



Communications Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kick-Off for Highway 18/Highland Drive Overpass Project

Jonesboro, AR—On Monday, May 18, 2015, the City of Jonesboro will mark the beginning of work on the Highway 18/Highland Drive railroad overpass project. This event will be held at 11:00am at the northwest corner of the intersection of Highland Drive and Nettleton Avenue. Mayor Harold Perrin, along with representatives from the Arkansas Highway Transportation Department, Bridgefarmer & Associates, and others from the City of Jonesboro staff will be on hand to talk about the project, details about its design, and plans for construction.

This event highlights the beginning of the design and environmental assessment phase of the project. In 2014 the City of Jonesboro received a TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation to help fund this project. Jonesboro was the only city in Arkansas to receive a TIGER grant in 2014.

The Arkansas Highway Transportation Department has contracted with Bridgefarmer & Associates to design the overpass and conduct the environmental assessment for the project. The City of Jonesboro has provided the funds it received from the TIGER grant to pay for this phase of the project. Options for funding the construction of the overpass are still being explored.

“This marks the beginning of one of the most critical infrastructure projects we have going,” said Mayor Harold Perrin. “Getting an overpass at this railroad crossing will not only help traffic flow better, it will improve the health, safety, and welfare of our residents and visitors. It is imperative that we provide a way for emergency services and other traffic to travel quickly to and from the east side of Jonesboro on Highway 18.”

The media is invited to discuss the project with representatives from the agencies involved. Interview opportunities will be available.

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