

INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

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ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN CRITTENDEN COUNTY

LITTLE ROCK (4-16) -- The Arkansas State Highway Commission has opened bids for improvements to roadways in Crittenden County, according to Commissioner John Ed Regenold of Armorel.

The purpose of the first project is to install a median cable barrier on ten miles of Interstate 55, north of Marion. Collins & Hermann, Inc. of St. Louis, Missouri, was awarded the contract at \$1,995,599.55.

“This project will begin at James Mill Road and extend northward to Highway 63,” stated Regenold. “The new barrier will help in preventing crossover accidents on this stretch of Interstate 55.”

A second project will resurface 9.6 miles of Highway 79. APAC-Tennessee, Inc. of Memphis, Tennessee, was awarded the contract at \$2,143,171.90.

“This resurfacing will be located between Shearerville and Chatfield,” Regenold added.

Regenold said work could begin on the projects in six to eight weeks, weather permitting. Completion is expected on the safety fence in late 2009. Resurfacing on Highway 79 will be completed by August 3, 2009.

The resurfacing project 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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