

Annual Report

2007



Letter from the Director



AHTD Director Dan Flowers

The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department is pleased to present its 2007 Annual Report.

The accomplishments of the last year are a direct reflection of the dedication and hard work of the members of the Arkansas Highway Commission and the Department staff.

In January of 2007, Governor Beebe appointed former State Senator Cliff Hoofman of North Little Rock to the Highway Commission. The Commission members and Department staff look forward to working with Mr. Hoofman in the years ahead.

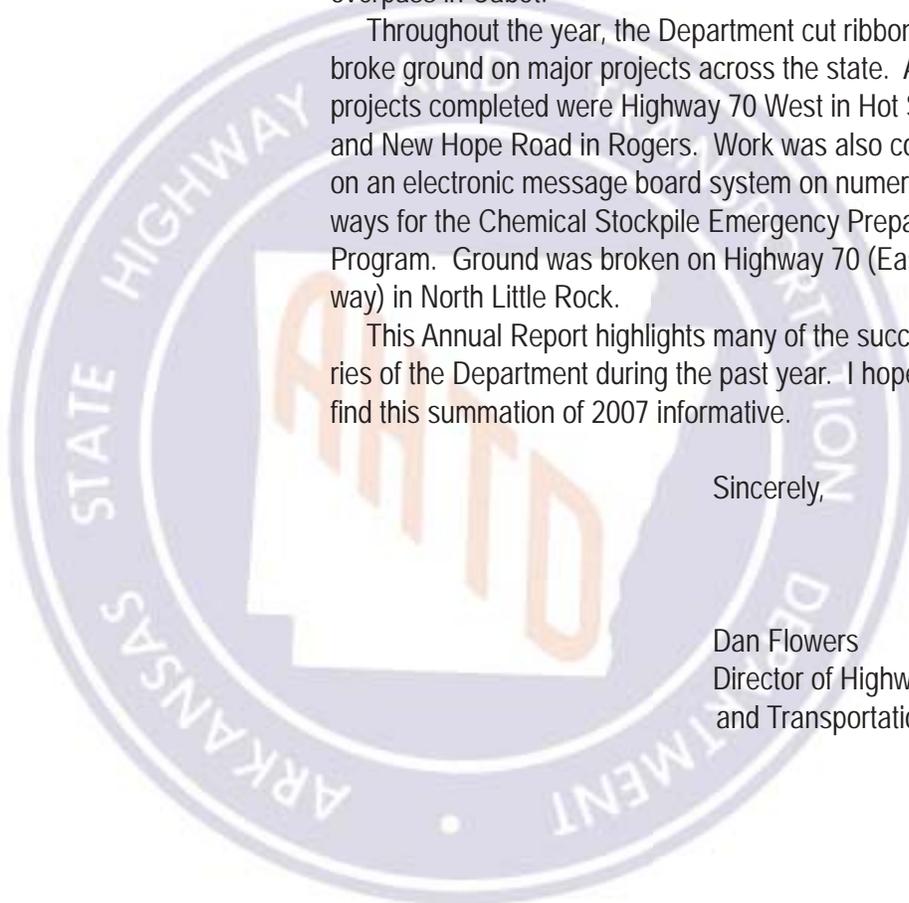
For the year, the Department opened bids on 202 new projects for a total of \$374,889,601. Among the jobs we started construction on were the widening of Highway 59 in Siloam Springs, construction of an interchange for the Interstate 30 and Highway 245 Loop (Future Interstate 49) in Texarkana, a new Arkansas Welcome Center on Interstate 55 at Blytheville, the Interstate 530 and Future Interstate 69 connector interchange in Pine Bluff and a new railroad overpass in Cabot.

Throughout the year, the Department cut ribbons and broke ground on major projects across the state. Among the projects completed were Highway 70 West in Hot Springs and New Hope Road in Rogers. Work was also completed on an electronic message board system on numerous highways for the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program. Ground was broken on Highway 70 (East Broadway) in North Little Rock.

