



NEWS RELEASE

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‘Congestion Hot Spot Program’ dedicated to City traffic improvement

Road Widening, Turn Lanes, Extending Roadways to Help Enhance Traffic Flow

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — As the City of Murfreesboro grows, traffic congestion continues to be a major challenge for commuters and City engineers seeking to enhance traffic flow. The City Engineering Department has developed a “Congestion Hot Spot Program” for construction projects aimed at reducing traffic congestion.

Many of the street improvements widen sections of roadway or add turn lanes to enhance traffic flow. An estimated \$1.2 million improvement to a section of Blaze Drive between Brinkley Road and Blackman High School widened the road to three lanes and installed curb and gutter before the start of the new school year. Sidewalk widening will be completed by mid-October.

“The Congestion Hot Spot Program is designed to make strategic changes to heavily traveled streets and major exits by widening lanes, adding turn lanes and/or signals,” said City Engineer Chris Griffith. “The City Council has devoted significant resources to the street improvements program specifically designed to improve traffic flow.”

City Traffic Engineer, Ram Balachandran, has worked extensively with TDOT in developing improvements to the existing interchanges and he is currently working with TDOT on the I-24 Eastbound Exit Ramp at State Route 99 and the I-24 Eastbound Exit Ramp at Fortress Blvd./Medical Center Parkway.

In FY 2016-17, The City’s Congestion Hot Spot Program included the following projects:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Timetable</u>
• Old Fort Parkway and Market Place Turn Lanes	Turn Lanes	Completed
• I-24 Eastbound Exit Ramp at South Church	Triple Exit Lanes	Completed
• I-24 Westbound Exit Ramp at Old Fort Pkwy.	Exit Lanes	Underway by TDOT
• Northfield Blvd. at Heritage Park	Median/Turn/Complete	mid-Oct.
• Gateway Blvd. at Medical Center Pkwy.	Signal/Turn Lane	Jan. 2018

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In FY 2017-18, the Congestion Hot Spot Program includes these additional planned projects:

• Medical Center Pkwy. at Gresham Park Dr.	Extend Left Turn Lane	mid-Oct.
• Sulphur Springs Rd. at Regenwood Dr.	Add Turn Lanes	Fall 2017
• Northwest Broad St. at Thompson Lane	Extend Left Turn	Design Phase
• Butler Dr. at South Church St.	Add Right Turn Lane	Begins Sept.
• Haynes Dr. at Memorial Blvd.	Through Lane/Extend Turn	mid-Oct.
• Haynes Dr. at Sulphur Springs Rd.	Add Right Turn Lane	Begins Sept.
• Regenwood Dr. at Haynes Dr.	Add Left Turn Lane	Spring 2018
• Thompson Lane Trailhead at Thompson Lane	Add Left Turn Lane	Winter
• Old Fort Pkwy./SR-96 at Veterans	Widen SR-96/5 Lanes	Bid Oct. 2017
• Northwest Broad at Florence Rd.	Add Right Turn Lane	mid-Oct.
• Robert Rose Dr. at Thompson Lane	Add Right Turn Lane	Design/FY2019
• Clark Blvd. at Memorial Boulevard	Add Right Turn Lane	Design/FY 2019

The larger \$11 million Brinkley Road Improvement Project, approved for design by the City Council in May 2016, will widen 2.1 miles of roadway between Franklin Road (SR 96) to Manson Pike. The improvement will include a continuous center turn lane, pedestrian and pike paths and a new bridge over Overall Creek to improve walking and biking from neighborhood subdivisions to Blackman schools.

To any questions about road improvement projects, the public is encouraged to contact City Engineer Chris Griffith at cgriffith@murfreesborotn.gov or by calling (615) 893-6441.

For City News online, visit www.Murfreesborotn.gov.

Photos attached caption:

1. Congestion Hot Spot Graphic.jpg.

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