

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

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Commonwealth Transportation Boards Awards Local Contracts

LYNCHBURG - The Commonwealth Transportation Board at its October meeting in Lexington, VA, awarded four construction/maintenance contracts in the Lynchburg District of the Virginia Department of Transportation. The Lynchburg District is comprised of ten counties in south-central Virginia.

In Amherst County, Haymes Brothers, Inc. of Chatham, VA was awarded an \$8,702,454.80 contract for construction of a 2.93 km portion of the US 29 Madison Heights Bypass on new location. The new road will connect the current US 29 with the proposed US 29 Bypass. The project consists of construction of four travel lanes with paved shoulders and a raised median, as well as the installation of two box culverts. The project is slated for completion during Fall 2003.

Watts Contractors, Inc. of Farmville, VA was awarded a \$451,080.45 contract to rebuild a segment of Route 729 (Bellevue Road) in Halifax County from its intersection with Route 360 to 0.612 miles west of Route 360. The project is located approximately two miles east of the Town of South Boston. The project will improve safety by eliminating a series of "S" curves and improving vertical alignment of the roadway. In addition, the roadway and shoulder areas will be widened and the road surface asphalt paved. Minor delays may be expected; the road will be maintained for traffic throughout construction. The project is scheduled for completion in Summer 2002.

Also in Halifax County, Key Construction Company, Incorporated of Clarksville, VA was awarded contracts of \$410,918.20 and \$248,200.74. The first project will rebuild the approaches and bridge on Route 720 (Green Level Road) over Difficult Creek. The current structure is restricted with an 11-ton weight limit. The new structure will be approximately 84' in length and 26' in width. This project is slated for completion in Fall 2002. The second contract will rebuild a segment of Route 621 (Newbill School Road) over Smallman's Branch and replace an existing pipe culvert with a box culvert. The primary purpose of the project, located approximately two miles west of the Mount Laurel community, is to improve safety by eliminating flooding of the roadway in the immediate area. This project is scheduled for completion in Summer 2002. During construction of each project, the roadway will be closed to through traffic and a properly signed detour will be established.

Motorists are urged to use caution when traveling in highway work zones. For the locations of work zones statewide, contact VDOT's Highway Helpline at 1-800-367-ROAD.