Highway 67 Corridor Study AHTD Job 061261 Redmond Road - Cabot (Widening) (Highway 67) Pulaski and Lonoke Counties

Need for Improvements

Traffic congestion is being experienced on portions of the Highway 67 corridor from Redmond Road in the City of Jacksonville through the City of Cabot. Continued growth in traffic volumes is expected to lead to worsening congestion. Pavement and bridge reconstruction is anticipated to be needed on portions of Highway 67 in the coming years to maintain the existing infrastructure in a state of good repair.

Study Area

The study area is the Highway 67 corridor from Redmond Road in Jacksonville (Pulaski County) through Cabot (Lonoke County), and will include freeway main lanes, ramps, interchanges and frontage roads. Parallel highways will be evaluated, including Highway 161, Highway 367, and the adjacent frontage roads. The study area includes the Cities of Jacksonville and Cabot, and portions of Pulaski and Lonoke Counties.

Highway 67 is a freeway facility within the study area and is the primary route for moving people and goods between the central Arkansas area and northeast Arkansas, and beyond. Average Daily Traffic Volumes in 2009 ranged from 28,000 vehicles/day north of Highway 305 in Cabot to 73,000 vehicles/day between Highway 440 and Redmond Road. Eight to twelve percent of traffic is trucks. There are eight existing interchanges within the study area.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to determine highway widening needs, assess pavement and bridge conditions, evaluate interchange and frontage road operations, develop improvement alternatives, and recommend scope and phasing of projects. Design concepts to be evaluated are expected to include alternatives to reconstruct pavement on Highway 67, reconstruct some bridges, widen the main lanes, improve interchange operations, add auxiliary lanes between ramp interchanges where needed, and convert the frontage roads in Jacksonville to one-way traffic flow. Additionally, alternatives will be examined that assess the ability of new location alignments, alternative transportation modes, High Occupancy Vehicle lanes, Transportation Systems Management, Travel Demand Management, Intelligent Transportation Systems, and No-Build alternatives to meet transportation needs. Also, traffic management needs for highway construction, maintenance and incident management will be addressed. Conceptual future interchange locations will be considered as part of the corridor study.

Study Description

The study will evaluate the Highway 67 corridor to determine the current (2010), opening year (2015) and future year (2035) traffic improvements and infrastructure maintenance needs. Alternatives that improve frontage road operations between Main Street and Vandenberg Boulevard in Jacksonville will be evaluated. Recommendations are anticipated to be primarily related to the number of freeway lanes, cross-street, ramp, and frontage road design, and the phasing of construction projects to efficiently provide the most benefit.