This Annual Report highlights many of the success stories of the Department during the past year. I hope that you find this summation of 2007 informative.

Sincerely,

Dan Flowers
Director of Highways
and Transportation



mission statement

"To provide a safe, efficient, aesthetically pleasing and environmentally sound intermodal transportation system for the user."

table of contents

Arkansas State Highway Commission	2
New Highway Construction	3
Dedications	4
Recognition	5
Public Involvement	6
Workforce	7
Organization	8
District Information	9

2008 Arkansas State Highway Commission



Commission Chairman Jonathan Barnett, of Siloam Springs, was appointed by Governor Mike Huckabee effective January 15, 1999. Barnett has been in the construction business all of his adult life as a self-employed building contractor. His company, Jonathan Barnett Enterprises, specializes in commercial and residential construction. He is currently serving as the chairman of the Special Committee on Commissions and Boards for the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). Barnett has also been elected to serve as the chairman of the Special Committee on Commissions and Boards for the Southeast Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (SASHTO). His term will expire in January 2009.



Commission Vice Chairman Carl Rosenbaum, of Little Rock, was appointed by Governor Mike Huckabee effective January 16, 2001. Rosenbaum currently serves as the chairman of Safe-foods Corporation in North Little Rock and Arkansas Glass Container Corporation in Jonesboro. In addition to his business career, Rosenbaum has served on a number of civic boards and organizations. Rosenbaum's previous experience in public service includes serving as a member of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, as International Director of Rotary International, serving on the advisory board of UAMS Arkansas BioVentures as well as the advisory council of the Eighth District Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. His term will expire in January 2011.



Commissioner R. Madison Murphy, of El Dorado, was appointed by Governor Mike Huckabee effective January 14, 2003. He began work as a junior accountant for Murphy Oil in 1980 and moved up to junior auditor and associate auditor. In 1982, he moved to London, England to serve as an associate auditor for Murphy Eastern Oil. He later served as the supply coordinator for crude oil and products, the manager of treasury and financial controls and the manager of supply, trading and refinery planning. In 1987, Murphy moved to New Orleans to serve as executive assistant for the Ocean Drilling and Exploration Company. He returned to El Dorado in 1988 as vice president of planning for Murphy Oil and later served as the company's treasurer, chief financial and administrative officer, and chairman of the board. He is currently a member of the board for Murphy Oil, Deltic Timber Corporation and Bancorp South, Inc., as well as president of the Murphy Foundation. His term will expire in January 2013.



Commissioner John Ed Regenold, of Armorel, was appointed by Governor Mike Huckabee effective January 26, 2005. He is a longtime business and civic leader in east Arkansas. He is chairman of the Armorel Planting Company. Former Governor Huckabee previously appointed Regenold to the Arkansas Economic Development Commission. He is also a member of the St. Francis Levee Board and is a Commissioner for the District 17 Drainage District. He is the chairman of the Mississippi County Hospital System Board and a member of the board of the Arkansas Northeastern College Foundation. His term will expire in January of 2015.



Commissioner Cliff Hoofman, of North Little Rock, was appointed by Governor Mike Beebe effective January 18, 2007. Hoofman, an attorney and cattle farmer, served in the House of Representatives for eight years before serving in the State Senate for 20 years. While in the Senate, he served as floor leader for Governor Bill Clinton from 1983 to 1986. He was Chairman of the Budget Committee and he served as Senate Chairman of the Legislative Council from 1997 through 2000. After his tenure in the legislature, Hoofman served four years in the Attorney General's office as Director of Legislative Affairs. Prior to his service at the Capitol, Hoofman served two years as City Attorney for the City of North Little Rock. His term will expire in January of 2017.

New Highway Construction

The state administered highway system in Arkansas totals 16,440 miles. Nationally, Arkansas' Highway System ranks 12th in mileage and ranks 43rd in total highway user revenues per mile.

