

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Casey Covington
Phone: 501.372.3300
E-mail: ccovington@metroplan.org



METROPLAN ANNOUNCES TRANSPORTATION FUNDING GRANTS

LITTLE ROCK, AR October 29, 2020 — The Metroplan Board of Directors has approved funding to the following applicants for the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG)

The Surface Transportation Block Grant Program is a federal-aid transportation program, administered by the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration, that provides funding used for transportation improvement projects. Metroplan awards funding to qualifying projects based on applications from member jurisdictions and a rigorous review process. Below are 12 projects that were awarded during this current program cycle.

The list of awarded projects reflects the Metroplan Board's commitment to investments in a regional trail system for central Arkansas. The projects also address a number of safety and congestion issues at intersections.

Local Sponsor	Project	Federal Funds Allocated by Metroplan	Phase
Bryant	Bryant Parkway	\$2,500,000	Construction
Cabot	Main Street (Hwy 89)	\$1,200,000	Construction
Conway	Salem Road Bridge over Kinley Trail	\$3,000,000	Construction
Little Rock	Tri-Creek Greenway Phase III	\$3,000,000	Construction
Maumelle	White Oak Crossing Roundabout	\$1,275,000	Construction
Pulaski County	Kanis, Denny and Stewart Roundabout	\$1,425,000	Construction
Saline County	Southwest Trail	\$3,000,000	ROW
Austin/Cabot/Ward	NW Lonoke Co Multi-use Pathway	\$200,000	Design
Benton	Congo & Shenandoah Rd Roundabout	\$100,000	Design
Jacksonville	West Main Street Realignment	\$100,000	Design
Sherwood	Power-Line Trail	\$100,000	Design
Wooster	Hwy 25 and Hwy 285 Roundabout	\$100,000	Design

Metroplan is the federally designated metropolitan planning organization for the four-county region of Faulkner, Lonoke, Pulaski and Saline counties. It is a voluntary association of local governments that has operated since 1955.

For more information on these projects, see the following page or visit www.metroplan.org.

###

2021 Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG)

STBG Awards

- **Saline County** has been awarded funding to acquire crucial land segments for the proposed Southwest Trail. The Trail will seamlessly connect pedestrians and cyclists through Pulaski, Saline, and Garland Counties which provide access to several towns and Central Arkansas' beautiful countryside.
- **Little Rock** has been awarded funding to construct phase 3 of the planned 8 mile Tri-Creek Trail. The stretch will connect with existing infrastructure to provide safer access for pedestrians and cyclists and connect several neighborhoods to multiple schools and parks.
- **Pulaski County** has been awarded funding to construct a roundabout at a newly aligned intersection of Kanis Road with Denny and Stewart Roads. The roundabout will provide a safer intersection, reduce congestion, and provide for future pedestrian connections.
- **Conway** has been awarded funding to reconstruct the Salem Road bridge over Tucker Creek. The bridge will be wider to accommodate pedestrian and bicycle activity and raised to allow the nearby Kinley Trail to connect below the roadway.
- **Austin, Cabot, and Ward** have been awarded funding for their joint planning effort for a trail connection between the three cities. The cities will determine the feasibility of regional trail that could link many neighborhoods with important destinations.
- **Bryant** has been awarded funding to continue the Bryant Parkway further south. The parkway will serve as an arterial in east Bryant as the city grows and roadway capacity demands increase. The project will also feature accommodations for pedestrians.
- **Maumelle** has been awarded funding to build a roundabout to connect Country Club Parkway, Counts Massie Road, and White Oak Crossing. The new facility will provide easier, more direct access for drivers between the new I-40 interchange and Maumelle Boulevard.
- **Sherwood** has been awarded funding to plan a new trail along an existing power line easement close to Brockington Road. The trail would connect schools, houses, apartments, and businesses and provide alternative transportation in east Sherwood.
- **Cabot** has been awarded funding to complete pedestrian and streetscaping improvements on Main Street. The project will provide sidewalks, streetlights, benches, landscaping and drainage improvements from 10th Street to Ryeland Drive/Going Drive.
- **Wooster** has been awarded funding to plan a roundabout at the busy Highway 25 and Highway 285 intersection. The town's main intersection accommodates lots of regional as well as local traffic. A roundabout will make the intersection safer and more efficient.
- **Benton** has been awarded funding for plans to rework an odd intersection at Congo and Shenandoah Roads into a roundabout. Safety and efficiency are two key concerns driving the project. A roundabout here can accommodate less restrictive vehicle movements and heavy volume while protecting motorists from dangerous collisions.
- **Jacksonville** has been awarded funds to plan a realignment of West Main Street, between Fair Oaks Drive and Emma Street, to correct the dangerous S-curve currently in place. Safety is paramount for this regional arterial corridor and planning efforts will work to correct the issue.



METROPLAN
SMART PLANNING MAKES SMART PLACES.