
2. Superstructure Type: Continuous composite plate girder
3. Span Lengths: 111 ft. / 132 ft.
4. Substructure Type: Pile bent abutments and columns on spread footing for intermediate bent
5. Ordinary High Water Elev. (OHW): NA No. of Bents inside OHW Contours: NA
6. Concrete Vol. below OHW: NA yd³ Vol. Bent Excavation: NA yd³ Vol. Backfill NA yd³
7. Is Channel Excavation below OHW Required? NA Surface Area: NA ft² Volume: NA yd³
8. Is Fill below OHW Req'd.? NA Surface Area: NA ft² Volume: NA yd³
9. Is Riprap below OHW Required? NA Volume: NA yd³

D. Work Road Information:

1. Is Work Road(s) required? NA Location: NA Top Width: NA ft
2. Is Fill below OHW required? NA Surface Area: NA ft² Volume NA yd³
3. Are Pipes required to meet Backwater Criteria? NA Waterway Opening: NA ft²

E. Detour Information:

1. Is a detour bridge required? No Location in relation to Existing Br.: NA
2. Length: NA ft Br. Rdwy. Width: NA ft Deck Elevation: NA
3. Volume of Fill below OHW: NA yd³ Surface Area: NA ft²

F. Coordination with Outside Agencies (e.g., FHWA, City, County, C of E, USCG):

Has Bridge Division coordinated with any outside agencies? _____

Agency	Person Contacted	Date