Plans are moving forward for Comanche County and the City of Lawton to improve an important section of 112th Street near the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. with help from the Oklahoma Department of Transportation. The State Transportation Commission approved a $950,000 Industrial Access Fund grant for the project during a regular meeting Monday.

Don Hawthorne, Western District Comanche County Commissioner, said Tuesday the county and city will work together on the project. Phase I of the improvement plan is estimated to cost about $2.7 million, he said.

The $950,000 grant will be paid to the city and county as reimbursement for the surfacing of the road.

Phase I of the project will start at the railroad tracks near the Goodyear facility on 112th Street and proceed south to the intersection with SW Lee Boulevard. Improvements will then proceed east about half a mile on Lee Boulevard, Hawthorne said.

Bob Rose, District 7 engineer for ODOT, said the next step in the process is for the city and the county to work out a formal agreement as to how they will split the cost of the project. County and city workers will be responsible for the labor.

Once the city and county come to an agreement, Rose said ODOT’s Local Government Division will prepare an agreement to be approved by all three parties — Lawton, Comanche County and ODOT.

Rose said actual road work could begin within three months.

He said the Industrial Access Fund is used to improve roads near industrial centers statewide.

The section of 112th Street between Cache Road and Lee Boulevard sees heavy traffic, much of it from trucks and other commercial vehicles, mostly because of its proximity to Goodyear.

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