

ROBYN M. TANNEHILL  
MAYOR



KARA W. GILES  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE MAYOR

April 23, 2021

Honorable Trent Kelly  
United States House of Representatives  
2243 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

RE: FY22-DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION-COMMUNITY FUNDING REQUEST

Dear Congressman Kelly:

On behalf of the City of Oxford, please accept our sincere appreciation for your support of our community needs and Mississippi's interests. As noted in our previous communications and visits to Washington, the LOU Partnership (consisting of the entities of Lafayette County, City of Oxford and University of Mississippi) works continuously as a united community to develop opportunities and solutions for challenges.

While great strides are being made by local collaborative efforts, it is unfortunate that the City, County and University have not been selected for Federal funding in past application cycles. However, based on a positive debrief with the U.S. Department of Transportation of the City's previous applications, the LOU Partnership will continue pursuing competitive funding opportunities, understanding that a more consistent and programmatic approach is required to address our transportation needs. We desire a collaborative approach between local, state, private and federal resourcing, including a possible congressionally designated assistance program, especially given that the LOU Community has limited accessibility to federal assistance, as we are not located within the boundaries of a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

To this end, we respectfully submit this request for \$5,000,000 to reconfigure one of Oxford's busiest and most dangerous intersections--State Highway 7 and University Avenue. The Mississippi Department of Transportation is in the field review process of design, but the project was put on hold because the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) is "fiscally restrained" as a part of policy. Due to the importance of the SR7/University Avenue project, the City of Oxford pursued funding from the Mississippi Legislature, and in 2020, received \$4,000,000 in appropriates in Mississippi House Bill 1730. Still, more funding is needed to push the project to construction. \$5,000,000 in federal funding, combined with the State and City's commitments will allow construction to begin almost immediately, as the design process is nearly completed. This project is pivotal in serving our community, providing a gateway to Oxford, and reducing dangerous accidents

Thank you for your consideration of these requests and your very responsive assistance. We look forward to working with you and your staff to address these critical infrastructure needs of our unique community.

Sincerely,

Robyn Tannehill, Mayor  
City of Oxford, Mississippi



# THE CITY OF OXFORD

## PRIORITY #1

### THE INTERSECTION AT HIGHWAY 7 AND UNIVERSITY AVENUE



#### CURRENTLY

- DANGEROUS INTERSECTION
- PROJECT AREA AVERAGES OVER 50 CRASHES PER YEAR
- MORE THAN 350 CRASHES SINCE 2014
- OVER 21,000 VPD ON UNIVERSITY AVENUE IN THIS AREA
- OVER 24,000 VPD ON HIGHWAY 7 AT THIS INTERSECTION

#### AFTER

- IMPROVED SAFETY AND FUNCTIONALITY
- ALLEVIATED CONGESTION
- MDOT-DESIGNED DOUBLE ROUNDABOUT
- IMPROVED ACCESS TO LOCAL BUSINESSES
- ESTIMATED SAVINGS TO PRIVATE CITIZENS OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IN PERSONAL PROPERTY DAMAGES RELATED TO CRASHES



The City of Oxford has experienced tremendous growth over the past decade. Nearly 65,000 individuals fill our city daily during peak hours. The University Avenue and Highway 7 intersection is a major crossroads allowing our citizens, visitors, and workforce to enter the East side of town. The City of Oxford is requesting a bond allocation of \$3,000,000 a year for three years to help complete this project, which will enhance safety for motorists.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# PLAN AND PROFILE OF PROPOSED STATE HIGHWAY

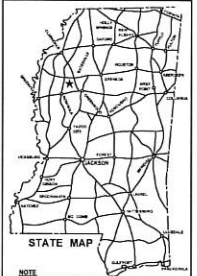
## FED. AID PROJECT NO. STP-0019-02(058)

SR 7 & UNIVERSITY AVE IN OXFORD  
 ROUNDABOUT INTERCHANGE  
 LAFAYETTE COUNTY

FMS. CONST. NO. 107834301000

PLANS STAGE	DATE PRINTED
CONCEPTUAL	04/18/19
PRE-R.O.W.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FIELD INSPECTION	11/24/20
R.O.W. PLANS TO SMD	
FINAL R.O.W.	
R.O.W. REVISION	
OFFICE REVIEW	

STATE	PROJECT NUMBER	SHEET NO.
MISSISSIPPI	STP-0019-02(058)	1



**GENERAL INDEX**

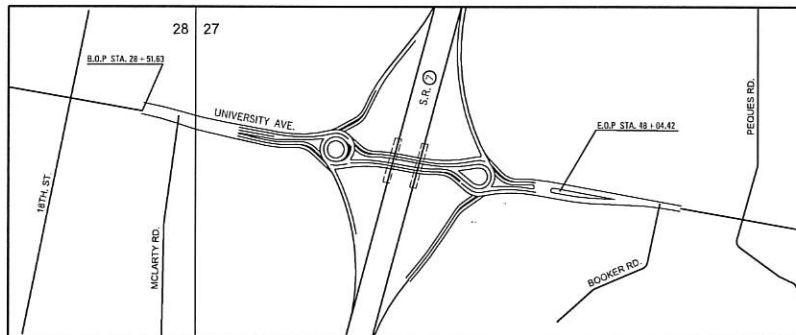
INCLUDED THIS PROJECT	BEGIN WITH SHEET
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ROADWAY	1
<input type="checkbox"/> PERMANENT SIGNS	1001
<input type="checkbox"/> TRAFFIC SIGNALS	2001
<input type="checkbox"/> ITS COMPONENTS	3001
<input type="checkbox"/> LIGHTING	4001
<input type="checkbox"/> (RESERVED)	5001
<input type="checkbox"/> ROADWAY STANDARD DWGS	6001
<input type="checkbox"/> BOX CULVERT STD. DRAWINGS (LRFD)	7001
<input type="checkbox"/> BOX CULVERT STD. DRAWINGS (STD. SPEC.)	7501
<input type="checkbox"/> BRIDGE	8001
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CROSS SECTIONS	9001

BRIDGE STRUCTURES REQ'D.

NONE

SCALES

PLAN	1 IN. = 20 FT.
PROFILE	HOR. 1 IN. = 20 FT. VERT. 1 IN. = 5 FT.
LAYOUT	1 IN. = 200 FT.



BOX BRIDGE STRUCTURES REQ'D.

NONE

**EQUATIONS**

WB ALIGNMENT	EB ALIGNMENT
STA. 32 + 45.84 BK = STA. 22 + 23.723 AH	STA. 40 + 12.222 BK = STA. 39 + 83.739 AH
STA. 40 + 55.062 BK = STA. 49 + 32.566 AH	STA. 46 + 45.778 BK = STA. 46 + 26.338 AH
STA. 47 + 22.732 BK = STA. 46 + 97.678 AH	

**EXCEPTIONS**

NONE

DESIGN CONTROL  
 40 MPH = V (SPEED DESIGN)  
 AOT (202) = 38,000; AOT (L) =  
 DIV = D X T =

PERMITS ACQUIRED BY MDOT  
 UTILITIES AND NATURAL RESOURCES (NECESSARY FOR DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION)  
 NATIONAL #14    
 NATIONAL (OTHER)    
 GENERAL    
 INDIVIDUAL (404)

STORMWATER PERMIT   
 Y REGULATED POLLUTANTS BY BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES  
 S REGULATED SOLIDS BY BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES  
 N NO STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN  
 APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

P S & E DATE:

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
 DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / CHIEF ENGINEER  
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



PRELIMINARY  
 NOT FOR  
 CONSTRUCTION