

Highway 5 Corridor Study

AHTD Job 061262

Benton – Pulaski County Line Widening

Need for Improvements

Traffic congestion is occurring on this section of Highway 5 during peak travel times and during incidents on Interstate 30. Continued growth in the area is expected to contribute to worsening congestion.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to determine highway widening needs, develop improvement alternatives and recommend the scope and phasing of future projects. Design concepts to be evaluated include four travel lanes with a continuous center turn lane and four travel lanes with a raised median and turn bays. All alternatives are anticipated to have sidewalks and bicycle lanes. Other long-range transportation needs in the corridor such as transit will also be considered.

Purpose of this Meeting

The purpose of this meeting is to provide public input on traffic issues in the corridor and identify major constraints and planned developments that must be considered during this study and the design and environmental study stages that will follow as projects are developed.

Study Area

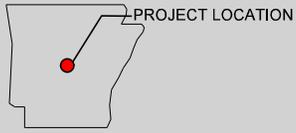
The study area is Highway 5 from where the four-lane divided section ends just north of the I-30 crossover to just west of the intersection with Alexander Road at the Pulaski County line. Highway 5 from that point just west of Alexander Road to south of Otter Creek Road in Pulaski County is currently scheduled for construction bids to be opened in early 2011. That project will be built to four travel lanes with a continuous, two-way turn lane, sidewalks, and bicycle lanes on each side.

With current traffic ranging from about 6,000 to 15,000 vehicles per day, Highway 5 serves two purposes. It is an important arterial for neighborhoods in the City of Benton and Bryant north of Interstate 30 and it serves as an alternative route for commuter traffic into Pulaski County, especially when incidents on Interstate 30 cause heavy congestion. Given the multi-purpose functionality of the highway, the study area will include review of the connections to Interstate 30 and how they affect traffic flow along Highway 5.

Study Description

The study will evaluate the Highway 5 corridor to determine current traffic, opening year forecast traffic (assumed to be 2015) and future (2035) traffic. Recommendations are anticipated to be primarily related to the width of the typical section of the roadway, design elements, and the alignment as it is fitted within the developing urban environment. Also part of the study will be the development of a recommended corridor construction project phasing.

HIGHWAY 5 CORRIDOR WIDENING STUDY
BENTON - PULASKI CO. LINE
DECEMBER 2010 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT



**HIGHWAY 5
STUDY LIMITS**

- ◆ INTERCHANGE
- CROSSOVER
- LOCAL STREETS
- STATE HIGHWAYS
- INTERSTATE 30
- STUDY CORRIDOR