During 2007, 202 projects totaling approximately \$374,889,601 million were let to contract for state highways, county roads and city streets.

The most expensive job was located in Texarkana and will construct an

interchange on new location for Interstate 30 and the 245 Loop. It will also be a part of future Interstate 49.

Below are the top ten projects let to contract during 2007.

Top Ten Contracts Awarded in 2007

Rank	Project	Location	Award Amount
1	Interstate 30/245 Loop Interchange	Miller County	\$34,886,250
2	Widening of Highway 167	Calhoun	\$33,157,322
3	Interstate 530/Future Interstate 69 connector interchange	Jefferson	\$25,090,709
4	Highway 67 on new location	Craighead	\$19,791,368
5	Highway 245/82/19th Street Interchange	Miller County	\$18,558,840
6	Highway 212 - Highways 11/425 Connector	Lincoln	\$14,826,116
7	Widening of Highway 62	Washington	\$14,089,147
8	Widening of Highway 69	Independence	\$12,948,724
9	Widening of Highway 18	Mississippi	\$11,579,770
10	Paving of Highway 65	Boone	\$11,202,862

Total Award Amounts 2001 - 2007

Year	Number of Jobs	Total Amount
2001	282	\$698,189,173
2002	256	\$648,103,382
2003	250	\$474,156,141
2004	247	\$425,122,871
2005	228	\$382,804,881
2006	173	\$377,251,887
2007	202	\$374,889,601



Dedications

In 2007, AHTD officials traveled across Arkansas to cut ribbons and break ground on new projects.

In Hot Springs, officials joined with members of the local Chamber of Commerce to cut a ribbon on a widening project on Highway 70 West. Beginning at the intersection with Highway 192, the project widened the former two-lane roadway to a five-lane, curb and gutter facility for just over five miles. The project extends westward to Hempwallace.

Former Highway Commissioner Prissy Hickerson was honored in July as a large crowd gathered for a sign unveiling ceremony to name the Highway 245 Loop in Texarkana as the "Hickerson Freeway." Hickerson was instrumental in getting the southern Texarkana loop built, which will ultimately become a part of Interstate 49.

A three mile stretch on New Hope Road in Rogers changed hands as the Department transferred ownership of the road from the state to the City of Rogers. A signing ceremony was held in August to cap off a \$10 million improvement project that widened the roadway, officially Highway 94, from Interstate 540 eastward to Highway 71B. The project was one of the first in the Arkansas Highway Commission's Partnering Program.

In August, a dedication ceremony was held in Siloam Springs for a project on Highway 43, known locally as Cheri Whitlock Drive. The project widened 2.5 miles from two lanes to three lanes and added traffic signals at the intersections with Highway 59 and Highway 264. A railroad crossing was also upgraded to a gated crossing.

Officials traveled to Pine Bluff in October to break ground for the Interstate 530/Interstate 69 Connector Interchange. This interchange and one 40 miles to the south will serve as anchors for Highway 530, which will connect Interstate 530 and future Interstate 69.

Officials gathered in November to break ground for the Highway 70 (East Broadway) project in North Little Rock.

The purpose of the project is to widen almost three miles of East Broadway from a four-lane roadway to a five-lane roadway with curb and gutters. Under two contracts, the widening will extend from just east of Interstate 30 to Highway 165. The first phase of this project will extend from Locust Street eastward to Cornish Street. The grade on East Broadway just west of Interstate 30 near Alltel Arena has also been improved. The dip in the road had been the site of a previous railroad overpass.



Cutting the ribbon on Highway 70 West in Hot Springs.



The Hickerson Freeway in Texarkana.



A \$10 million improvement project took place on New Hope Road in Rogers.

Recognition

Over the past year, numerous members of the Department staff received recognition for outstanding work.

