

INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

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ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN FRANKLIN COUNTY

LITTLE ROCK (5-20) -- The Arkansas State Highway Commission has opened bids for improvements to roadways in Franklin County, according to Commissioner Dick Trammel of Rogers.

The purpose of the first project is to resurface approximately three miles of Highway 22 near Charleston. Blackstone Construction, LLC of Russellville, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$712,940.93.

“This resurfacing project will begin at Charleston and will extend eastward towards Branch,” stated Trammel.

The project is being funded with money provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The Act provided 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.

The second project will replace an existing bridge on Highway 23 over the Mulberry River. M.L. Jones Construction Company, Inc. of Marble Falls, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$1,247,466.29.

“This job is located about 13 miles north of Interstate 40 near Cass,” Trammel added.

Trammel said work could begin on the projects in two to four weeks, weather permitting. Completion is expected on Highway 22 by September 14, 2009. The bridge on Highway 23 should be completed by mid-2010.

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