

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Use

The City of Marshfield was notified by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) that the Access Justification Report and Environmental Categorical Exclusion Determination for a proposed second Marshfield interchange on Interstate 44 near mile marker 103.0 has been approved. These approvals clear the way for the interchange to move closer to reality. According to Mayor Robert Williams, the approval by the FHWA is a historical moment for the Marshfield community as this project has literally been worked on for 40 years and reflects the work and cooperation of a number of individuals in the community and region that include current and past members of the Marshfield Board of Aldermen; Senator Mike Cunningham; State Representative Lyndall Fraker; the Webster County Commission; County Clerk Stan Whitehurst; Southwest Missouri Council of Government; and city staff.” Williams also noted that this approval not only will improve transportation in the Marshfield but will also help provide increased economic development and jobs, both of which were identified as priority needs by residents through the community Vision Casting process that was conducted in 2014 and again earlier this year.”

The approval by the FHWA now enables the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) to begin discussions with property owners for the purchase of right-of-way needed for the project. The approval also clears the way for the City’s project engineer, Crawford Murphy & Tilley (CMT) to begin final design for development of the Route 66 roadside park near the intersection of the existing Highway CC and Rifle Range Road.

The right-of-way acquisition is anticipated to last through May of next year. Following completion of the right-of-way acquisition, it is anticipated that request for bids will be

released next summer followed by bid award and commencement of construction in early fall of 2019. Construction of the new interchange and rerouted Highway CC is expected to be completed in December 2020.

End

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