



Road Update

September 25 - October 10 · Issue 51

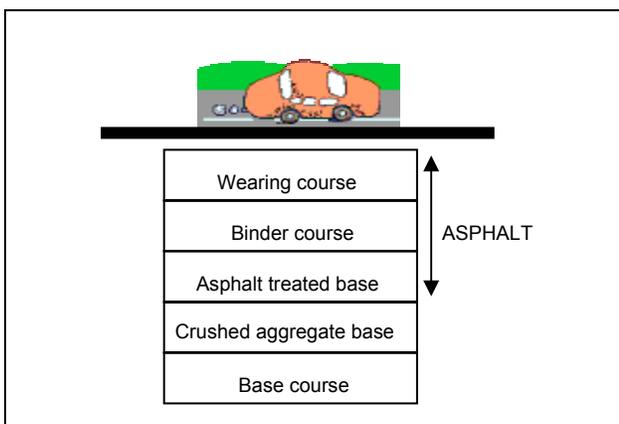
KANDAHAR-HERAT HIGHWAY

The Kandahar-Herat Highway connects the southern and western parts of Afghanistan. This 557 km stretch of highway is part of the “Ring Road”, which interlinks the main cities of Kabul, Kandahar, and Herat. USAID is funding 326 km of the Kandahar-Herat Highway, while Saudi Arabia and Japan are each responsible for a 116 km section. The Japanese have stopped construction due to ongoing security concerns. USAID is also funding the security, de-mining, design, and construction management of the Saudi Section (Section 2).

USAID FUNDED WORK

Demining, mobilizing, and design continue on **Section 2** (Km 115-231). In **Section 3** (Km 231-356), 95% of the first layer of asphalt treated base (ATB) has been laid, 79% of the second layer (Binder Course), and 24% of the final layer (Wearing Course). In **Section 4** (4A Km 356-406, 4B Km 406-456), work continues on 4A at full speed with over 68% of both the first and

Composition of a Road



Kandahar-Herat Highway Sections



- Japanese Section
- Saudi Section (2)
- US Section 3
- US Section 4
- US Section 5

second layer of asphalt complete and 51% of the wearing course. On 4B, all of the asphalt is complete. Also, 47% of the double bituminous surface treatment (DBST) of the shoulders is complete. In **Section 5** (Km 456-557), bridge and culvert works are continuing, and 60% of the first layer of asphalt and 54% of the second layer are complete.

USAID incorporates capacity building, a principal component of development and reconstruction assistance, into road reconstruction efforts in order to increase Afghan participation and commitment. During this period, 71% of the project’s employees were Afghan nationals.

Guide for the Non-Road Engineers: Construction Flow





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Focus on Urban Roads: Bibi Mahro

This suburb of Kabul saw cutting of all asphalt along the existing enterline and asphalt removal on the right hand side is complete to within 50 meters of the airport entrance. A leveling layer has been placed and base course placement, and prime coat is complete for over 2.3 Km of the right hand side. ATB is also complete for the first 1.7 Km of the right hand side.

PROVINCIAL ROADS HIGHLIGHTS

Security continues to delay progress on several provincial road projects.

Kabul-Gardez Road (125 km) - Section 1 complete with minor clean-up work in progress. Final inspection is set for October 16. Section 2 asphalt treated base course (ATB) work is complete from Km 45 – 65 and Km 66 – 87; asphalt wearing course (AWC) is complete from Km 45- 65 and Km 66 – 83; 65 of 67 culverts have been re-habilitated. For Section 3, ground survey, construction of 4 new culverts and final design work is in progress.

Pul-e Alam to Ring Road (35 km) - Initial grading is complete and being maintained. Earthworks is ongoing on 7 Km, sub-base complete on 22 Km, and 20 Km base course is complete. First layer of DBST is ongoing or complete 13.5 Km. Excavation is ongoing between Km 25 – 26. Drainage work on-going at six locations from Km 13 – 26 Km. 100 new culverts installed and 83 culverts extended.

Jalalabad-Asmar Road (124 km) - Contract negotiations are being finalized on a new contract, and the completion date is expected to be November 2006.



Asphalt wearing course work at Km 12+500 (Sept. 2005)

Kandahar-Tirin Kot Road (148 km) - Finished DBST in Section 3 and the road is open to traffic. Contractor is now in the demobilization process, relocating all equipment to other project sites. The entire project is being readied for final inspection and handover.

Panjsher Road (70 km) - Section 2 road de-mining is complete, but some quarry area work still in progress. Survey and design ongoing; base camp construction continues (about 80% complete) with occupancy scheduled for 15 October. Approximately 30% of excavation is complete.

Sheberghan - Sari Pul Road (54 km) - DBST paving is complete except for 2.5 km. Both bridges are complete. Guardrails and signage are to be completed the first week of November. Entire project is on schedule for completion this fall.

Farah-Ring Road (70 km) - Rough grading is complete, and survey work is ongoing. Embankment work ongoing Km 60 - 70. Subgrade work is complete from Km 63 – 70. Camp facility construction is in progress. Crusher work is ongoing for sub base and base course materials. Demining is complete from Km 46 – 71.

Lashkar Gah-Ring Road (49 km) - Rough grading is complete. Five culverts are in construction. Embankment work continues between Km 33 – 38 and between Km 41 – 42. Base course material production has started.

Ghazni-Sharan Road (57.5 km) - Work in camp area is complete except for minor work. Crushing of base course is ongoing. Demining continues from Km 35.5 towards Sharan. Rough grading towards Ghazni is complete. Earthworks and surveying is ongoing. Embankment is being placed from Km 35 to 49+500.

Road-Related Security Incidents

On the Kabul to Gardez Road, an IED exploded inside a culvert at Km 47+500 during the early hours of the morning on October 7, 2005. The explosion destroyed a section of the newly completed road and culvert. Half of the roadway was destroyed and the other half was damaged; however, traffic can pass on the damaged half. It appears that an anti-tank mine was detonated in the culvert. No injuries were reported.