## ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY & TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

## MINUTE ORDER

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WHEREAS, the Commission recognizes the need for improving and upgrading U.S. Highway 71 throughout the State, and

WHEREAS, a study entitled "Kansas City, Missouri to Shreveport, Louisiana Highway Feasibility Corridor Study" was completed by the Department in late 1987 in response to section 166 of the 1987 Federal-Aid Highway Act, and

WHEREAS, this study should be used as a guide in determining the location for upgrading U.S. Highway 71, and

WHEREAS, the segment of U.S. Highway 71, between I-40 and the Missouri State Line, is presently in various stages of design, construction or has been completed to provide a four lane divided highway constructed to Interstate Standards, and

WHEREAS, the Commission now feels it is time to determine the most feasible location to construct a four lane divided fully controlled access facility on the remainder of the route.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to begin preliminary engineering on the segment of U.S. Highway 71, between the Louisiana State Line and I-40, a distance of approximately 214 miles to determine the most feasible location based on social, economic, environmental and engineering studies.

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Due to the length of the segment involved and the cost to construct, the study should establish an improvement plan based on future projected revenues that could possibly be available and determine the priority of construction.

Upon completion of these studies, the Director is further authorized to undertake design and construction of the route based on the improvement plan as funds become available for construction.

All action shall be subject to the approval of the Federal Highway Administration.

Subm Chairman (Title) CHIEF ENGINEER Vice-Chairman Member Director Minute No. Member Date Passed

## MINUTE ORDER

District: County:

Nine

Benton

Category: Miscellaneous

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WHEREAS, the U.S. Highway 71 corridor has been designated by Congress as a High Priority Corridor; and

WHEREAS, the Department, in coordination with the Missouri Department of Transportation, has completed an Environmental Impact Statement and has received a Record of Decision for construction of a bypass around Bella Vista; and

WHEREAS, the 1991 Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act made available limited funds for preliminary engineering for this facility.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director is authorized to coordinate with the Missouri Department of Transportation to engage the services of an engineering consultant to perform design services for this project.

Chairman

Vice-Chairman

Member

Member

Member

Chief Engineer

Minute Order No.

Date Passed

Submitted By:

Approved:

JAN 10 2001

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