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# Silverbell Road work one part of Southern Gate library and park will crown a five lane road

*Posted: Tuesday, Jun 19th, 2007*

By Chuck Barth

MARANA — If all follows schedule Silverbell Road should be finished a year from now. The section will be five lanes wide, including a center turn lane, and cost \$16.4 million. Construction on utilities, drainage and sewer lines will begin in late July paving the way for roadwork to begin in November.

The road improvements will not be the full story, however. A new, yet to be named, park will be built at the same time. The park will sit at the Cortaro Farms Road end of the project and serve as the grounds for the Wheeler Taft Abbott, Sr. Public Library.

“It is more than just the road, more than just the Library and more than just the park. It is actually a gate-way into the southern part of our town,” said Barbara Johnson Director of Public Works.

The Silverbell Road realignment will be built with a Construction Manager at Risk (CMR). The process is underway to choose the contractor right now. This means on getting the job done on time. There are incentives to the contractor to finish early. The bigger the bonus. At the same time there are penalties for late work that runs past the agreed Silverbell that should be June of 2008 if there are no surprises. Historic artifacts have already been discovered along the road and in the park.

“I see this as being so needed,” said Tom Houle the Project/Construction Manager for Silverbell. The road is in bad shape and when the rains come it’s impassible.”

To keep motorists posted of what is happening, the Town will try to add what it calls notice signs that will start appearing fairly soon. They will cover everything from when the contractor is picked to when the road is underway plus countdowns to big events.

One of those big events will be a radical move designed to speed up the entire process.

“In November we’re planning to close that road (Silverbell) between Ina and Cortaro, said Jim Johnson. There will be detours planned so that people in those subdivisions aligned with Ina and Silverbell can get out with Cortaro and Silverbell can get out.”





“There will be some inconvenience for these residents however if you look at the old alignment crisscrosses over it so to build it with traffic would require a lot of detours, 25 m

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