



PRESS RELEASE
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**BLUEPRINT 2000 INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCY
CELEBRATE START OF CAPITAL CIRCLE SOUTHEAST EXPANSION PROJECT
WITH GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY:
HOSTED BY BLUEPRINT 2000 & BEYOND**



The City of Tallahassee - Leon County Blueprint 2000 & Beyond Intergovernmental Agency held a Groundbreaking Ceremony for the first expansion project for Capital Circle Southeast on Tuesday, May 3 at 9 a.m. The event took place on Capital Circle Southeast, north of Blair Stone Road, on the east side of the roadway.

The Capital Circle Southeast project will extend from just south of Tram Road to Connie Drive and will widen the existing two-lane undivided rural road to a six-lane divided urban roadway. The 3.4-mile project will include curb and gutter, sidewalk, a meandering trail, bicycle lanes, significant stormwater improvements, a substantially landscaped median and landscaped borders.

Construction is expected to begin before the end of the month and continue until October 2007. The project is being designed and built by quality local firms, with 21 % of the construction and 15.5 % of the design to be done by local minority businesses.

This is a great project for our community, funded by the one-cent sales tax extension, voted on by the citizens of Tallahassee-Leon County. It is a culmination of a lot of hard work by the citizens, elected officials, and staff. The total cost is \$37 million, which is staying in the community.

Blueprint 2000 Director Jim Davis, along with members of the Intergovernmental Agency Board of Directors from the City Commission, Mayor John Marks, and Allen Katz, and from the County Commission, Cliff Thaeell, Vice Chair of the Intergovernmental Agency, Bob Rackleff, Ed DePuy, and Jane Sauls. Also, Bob Henderson a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee, Emory Mayfield and Chuck Roberts with M, Inc./ C.W. Roberts, construction partners in this project all participated in the dirt turning Groundbreaking Ceremony for Tallahassee-Leon County's first horizontal design-build project.



After the dirt turning portion of the ceremony City Manager Anita Favors, Bill Little, Emory Mayfield and Chuck Roberts unveiled the two signs that will be placed along the corridor.

Other attendees included Laura Kelley, Executive Director of the Florida Transportation Commission; Kevin Thibault, Assistant Secretary for the Florida Department of Transportation; Norm Lewis and Ron Fisher, FAA; Delmas Barber, Florida A&M; and Mary Chiles, from U.S. Senator Nelson's office. All guests were given Blueprint 2000 miniature hardhats.

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