

Hinds County projects moving forward

Special to The Clinton Courier

Work recently began on a project to replace a bridge on Interstate 20 eastbound between Terry Road and Gallatin Street in Jackson. Work primarily focuses on the I-20 eastbound bridge that spans U.S. Highway 51, Interstate 55 south and Canadian National / Illinois Central Railroad (ICRR). Additional work in the project includes slide repairs, slope stabilization along the ICRR and traffic sensor installations within Hinds and Rankin counties.

The new bridge is being built on a new alignment, which will keep closures to a minimum during construction. However, crews shut down the south side of U.S. Highway 51/State Street in Jackson to minimize traffic hazards and allow space for crews to mobilize cranes and other equipment. The existing bridge will be demolished once work is complete. Crews will also widen the roadway along I-20 eastbound and U.S. 51 north for the new bridge alignment. The \$42.2 million project was awarded to Key, LLC. Work is expected to be complete by summer 2022.

I-20 interchange improvements at Norrell Road remain underway. The \$26.8 million project was awarded to Joe McGee Construction Company. The project will provide a new layout for the interchange while realigning

and widening the frontage and local roads. All major bridge construction has been completed. The bridge on the east side of I-20 has been widened to the north and south. Crews are currently paving the west side of the new frontage road bridge while milling and paving the existing Norrell Road. Dirt work on the south ramps and interstate widening is underway.

Crews continue progress on a project to overlay approximately ten miles of I-55, including both northbound and southbound frontage roads, from the Copiah County Line to Byram. Work includes pressure grouting, joint repair and guardrail installation. The contractor is W.E. Blain & Sons, Inc., with a contract amount of \$15.4 million. The mainline has been paved, for the exception of the outside southbound lane, along with portions of the frontage roads. All pressure grouting and slide repair have been completed. Remaining work, including paving the remaining areas, guardrail installation and inlet work, is on track to be completed this fall.

Upgrades on State Route 18 from Raymond to I-20 are nearly complete. All milling, paving, trench-widening and guardrail installation is complete. Permanent striping is currently being installed throughout the project. The \$8.77 million project was awarded to Dickerson & Bowen and is expected to be completed this summer.



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