



Road Update

March 16–29, 2006 · Issue 61

KANDAHAR-HERAT HIGHWAY

The Kandahar-Herat Highway is a 557 km stretch of road that links southern and western Afghanistan. This portion of the “Ring Road” connects the Afghan cities of Kandahar and Herat boosting trade opportunities. USAID funds 326 km of the highway, while Japan and Saudi Arabia contribute to 116km and 115 km sections respectively. Japan is responsible for Section 1, and Saudi Arabia for Section 2. USAID also funds the security, de-mining, design, and construction management of the Saudi section.

PROGRESS TO DATE

In **Section 2** (km 116-231), rubblizing is 16% complete. Asphalt work continues. The first layer is 13% complete, while the second and third layers are 8% complete. Crews began demolishing an old bridge and culvert works are in progress. In **Section 3** (km 231-356), the shoulder undergoes a second treatment and only minor works remain. In **Section 4** (4A km 356-406, 4B km 406-456), contractors completed all major works, with the exception of Bridge 1 in Section 4A which is 70% complete. Phase 2 of the bridge work progresses and is expected to be complete by the end of May. Minor work remains for sections 4A and 4B.

Kandahar-Herat Highway Sections

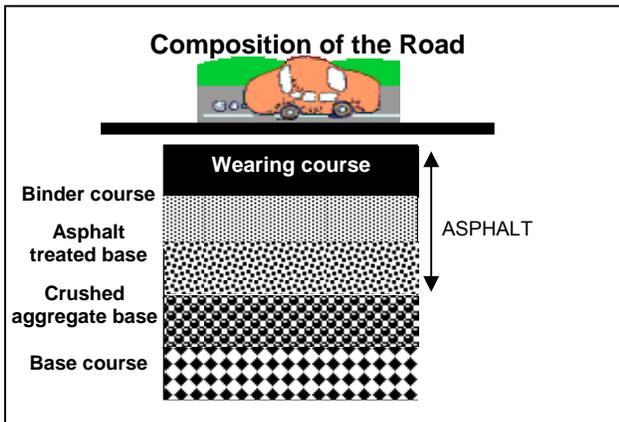


- Japanese Section
- Saudi Section (2)
- US Section 3
- US Section 4
- US Section 5

Did you know the final layer of asphalt on the Kandahar to Herat Highway includes a special polymer additive to compensate for the extreme temperature variations?

Builders finished 96% of the rubblizing for **Section 5** (km 456-557). The first layer of asphalt is 85% complete, followed by the second layer at 75%, and third layer at 20%. Three of seven bridges are finished and work continues on the remaining four, including the new bridge in Herat, that marks the end of the project.

USAID involves Afghans in road reconstruction efforts to develop technical skills. Training of Afghans is a principal component of development and reconstruction assistance. During this period, 74% of the project’s employees were Afghan nationals.



Guide for the Non-Road Engineers: Construction Flow





Road Update (continued)

February 23 – March 15, 2006 · Issue 60

Focus on Urban Roads: Bibi Mahro

Phase 1: The asphalt wearing course will be completed in early April. Crews completed northbound lanes on March 25th and began southbound lane paving. Builders completed Phase 2 work involving street light foundations, cable installation, and light standard placements. A final inspection and handover ceremony with the Kabul municipality is tentatively scheduled for mid April.

PROVINCIAL ROADS HIGHLIGHTS

Security conditions continue to threaten work.

Kabul-Gardez Road (125 km)—Builders completed Sections 1 and 2 (km 3-87), and only Section 3 (38 km) remains. Construction continues on culverts and stone masonry work between km 94-98 and design continues from Km 106-125. Crews completed the asphalt wearing course from km 86- 8+885 on the left side.

Pul-e Alam to Ring Road (35 km)—Contractors have completed excavating about 75% of rock between km 27 to 28, and nearly all of the drainage. Road works are now 77% complete. The projected completion date for the project is May 2006.

Jalalabad-Asmar Road (124 km)—The crusher at km 37 and km 66 continues to operate nine to 18 hours a day producing subbase and base material. The construction of stone masonry side drains continue at 11 locations between km 24+701 to 62+040. Work on two causeways at km 15+920 and 16+920 is ongoing. Fifteen culverts are being constructed or extended between km 3+760 to 24+367.



Road crews prepare the ground for bridge 1 in Section 4A.

Kandahar-Tirin Kot Road (148 km) – All scheduled work is complete and being prepared for turnover to the Ministry of Public Works.

Panjshir Road (70 km) – Section 1: Work on the masonry wing wall continues between km 8+600. The sub-base proceeds between km 2+110 and 2+600. Section 2: Quarry production at km 16+800 and km 30+000 is running 295 cubic meters (CM) and 250 CM, respectively. Builders placed sub-base between km 14-15. Gabion work continues at km 19+221 and km 2+113.

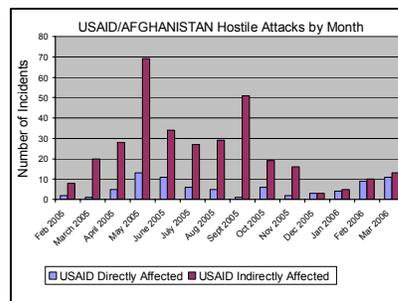
Farah-Ring Road (70 km)—Construction crews finished the causeway between km 60+720 - 61+085. Six bays have been completed at the causeway between km 55+375 - 55+500 and km 62+680 to 62+950. Culvert, subgrade, subbase, and base course works continue at various locations.

Lashkar Gah-Ring Road (49 km)—Section 1 (km 0 to 43): The embankment, sub-base and base course works continue at various locations. Section 2 (km 43 to 49): Excavation and embankment works at various locations is on-going. Crews completed subgrade work between km 47+900 to 458+000.

Ghazni-Sharan Road (57.5 km) – Screening and crushing of subbase materials goes on at km 46. Production is approximately 900 CM per day. Culvert work continues between km 46-62. Construction crews completed the embankment to km 62.

Road-Related Security Incidents

From March 6-29, there have been 11 incidents along USAID road projects. Four people have died and one person was injured. On March 28, 2006, along the Kandahar-Herat Road, near Deleram, a US Protection & Investigations (USPI) convoy was hit by a Remote Controlled Improvised Explosive Device. One USPI Vehicle took a direct hit killing four individuals-- a security coordinator, two body guards, and a driver. The remainder of the convoy arrived at their destination without further incident. USPI provides security for USAID road activities.



The security information provides a general update on security incidents as they relate to reconstruction in Afghanistan. It is not a comprehensive tracking of security incidents, but focuses on the impact for USAID work and the development community.