Frank Vozel, AHTD Deputy Director and Chief Engineer, was named to the Arkansas State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. The board reviews the qualifications of individuals to ensure they meet certain minimum qualifications to be awarded a license to practice engineering in the State of Arkansas. The Board consists of nine members that are appointed by the Governor. The term of office for each appointment is four years.

The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department became the first state agency to develop a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) in Arkansas. A total of 45 staff members completed an intensive training course to become members of the Department's CERT program. The program teaches employees basic skills to help themselves, their families, neighbors and co-workers in the aftermath of a disaster. Participants learned skills in emergency preparedness, disaster psychology, fire safety, search & rescue and first aid.

AHTD photographer John Jackson placed in three categories in the Federal Highway Administration's annual "Photo Opportunity Competition." Jackson won first place in the "Close Up" category, second place in "Native Flowers & Grasses" and had a third place tie in the "Protected Remnants" category. A multi-disciplinary jury reviewed the entries and determined the winners. A total of 120 photographs from ten states were submitted.

The AHTD sent a team to the fifth annual Southern Regional Equipment Operators Rodeo in Asheville, North Carolina. The Rodeo featured competition in six categories: Single Axle Dump Truck, Tandem Axle Dump Truck, Lowboy, Motor Grader, Tractor/Mower and Backhoe. The team finished in second place overall. Teams from Arkansas, Mississippi,

Tennessee, South Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina and Virginia competed in the event. The AHTD team owns first place finishes in the previous four years of the event.

Arkansas Highway Police Corporal James "Buckie" Thomas finished ninth overall after competing in the 2007 North American Inspector Championship Competition held in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Commercial vehicle inspectors representing nearly every state, jurisdiction and province from the United States, Canada and Mexico gathered to compete in the inspection event.

The Arkansas Highway Police has been recognized by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration for outstanding performance in the New Entrant Program for new motor carriers. New carriers are required to have a safety audit within 18 months of service. Arkansas was one of only two Divisions in the entire Southern Service Center with no overdue new entrants in the system.

The Arkansas State Highway & Transportation Department's magazine, *Arkansas Highways*, was recognized with two awards. The magazine won a Merit Award in the Bronze Quill Awards competition presented by the Arkansas Chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators. *Arkansas Highways* also received an award at the National Transportation Public Affairs Workshop (NTPAW). The magazine won first place in the Print category of the 2007 NTPAW Skills Contest which recognizes the year's top public affairs and communications achievements.

Miyoshi Lasker, a Design Technician in the Department's Right of Way Division, was part of a design team from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock that won first place at the Region 5 Associated General Contractors (AGC) construction competition. The same team finished third in the national AGC competition.



This photo won first place in a national photo competition.



The 2007 AHTD Rodeo Team.



"Buckie" Thomas finished in the top ten at the Inspector Championship Competition held in Minnesota.

Public Involvement

The Highway and Transportation Department insists upon early and ongoing input from citizens when planning for new roadways.

Public Involvement meetings are an effective way to share design plans and maps for new projects and also receive feedback from citizens and local officials that live in the project area.

The Department held 28 public meetings across the state in 2007. Over 2,400 people attended in order to exchange information with our staff.

Public meetings were held in Alma, Carlisle, Cash, Conway, Eureka Springs, Fayetteville, Gould, Green Forest, Heber Springs, Hindsville, Hope, Hot Springs, Huntsville, Jasper, Jonesboro, Manila, Melbourne, Monette, North Little Rock, Ola, Pinebergen, Prescott, Russellville, Searcy, Siloam Springs, Springdale, Stuttgart and Van Buren.



Residents in Hope look over design plans for an upcoming project.



Participants are encouraged to offer comments at public meetings such as this one at Conway.



Citizens look over an aerial photo of Pinebergen.

Department Workforce

The AHTD workforce numbered 3,599 employees at the end of 2007. That is a decrease of 94 employees (2.55%) compared to the close of 2006. For 2007, there were 2879 males (80%) and 720 females (20%), with 2,940 non-minorities (82%) and 659 minorities (18%). Since 2006, the representation of minorities increased slightly and the representation of females decreased slightly (less than 1%).



