
PROJECT REQUEST: WESTSIDE BRIDGE OVERPASS (FORMERLY CARAWAY)

Funding Request: \$2,191,667 for continued work on the Westside Bridge Overpass project.

Phase I	\$4,884,348
Phase II	\$6,711,239
Phase III	<u>\$5,618,631</u>
Total	\$17,214,218 (\$13.5m appropriated)

Bill: Transportation/Treasury

Agency: Federal Highway Administration

Account:

1. High Priority Projects
2. Transportation and Community and System Preservation Pilot Program
3. Bridge Discretionary Program

Report Language: Caraway Bridge Overpass Project, Jonesboro, Arkansas.....\$2,191,667.

Background of Project:

Through the strong support of the Arkansas Congressional delegation, a total of \$13.5 million in funding has been appropriated for the Caraway Bridge Overpass project over the past several fiscal years and for the upcoming three fiscal years in the TEA-21 reauthorization appropriation bill. The project is currently in Final Engineering and funding is now needed to begin the construction phase. ASU is seeking to have the project included in the legislation for specific earmarks for surface transportation programs. The University requests an additional \$2,191,667 through the transportation authorization process and future Transportation Appropriations bills, to complete this project and provide a vital stimulus to the local Jonesboro economy and greater safety for the Arkansas State University community. The \$2,191,667 request for FY06 will fund the amount needed to complete construction of the project.

Description of Project:

This project will include construction of overpasses, grading and pavement structures to eliminate pedestrian, vehicle and rail traffic conflicts. Upon completion, the project will improve the flow of traffic to Jonesboro's downtown business district, alleviate traffic delays caused by grade crossings and improve traffic safety for students, faculty, staff and visitors accessing the Arkansas State University campus.