INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

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ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN YELL COUNTY

LITTLE ROCK (4-16) -- The Arkansas State Highway Commission has opened bids for improvements to roadways in Yell County, according to Commissioner Cliff Hoofman of North Little Rock.

The purpose of the first project is to construct 2.5 miles of passing lanes on Highway 7. Bowden Specialties, Inc. of Dardanelle, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$4,790,485.74.

"The new passing lanes will be located between Ola and Centerville," stated Hoofman. "The project will add one southbound lane and one northbound lane."

A second project will resurface 5.3 miles of Highway 10. Blackstone Construction, LLC of Russellville, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$823,233.65.

"This resurfacing job will take place in the vicinity of the town of Mickles," Hoofman added.

Hoofman said work could begin on the projects in six to eight weeks, weather permitting. Completion on Highway 7 is expected in early 2011. Resurfacing on Highway 10 should be completed by August 3, 2009.

The project on Highway 10 is being funded with money provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The Act provides Arkansas with \$351 million in federal stimulus funds for roadway and bridge improvements throughout the state. Additional information about the ARRA can be found at www.recovery.gov. For more information about its impact on Arkansas, go to www.recovery.arkansas.gov. Information about specific road and bridge construction projects can be found by going to www.ArkansasHighways.com, and clicking on the ARRA logo and link in the middle of the page.

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