Organization

The Arkansas Highway Commission and the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department have enjoyed over 50 years of progress under the structure envisioned by two State Senators, Y.M. Mack and Lawrence Blackwell.

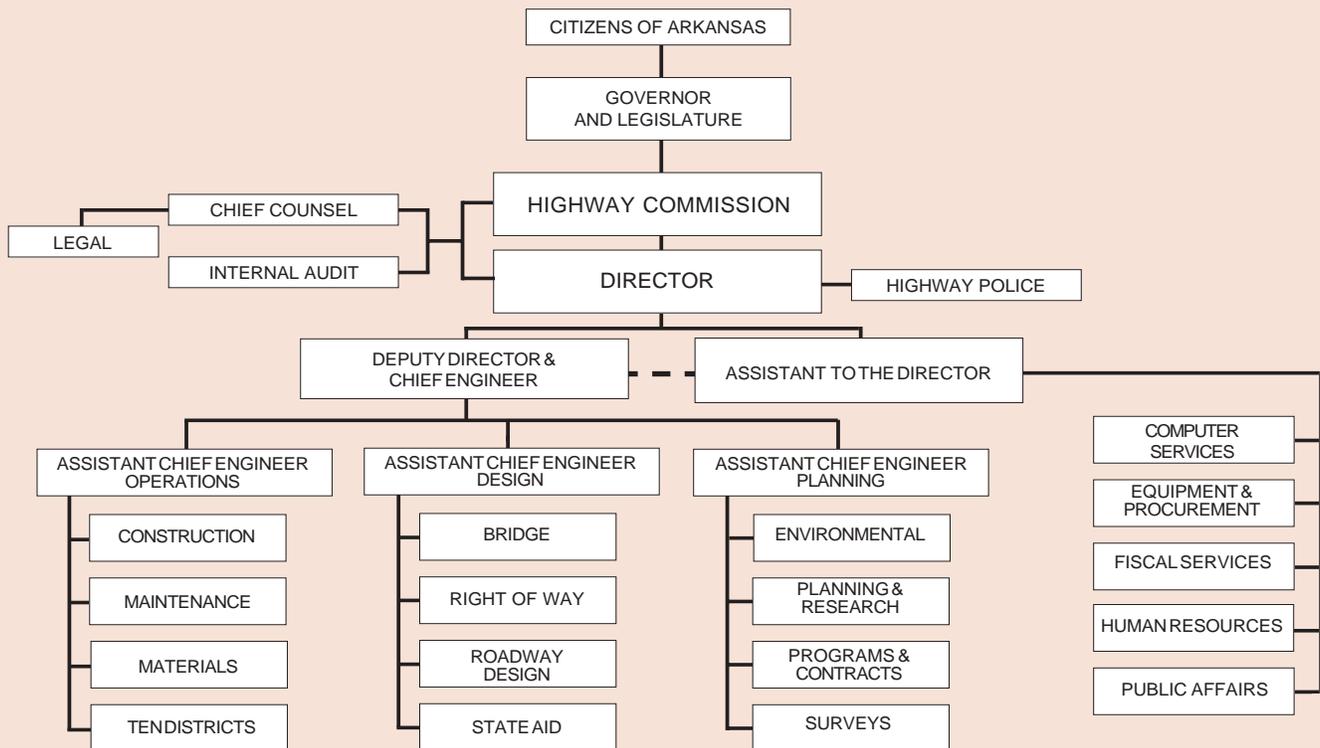
Together, they wrote Amendment 42 to the Arkansas Constitution. This landmark amendment, commonly known as the Mack-Blackwell Amendment, provides that

each of the five Arkansas Highway Commissioners serves a ten-year staggered term, with a new commissioner being appointed by the Governor every two years.

