



Kingman County Commission

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Joint meeting will focus on NW 10th Ave. improvements

Proposed improvements and surfacing of NW 10th Avenue will be the focus of a joint meeting of the Kingman County Commission and the Kingman City Commission on Oct. 15. The public is invited and encouraged to attend this meeting, which will begin at 7 p.m. in the north room of the Kingman County Activity Center.

Currently, NW 10th Avenue is a gravel road. The Kingman bypass of US-54 calls for one interchange at Kingman, on NW 10th Avenue between 20th and 30th streets, north and west of the city. The decision about the location of the interchange was made approximately 10 years ago after public meetings, consultations, and input from the city and county commissions. The Kansas Department of Transportation has spent approximately \$4 million to purchase right-of-way and complete plans for the bypass but construction has not been funded to date. The bypass will take the highway north of the city.

The NW 10th Avenue upgrades include both a county component and a city component. Planning work on these improvements began about four years ago. The county and the city both hired Schwab Eaton as the professional engineering firm for the project.

The county's portion of the improvements consists of approximately 1 ¾ miles, all on NW 10th Avenue as follows: one mile north from current US-54 to Kansas Avenue, and approximately three-quarter mile from "Industrial" (a future new street), across 20th Street, to the southern end of the proposed bypass interchange.

The city's portion of the project also has two segments: one-half mile north on NW 10th Avenue from Kansas Avenue to "Industrial" and one-half mile east on "Industrial" from NW 10th Avenue to Koch.

To date, plans are approximately 50 percent complete and have gone through the field check stage. No final design decisions have been made, however, and work has stopped until final street configuration is confirmed by the city and county commissions. Public input on the final design is sought. A personal invitation to the meeting is being sent to each affected landowner.

Current project cost estimates are approximately \$3.7 million for the county and \$2.5 million for the city. Those are based on a curb and gutter street with storm sewer. Other design options are available that could reduce costs.

"This will be the front door of the city," said County Engineer Steve Bachenberg. "We want to do it right."

The engineer's design plans for the NW 10th Avenue projects will be on display at the meeting along with a map of the US-54 bypass.

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