

COCHISE COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

"Public Programs...Personal Service"

Randy Heiss Executive Director SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization 1403 W. Highway 92 Bisbee, Arizona 85603

September 8, 2014

RE: Mini-DCR Submittal for STP Funds

Dear Mr. Heiss,

We are pleased to submit a Mini-Concept Report for STP funds through the SEAGO process. Cochise County is looking forward to completing an improvement on Davis Rd. from Central Highway to Highway 191. Sufficient funds have been awarded through the CBI federal program to complete design and environmental clearance. These STP funds would complete the right-of-way acquisition phase of this project.

Davis Road is a significant transportation corridor in Cochise County providing connectivity for commuter, regional and commercial traffic. This route is used heavily by trucks traveling to I-10 and points beyond from the Agua Prieta and Douglas area. This traffic is expected to increase with the planned improvements to the Douglas Port of Entry. Unfortunately, this segment of Davis Rd. lacks sufficient turning radii for the oversized loads that use this route and the roadway pavement section is also not sufficient for the increased heavy traffic along this corridor.

We are requesting a total of \$525,000 (2014 dollars) for this project. Cochise County will be providing match funds. Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

Karen L. Lamberton, AICP

County Transportation Planner

Attachment: Davis Road Right-of-Way Acquisition Mini-DCR

Davis Road Right-of-Way Acquisition Central Highway to US Highway 101

MINI-DCR REPORT PRELIMINARY – NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

TRACS No. SS986 03D Federal Reference No. CBI-CCH-O(203)T

Submitted by Cochise County



Davis Road at U.S. Highway 191; 2011

September 8, 2014

A. COVER LETTER AND TITLE PAGE

B. INTRODUCTION

This proposed project is located in Cochise County, on Davis Road between Central Highway and US Highway 191. Davis Road is classified as a Rural Major Collector and eligible for federal aid funds. This segment is approximately 2.3 miles and connects the area of McNeal to other parts of the County. Davis Road is the main route to I-10 and Tucson from the Agua Prieta and Douglas area and serves international, regional and local traffic. It is also used by trucks and oversized loads that are avoiding the steep grades of SR 80 in the Bisbee area and other constraints along U.S. Highway 191.

Cochise County was awarded Coordinated Board Infrastructure (CBI) Funds in 2011 to conduct a Project Assessment along the length of Davis Rd. between Highway 80 and Central Highway and a Design Concept Report (DCR) for segment of Davis Rd. between Central Highway and Highway 191. The DCR was awarded to EEC, Inc and the work is currently underway. The Scope of Work includes Environmental Clearance and 100% Design Plans. Geotechnical clearance has been obtained and 30% design plans are under review by ADOT at this time. Completion of the plans is expected in 2015.

The purpose of this project is to perfect historical right-of-way along this segment of Davis Road and increase the width to 150 feet. The estimated right-of-way needed for the preferred alternative is approximately 24 acre's. Temporary construction easements as well as drainage easement may also be acquired as part of this project.

Additional funds, from federal, state and local sources, would be sought to then move to the construction phase of this project.

C. BACKGROUND DATA

There are no as-built plans available for Davis Road. The earliest records are from 1984 when Cochise County prepared an alignment study and right-of-way plat for the corridor as well as improvement plans for the west 14 miles of Davis Rd. The improvements consisted of horizontal and vertical alignment changes and constructed a chip seal surface treatment over a 6" base. A later County project in 1987, called "West Davis Rd" built a 24 ft roadway consisting of 3-1/2" AC over the existing chip seal and base pavement section. Also in 1987, the "East Davis Rd" County project constructed a 24 ft roadway (2" AC over 6" cement treated base) from the "West Davis Road" project to US 191. This was a surfacing project which followed the existing profile.

The terrain is gently sloping from east to west at 0.6% to 0.8%. It has sparse vegetative cover characteristic of retired farmland or irrigated fields. The high desert elevation varies between 4000' to 5000'. The as-built cross slope is 2%.