The Commission is assigned all powers necessary to fully and effectively administer Arkansas laws and regulations relating to AHTD operations.

The Department Director is appointed by the Commission and is responsible not only for developing a professional staff, but also building, maintaining and overseeing 16,440 miles of highway.

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION CHART



District Information

District 1

Engineer: Ray Woodruff
2701 Highway 64, P.O. Box 278, Wynne, Arkansas 72396-0278
Telephone: (870) 238-8144 Fax: (870) 238-2994
Email: ray.woodruff@arkansashighways.com

Counties: Crittenden, Cross, Lee, Monroe, Phillips, St. Francis, Woodruff



District 2

Engineer: James House
4900 Highway 65 South, P.O. Box 6836, Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71611-6836
Telephone: (870) 534-1612 Fax: (870) 534-2038
Email: james.house@arkansashighways.com

Counties: Arkansas, Ashley, Chicot, Desha, Drew, Grant, Jefferson, Lincoln



District 3

Engineer: Don Donaldson
2911 Highway 29 North, P.O. Box 490, Hope, Arkansas 71802-0490
Telephone: (870) 777-3457 Fax: (870) 777-3489
Email: don.donaldson@arkansashighways.com

Counties: Hempstead, Howard, Lafayette, Little River, Miller, Nevada, Pike, Sevier



District 4

Engineer: Joe Shipman
4019 Towson Avenue, P.O. Box 1424, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72902-1424
Telephone: (479) 646-5501 Fax: (479) 646-8286
Email: joe.shipman@arkansashighways.com

Counties: Crawford, Franklin, Logan, Polk, Scott, Sebastian, Washington



District Information

District 5

Engineer: Lyndal Waits
1673 Batesville Boulevard, P.O. Box 2376, Batesville, Arkansas 72503-2376
Telephone: (870) 251-2374 Fax: (870) 251-2393
Email: lyndal.waits@arkansashighways.com

Counties: Cleburne, Fulton, Independence, Izard, Jackson, Sharp, Stone, White



District 6

Engineer: Mike Sebren
8900 Mabelvale Pike, P.O. Box 190296, Little Rock, Arkansas 72219-0296
Telephone: (501) 569-2266 Fax: (501) 569-2366
Email: mike.sebren@arkansashighways.com

Counties: Garland, Hot Spring, Lonoke, Prairie, Pulaski, Saline



District 7

Engineer: Carl Bachelor
2245 California Avenue, P.O. Box 897, Camden, Arkansas 71711-0897
Telephone: (870) 836-6401 Fax: (870) 836-4864
Email: carl.bachelor@arkansashighways.com

Counties: Bradley, Calhoun, Clark, Cleveland, Columbia, Dallas, Ouachita, Union



District 8

Engineer: Frank Russenberger
372 Aspen Lane, P.O. Box 70, Russellville, Arkansas 72811-0070
Telephone: (479) 968-2286 Fax: (479) 968-4006
Email: frank.russenberger@arkansashighways.com

Counties: Conway, Faulkner, Johnson, Montgomery, Perry, Pope, Van Buren, Yell



District Information

District 9

Engineer: Ralph Fulton
4590 Highway 65, P.O. Box 610, Harrison, Arkansas 72602-0610
Telephone: (870) 743-2100 Fax: (870) 743-4630
Email: ralph.fulton@arkansashighways.com

Counties: Baxter, Benton, Boone, Carroll, Madison, Marion, Newton, Searcy



District 10

Engineer: Joe Barnett
2510 Highway 412 West, P.O. Box 98, Paragould, Arkansas 72451-0098
Telephone: (870) 239-9511 Fax: (870) 236-1156
Email: joe.barnett@arkansashighways.com

Counties: Clay, Craighead, Greene, Lawrence, Mississippi, Poinsett, Randolph



Central Office

10324 Interstate 30, P.O. Box 2261, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203
Telephone: (501) 569-2000





2007 Annual Report
Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department

