

Mayor
David Barrow



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To: Members of the Public
From: Mayor David Barrow
Date: November 16, 2020
Re: Road Projects in Central

Thibodeaux Rd improvements coming in 2021; Other roadway projects being planned

As part of planning for the future of our roadways, I am pleased to announce several projects that are being planned and one that will be starting in early 2021. Our sales taxes are up, and an appropriate use of these funds is towards infrastructure improvements on our roadways.

First, I am pleased to announce that improvements to Thibodeaux Rd will be starting in early 2021. This nearly \$1 million project will involve reconstruction and overlay of 1.375 miles of Thibodeaux Rd between Morgan Rd and Planchet Rd. The existing 9-foot wide lanes will be increased to 10-foot wide lanes to allow for more room on the roadway. Several cross drains under the roadway will be replaced as well during the construction. The work will be done by R.J. Daigle & Sons Contractors. The engineering firm of Forte & Tablada, Inc. prepared the plans and will monitor and inspect the work. This is a Federal Aid project, and LA DOTD will reimburse the city 80% of the construction costs. Construction is expected to last 90 days.

I have been working on planning several other roadway projects as well around the city with the assistance of the Capital Region Planning Commission and Forte & Tablada, Inc. These include:

- 1) Hubbs Rd overlay and bridge replacements (Denham Rd to Highway 64).
- 2) Proposed roundabout at Sullivan Road and Joor Road.
- 3) Intersection improvements at Greenwell Springs Rd and Morgan Rd
- 4) Planchet Rd improvements (Frenchtown Rd to Thibodeaux Rd).

Several weeks ago, I submitted a State of Louisiana Capital Outlay request of nearly \$6 million for the Wax Road extension (Sullivan Road to Hooper Road) with the support of Senator Bodi White. This project is on our City of Central Master Transportation Plan and involves extending Wax Road from the dead-end in Central Square to Hooper Rd just east of Shoe Creek Drive. This new roadway will provide a residential collector bypass of Sullivan Road and a possible connection to Huntley Place to provide an alternate entrance for their subdivision that many residents have requested. A portion of this roadway will be constructed by the developers of the Settlement at Shoe Creek where it crosses their property to provide another access point for the development. This is the first step in obtaining funding for this project, and the City of Central will provide matching funds as well in the future.

The 4-laning of Hooper Rd from Blackwater Road to Sullivan Rd is being handled by the City-Parish through the MovEBR program. Roadway design plans have been completed, and it is hopeful that right-of-way acquisitions will begin within the next year.

Utility relocations and sewer line installations are underway along Sullivan Rd, and the actual roadway construction should be let for bids in September 2021.

Sincerely,
Mayor David Barrow