Daily Traffic volumes range from 1,290 (Saturday) up to 1,755 (Friday). According to the Oversized Load Study, Final Report, an average of 29 oversized loads per month traverse this segment of Davis Rd. There are no collision trends for this segment of roadway. During the period of August 2009 through July 2012 a total of two crashes were reported.

Land ownership along this segment of Davis Road is privately owned. The existing roadway is predominantly fenced along a 66-foot width generally centered along the roadway centerline. The fence varies at access locations and several drainage locations.

Land use is primarily ranching and agricultural along the south side and residential along the north side. The McNeal Elementary School is also located along the north side but takes primary access from W. McNeal Street (it does not abut against either Davis Rd. or Highway 191).

The drainage and transportation improvement study area is impacted by a rural watershed of varying size. Existing roadside swales are roughly one foot depths and parallel the roadway on both sides. These

swales are undersized for serious storm events and existing CMP's for driveways and under Central Highway have also been determined to be undersized. Addressing drainage both for driveways and carrying storm water southwest towards Whitewater Draw will be addressed during the construction phase.

Utilities in the area are overhead electric and underground fiber optic, telephone, gas and water. The underground fiber optic and gas run parallel to the existing roadway on the south side. There are about 35 existing power poles, all but 6 are located on the north side that will be impacted by the construction project and will potentially need relocation. Telephone pedestals may also need to be relocated prior to construction.

The posted speed limit is 55 mph with a four-way stop control at Central Highway. The speed limits drops to 45 mph at the approach to Highway 191. There is also a school crossing sign with an advisory 25 mph plaque. There are no school pavement marking signs (access for the school being taken off another roadway). The design speed is 65 mph.

D. PROJECT SCOPE

The portion of Davis Road between Central Highway and U.S. Highway 191 was first approved by the Cochise County Board of Supervisors as a County road on March 15, 1912, as evidenced by recorded survey at Book 4, page 4 of the Cochise County Recorders' Office. Per A.R.S. 28-7042, given that this roadway was constructed, laid out, opened and established significantly earlier than 1975 this roadway segment is recognized as a County Highway sixty-six feet in width. All patents along Davis Road were granted between 1914 and 1922 and therefore this roadway was pre-existing across unreserved federal lands thus meeting the requirement for RS 2477 right-of-way claims. One claim, a 1911 railroad claim exists; however, a recorded fee dedication for a 30 foot public right-of-way was conveyed to the County in 1984. A 30 foot dedicated portion of right-of-way was granted to the County as part of the 1914 McNeal townsite as noted in recorded documents DK1795PG598 & BK000PG156 on the north side of the existing roadway alignment.

32 parcels are located along this alignment as are two buildings and one irrigation well (no longer in active use) at this time. Of those, it is estimated that 8 parcels would require acquisition activities and other parcels may require negotiations related to the replacement/improvement of driveways. Approximately 24 acres of right-of-way will be acquired as part of this project. Temporary construction and drainage easements will also be acquired as part of this project; these will be identified as part of the final design and in the right-of-way plan set.

Given that a span of several years will lapse between completion of the final design and the acquisition activities it is anticipated that ownership information will need to be updated as will legal descriptions and right-of-way plans completed. Survey will also be needed to identify the exact locations of the new right-of-way for the property owner's to review as part of the appraisal process. The scope of this project will include these preliminary administrative tasks, the actual acquisition activities and the final recording and documentation required for right-of-way acquisition for federally funded projects.

E. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Cochise County, with EEC, Inc, under a CBI funded project, is completing Environmental Clearance and Design. Pavement marking plans, signing plans, and traffic control plans will be required and will be completed as part of the 100% design plan set.

Acquisition, and possibly relocation, of a large irrigation well will be necessary as part of this project. This well has not been actively used in many years; however, this will be a significant consideration during negotiations with the property owners. The well was constructed on May 14, 1975 and was drilled to a depth of 1,000 feet (ADWR Well Registration # 800414). Although the preferred alternative cannot avoid the location of this well the purchase cost of the well may prove to be a financial obstacle in completing this project. Acquisition costs are uncertain at this time.

F. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

The project is not listed in the current 2014-2018 Five-year Transportation Construction Program and no bid advertisement date has been established.

The preferred DCR alternative has an estimated cost of \$6,760,000 (30% design stage). Design and Right-of-Way is included in that estimate.

G. ESTIMATED COST

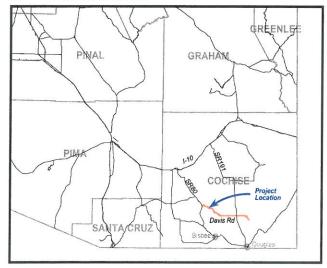
Central Highway to U.S. Highway 191 Right-of-Way Acquisition Costs

Total Project Cost	\$525,000
Contingency	\$33,000
Construction	\$0
Other (Survey)	\$35,000
Utility Relocation (Well Relocation)	\$150,000
Right-of-Way (30% design estimate)	\$267,000
Preliminary Engineering-Design (ROW Plans) (Includes ADOT Review Fees)	\$45,000
Project Phase/Type of Work	Estimated Cost

H. ITEMIZED ESTIMATE

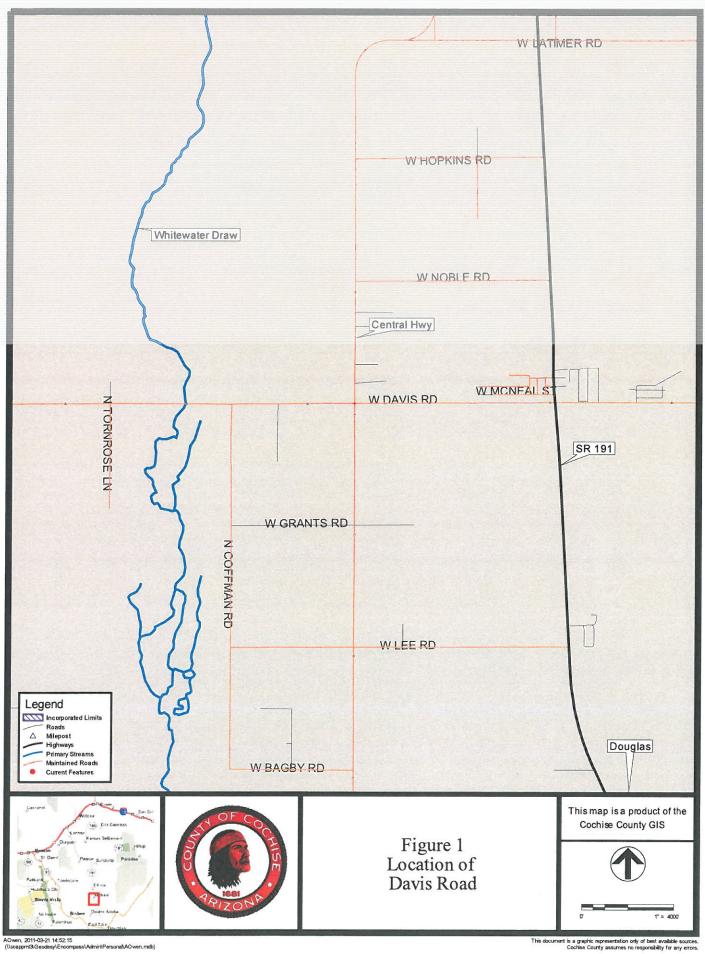
Itemized estimate not applicable to this request.

I. VICINITY MAP



Davis Road location in Cochise County, Arizona

See also attached maps for location of project segment and existing dedicated right-of-way (shown in blue).





APPENDIX A

(J) TYPICAL SECTION SKETCH & RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE SECTION SKETCH

Preliminary 30% Design Plans as prepared by EEC, INC

