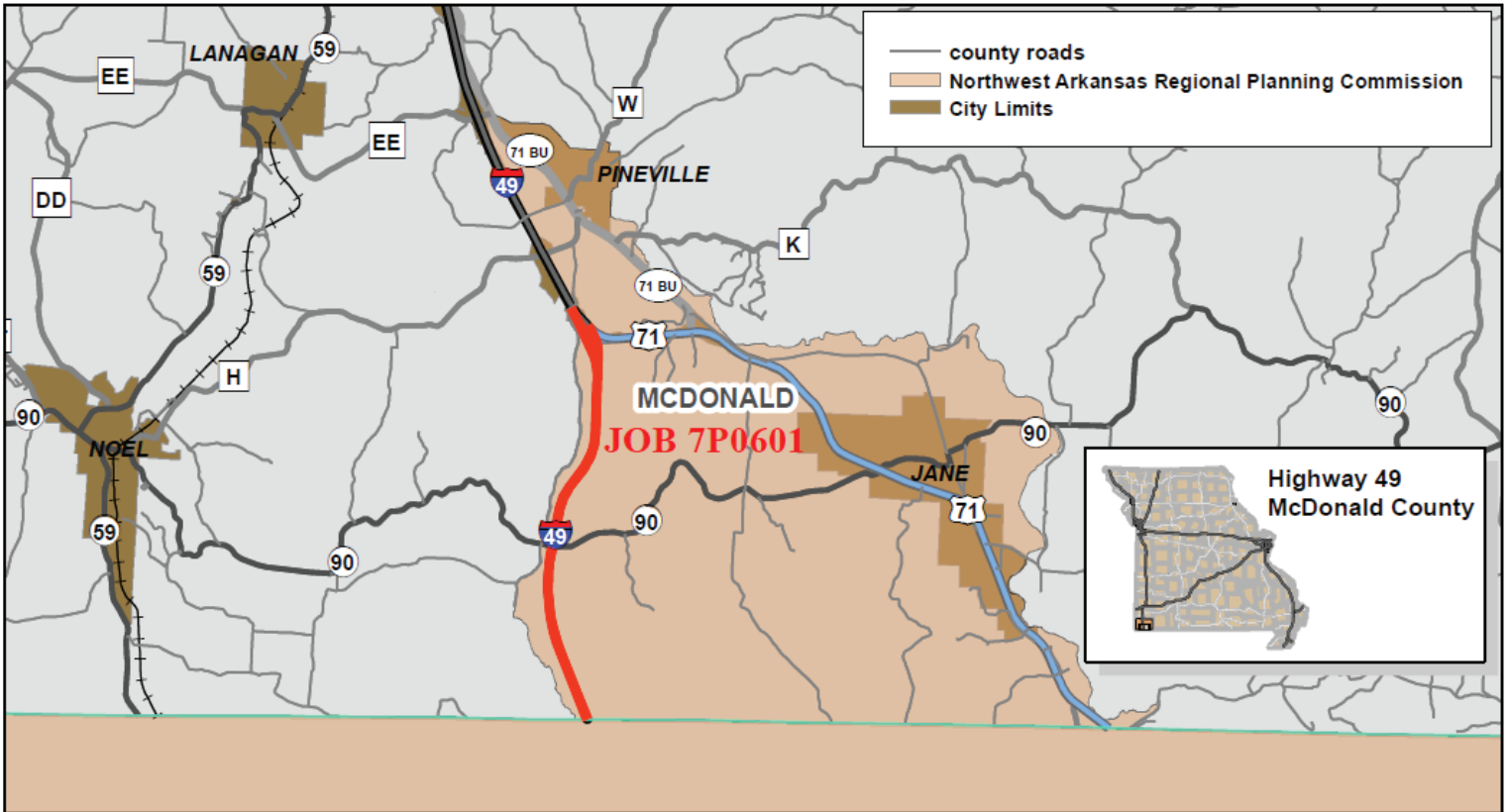


I-49 MISSOURI/ARKANSAS CONNECTOR

Job 7P0601



OVERVIEW

The I-49 Missouri/Arkansas Connector project completes the final five (5) miles of I-49 in Missouri between Pineville and the Missouri/Arkansas state line. When complete, I-49 will stretch 290 miles between Kansas City and Fort Smith, Ark. The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission approved the project in April 2020.

The transformation of U.S. Route 71 to I-49 in Missouri has taken decades to accomplish. Planning for the final series of projects began in the late 1980s, with construction beginning in the early 1990s and continuing through 2012 when construction ended near Pineville.

The final leg between Pineville and the Missouri/Arkansas state line began when MoDOT's regional partner, Northwest Arkansas Planning Commission (NWARPC), received a \$25 million Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) federal grant. Those funds were added to approximately \$45 million from MoDOT to complete the project.

When all segments of I-49 are completed in Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana, and connected to I-29 in Kansas City, the corridor will cover 1,630 miles of highway. The interstate corridor will link busy Gulf Coast ports at New Orleans with south-central Canada near Winnipeg, a busy center of industry, transportation, agriculture, mineral mining and energy.

